



30 Partners in 30 Days

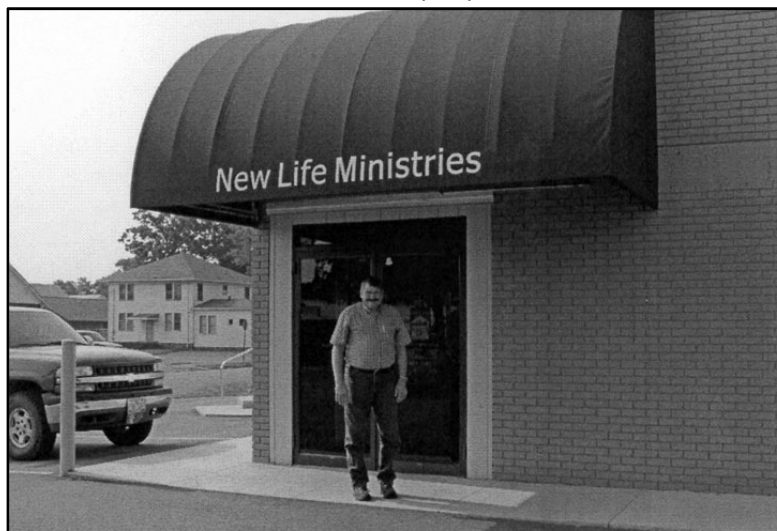


Community Food Pantry at New Life Ministries: *Keeping Coshocton going strong*

When their community needed help back in the spring of 2003, Mark Granger and New Life Ministries in Coshocton answered the call, and the Community Food Pantry was born.

“At one time, we were the printing capital of the world and we were the largest producer of industrial gloves in the world,” Granger says. “Now our county is in the top five of those hardest hit by unemployment and we’ve gone from a town of 16,000 to about 11,500 people.”

Granger says many of the clients at Community Food Pantry had good paying jobs, but now find themselves working two part time jobs at minimum wage just trying to make ends meet. He says most of the pantry’s clients are working families.



The pantry offers emergency food assistance on a client’s first visit, and then encourages them to sign up if they need additional help.

Once a month they host a senior citizen day and every Thursday morning they offer bread and produce. Altogether, Granger says the pantry distributes somewhere between 17,000-20,000 pounds of food each month to over 700 individuals.

Granger says that New Life Ministries mostly serves the Coshocton and West Lafayette areas, with the Nellie Food Pantry serving the western part of the county. In addition to deliveries from Mid-Ohio Foodbank, Granger notes that the pantry gets help from a wide range of donors, from the local Wal-Mart to the Hunters Feeding the Hungry program.

“Our pantry is totally supported by local churches and individual donors on a monthly basis,” he says, adding that even clients lend a hand from time to time. One such example involved a cancer survivor befriending a woman who was just diagnosed herself.

“She was able to have hope in her life once again because of a friend she met standing in the food pantry line.”

Learn More

Community Food Pantry at New Life Ministries
740-622-2181

Mid-Ohio Foodbank
www.midohiofoodbank.org
614-274-7770