

“This Work Could Help Change the World”

For Thomas, volunteering is all about bringing neighbors together.

Thomas arrived in the United States from Hong Kong in 1975 with a vision of what community could look like. Decades later, he’s still building it.

Now a regular volunteer for his local food bank, Thomas helps transform an ordinary parking lot into what he calls “a happy place for a thousand families.” For him, the work has always been about more than food.

“The work here is not just about feeding people facing hunger, but also bringing neighbors together,” he says. “We help put together the building blocks that would make the future generation’s environment much better than what I went through.”

After a long career in IT, Thomas found new purpose in this work, and he has seen firsthand how taking the time to understand different communities and their needs brings more people to the table.

“Once we were able to communicate and explain our differences, more and more people felt comfortable coming out and participating,” he says.

That sense of connection is what keeps him returning to volunteer, several days a week, year after year.

“I realized that the work we do here could help change the world for the better,” Thomas



Several days a week, Thomas volunteers at his local food bank, helping to share fresh food and connection with his community.

says. “And people are willing to take action. That’s what gives me hope.”

This Thanksgiving, volunteers like Thomas remind us that gratitude isn’t just something we feel. It’s something we act on. Your gift this season helps to power that spirit of giving in communities everywhere.

Thomas’s story is representative of the people who help us carry out our mission.

▼ Please complete and detach the reply form below and return it with your gift. Thank you! ▼

FBF-26557

HELP FAMILIES FACING HUNGER THIS WINTER



☒ **Yes! I’m giving today to provide meals and support for neighbors facing hunger during the holiday season and beyond.**

- ☐ \$35 to help provide 70 meals
☐ \$50 to help provide 100 meals

- ☐ \$200 to help provide 400 meals
☐ \$_____ to provide as many meals as possible

☐ My check payable to **York County Food Bank** is enclosed.

FROM: NAME: _____
STREET: _____
CITY/STATE/ZIP: _____
MY EMAIL: _____

☐ I would like to donate \$_____ automatically each month using my credit card.

☐ Please charge my credit card:

☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

Amount: \$ _____
Phone Number: _____-_____-_____
Credit Card Number: _____
Exp. Date: ____/____ Security Code: ____
Signature: _____



HUNGER-FREE YORK

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A Mother’s Drive to Provide

Taylor’s local pantry helps her family hold on to holiday traditions when their budget gets tight.

Taylor is tenaciously resourceful. As a mother of three boys — ages 8, 4, and 2 — she knows what it takes to make sure her family members have what they need.

“As a single mom, I don’t have anybody to lean on. It’s me,” she says. “The moments that I would feel like I just want to give up, I can’t, because I have three kids to look after. You get this drive that comes out of nowhere.”

Taylor works full time, but she hasn’t hesitated to turn to her local pantry when her family has needed a little extra support. For her, it has never been about charity. It has been about dignity.

“Providing a balanced meal to myself and my family is a necessity. It’s not a luxury,” she says. “That’s just a common right that all of us have as humans, and we shouldn’t feel guilty for getting assistance.”

That’s especially true around the holidays. Some years, Taylor has searched out every pantry offering holiday food assistance because without that help, her family’s traditions would not have been possible.

Taylor’s story is representative of the people we serve.



A single mom of three, Taylor leans on her local pantry to make sure her boys never miss out on the holidays.

“I kind of lost hope because I knew that we couldn’t afford to do a Christmas meal,” she says. “Without the help of the community around me, there are a lot of things we would be missing out on.”

This season, families like Taylor’s are counting on donors like you to bring hope and help keep their traditions alive.

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\$1 HELPS PROVIDE 2 MEALS!



Dear Friends
of The
York County
Food Bank ...

So many holidays revolve around a table. Whether enjoying a favorite family recipe or trying something new, memories are often created and relived right there with friends and loved ones.

But the truth is, the season feels different when the budget doesn't stretch. Rising grocery costs mean a neighbor working full time can still come up short at the end of the month. One unexpected expense can drain the food budget of an older adult on a fixed income. For many of our neighbors, the holidays bring joy and worry at the same time.

That's why this season fills me with gratitude. When neighbors need help, our community knows just what to do. Donors give. Volunteers sort food and pack boxes. Our partner pantries, community organizations, and meal sites open their doors. Together, we make sure help is there when our neighbors need it.

My message to you this season is simple: Please continue partnering with The York County Food Bank. Your support puts food on tables across York County — this holiday season and beyond.

Remember that every \$1 you give helps provide 2 nourishing meals. Thank you for your kindness!

Warm regards,

Jennifer Brillhart
President & CEO

“I Never Expected to Be Here”

When Brittany and her husband were both furloughed, their local distribution became an unexpected lifeline.

Brittany's 5-year-old son loves apples and berries, but getting him to try vegetables is still a work in progress. “He'll at least put them to his lips,” she says with a laugh, “so that's definitely a turning point.”

This is a small, sweet glimpse of everyday family life. But for Brittany and her husband — both federal workers who found themselves unexpectedly furloughed — keeping fresh food on their table became anything but routine.

So when Brittany learned about her local food distribution, she decided to go. It was her first time ever visiting a food bank.

“I did not expect to be visiting a food bank,” she says. “I've never visited one. I've volunteered in the past, but this never crossed my mind as my life at this point.”

That honesty says something important. Food insecurity doesn't follow a predictable path. It can reach anyone, including families that just weeks earlier had no reason to think they'd ever need help.

For Brittany, feeling the certainty that support was there made all the difference.

“Knowing that this is a resource for me has helped greatly in just being able to get a weekly meal together for my family,” she says.

This holiday season, your support helps to ensure that when families face the unexpected, there's somewhere to turn and something nourishing waiting for them there.



A Note of Thanks

During this season of thankfulness, we wanted to share a message of gratitude from a Glen Rock resident whom you helped with your generosity!

I am writing to share my heartfelt appreciation for the online pantry program in the Glen Rock area. This initiative has made a profound difference in the lives of families like mine, and I hope this testimony illustrates the meaningful impact of your work.

Like many working families today, we face the challenge of rising rent and bills, even while holding full-time jobs. Before this program, the stress of ensuring enough food between paychecks was a constant worry.

The online pantry program has relieved that burden and provided more than just nutrition — it has offered peace of mind. We are particularly grateful for the “shopping” format, which allows families to select items that meet their dietary needs. This thoughtful approach demonstrates a deep understanding of our community's diverse requirements.

Recent deliveries have included extra items like fresh fruits, vegetables, and fish, which brought both nourishment and joy to our household. These additions highlight that the program goes beyond providing basic assistance, offering genuine care and attention to families' well-being.

Unfortunately, Glen Rock is known as a food desert — an area that lacks access to affordable, nutritious, and fresh foods.

Without this program, our family would be facing real hardship — physically, emotionally, and financially. The dedication of everyone involved ensures that community