



FOOD • CONNECTION • HOPE

# CONNECTION

News and information for friends of Freestore Foodbank

FALL 2019



## Your support provided me a special holiday meal

**“What I receive helps so much—thank you!”**

—KENNETH

Meet Kenneth. Just a year ago, sick and no longer able to work full time, he was ready to give up. Then he came to the pantry for the first time. Kenneth says, “The food I receive helps so much.” He was happy to be able to put food in his refrigerator!

*Read how your support helped Kenneth on page 2*

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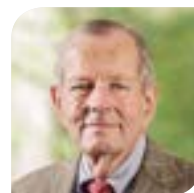
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# A legacy of generosity and feeding hungry families



After a national career in Trust banking, Terry Lilly and his wife Elizabeth returned to Cincinnati in 2012 to be closer to their daughter, Anne, and her family. Terry had previously been a Vice President at Fifth Third Bank.

It was Anne who introduced them to Freestore Foodbank, where she serves on the Board of Trustees. For the past seven years, Terry and Elizabeth have been gracious and loyal supporters.

“It mattered to my dad that Freestore Foodbank works on both ends of the problem—feeding people in need while also working on long-term ways to reduce hunger,” says Anne.

The foodbank was deeply grateful to receive his generous gift after he passed away in 2018.

We are deeply grateful to the Lilly family for their continued support. If you would like to help more hungry families in time for the holiday season, please visit [freestorefoodbank.org](http://freestorefoodbank.org) or send your gift in the enclosed reply slip. Thank you!

**YOUR LEGACY MAKES A LASTING IMPACT**

You can make a lasting impact in the fight against hunger in our region! When writing or updating your will, please consider Freestore Foodbank as a beneficiary.

A gift in your will or trust is often the easiest way to make a legacy gift and may also allow you to make much larger gifts than you could during your lifetime.

For more information about or making a legacy gift, contact Mindy Hammer at [mhammer@freestorefoodbank.org](mailto:mhammer@freestorefoodbank.org) or visit Freestore Foodbank’s website: [www.freestorefoodbank.org/giving-through-your-will](http://www.freestorefoodbank.org/giving-through-your-will)

Stay connected to the work you support! Visit us at [freestorefoodbank.org](http://freestorefoodbank.org)



Yes, I want to provide food for holiday meals to neighbors at risk of hunger in the tristate area.

I’ve enclosed my tax-deductible gift of:

\$250  \$100  \$50  \$25  Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to be a Full Plate Partner and commit to a monthly gift of \$\_\_\_\_\_. My first gift is enclosed.

I would like more information on including Freestore Foodbank in my will, trust, retirement account or life insurance policy.

Double my gift’s impact. I will ask my company to match my gift.  
Company Name \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Please make your gift payable to: **Freestore Foodbank**  
1141 Central Parkway, Cincinnati, OH 45202 | 513-482-3663

### DONATE NOW

Your online gift will be put to work quickly. Please visit our website: [freestorefoodbank.org](http://freestorefoodbank.org)

**Double your gift’s impact:** Many employers offer matching contributions dollar for dollar.

To find out if your employer has a matching gift program please contact your HR department.

Questions? Please call our Donor Relations Department at 513-482-FOOD (3663).

Please charge my gift on my credit card:  VISA  MC  AMEX  DISC

CARD NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_ EXP. DATE \_\_\_\_\_

NAME ON ACCOUNT \_\_\_\_\_ SECURITY # \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_ TELEPHONE NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_ 49\_55996\_1021

Your gift is tax deductible as allowed by law. We will send a receipt for your records.



Your gift changes lives!

# “You’ve given me a place to turn to in difficult times”

Donna has experienced times in life where things are going well, and she’s also faced times of incredible struggle.

Whether it’s been going through the challenges of being a single mother with young children or now, as a senior, helping provide for grandchildren, she’s been able to receive food and support from Brighton Center, one of Freestore Foodbank’s community partners.

“It’s made a big difference in my life,” says Donna. “It’s helped me to see that I’m going to survive this.”

As a young, single mother, Donna was skipping meals so her two kids didn’t have to. At times, she was trying to fill up on water just to keep from feeling too hungry. She was working at the time, but it still wasn’t enough to make ends meet.

Eventually, her income reached a point where she could support her kids and she got by without any assistance for years. Over the last couple of years, as a senior with congestive heart failure, she’s had to rely on the food pantry once again to get through the end of the month.

Donna is deeply grateful for the food she’s received during the difficult seasons in her life, which is made possible by your generous support.

“I don’t know what I would do without the assistance here,” Donna says. “It takes a little of the burden off. I want to thank the donors for everything they do for people that are down and out. You make us feel like a person instead of a nobody.”

**“I want to thank the donors for everything they do for people that are down and out.”**

—DONNA



**Every \$1 you give provides 3 meals to children, families or seniors at risk of hunger. Visit [freestorefoodbank.org](https://freestorefoodbank.org) and donate today. Thank you for your continued support!**

## Partner Spotlight

# Helping families get back on their feet

Inter Parish Ministry (IPM) serves individuals and families at risk of hunger in Clermont, Hamilton and Brown counties. As a community partner, Freestore Foodbank provides a large portion of the food that helps feed more than 4,500 families a year.

“Our promise is feeding families and nourishing souls,” says Alida Hart, President and CEO of IPM.

Alida says, like many pantries in the area, they are seeing more and more families come through their doors. At IPM, they have found that many of their customers come only when a difficult circumstance has changed their lives financially and



they cannot make ends meet for a season of time.

“We really want to help when there is an unusual situation—an unexpected health issue or an accident where they can’t work or they are out

on medical leave, or the car gets totaled,” says Alida.

IPM’s pantries, in two locations, are customer choice pantries. This means volunteers help customers choose the food items they need. In 2018, the pantry changed from families being able to come once every 90 days to once every 30 days. Alida says that transition was more feasible because Freestore Foodbank keeps their food costs lower.

“Thanks to our strong partnership with Freestore Foodbank, IPM is really able to maximize our impact on hunger,” says Alida.

**Your generosity makes it possible for Freestore Foodbank to work with 450 community partners across 20 counties in the tristate area—and ensure neighbors have access to the nutritious food they need. For more information on our community partners, please visit [freestorefoodbank.org](https://freestorefoodbank.org).**



### A message from our President & CEO

We are fresh off another wonderful outpouring of community generosity from our Rubber Duck Regatta, and now our focus has quickly turned to the holiday season.

**Did you know that in the two days leading up to Thanksgiving, and the two days leading up to Christmas, we will be providing food to more than 300 families an hour? In a typical day, we will serve 400 families over an entire 8-hour shift.**

This challenges our staff, but also challenges our community to come together and give the financial resources and volunteer hours necessary to help the families at risk of hunger in the 20 counties we serve.

There are many ways you can partner with us to ensure we can meet the increased need during the holiday season. If you can get a group together for a rewarding experience, volunteers are vital to the work we do all year long, and especially through the end of the year.

I know time is precious during the holidays with work and school schedules, travel, and sharing time with families and friends. If you can donate today, become a monthly donor to show impact! Check out our website and go to an event.

We are deeply grateful for your continued support. Thank you for ensuring children, families and seniors at risk of hunger in our hometown have a place to turn this holiday season with your generous gift today.

Kurt Reiber, President & CEO

*Continued from cover*

## A note of thanks from Kenneth



A lot of other people that come in here are embarrassed to ask for food, and I was too. I've talked to quite a few of them, and we all felt the same way. We reached the point where we knew we had to ask for help—it was a matter of survival.

**“It means everything to me that when my kids and grandkids come to visit on holidays, I have some food to share with them.”**

—KENNETH

I receive Social Security now, but you just don't get the amount you expect when you've been working your whole life. Before I got sick, I worked for 10 years at a Head Start program in Newport. I cooked food for the kids and teachers there.

Money tends to get tight for me at the end of the month, so that's when I come to receive food. After I came a few times, I became a volunteer. I've always been active, and staying at home not working was hard for me. I enjoy coming here and helping people, it's really helped me in return.

**Thank you for providing Thanksgiving meals to families.**

Coming to this food pantry has made such a difference for me, especially at the holidays. At Thanksgiving, I received a basket that had a turkey and everything to fix a whole meal. It means everything to me that when my kids and grandkids come to visit on holidays, I have some food to share with them.

Thank you for putting food on my table when I need it. If you could see some of the smiles on people's faces when they receive food, you would know it's really helping people tremendously.

**Your support provides holiday meals to thousands of neighbors like Kenneth in the tristate area. Thank you for making it easier for hungry families to put food on their tables this holiday season.**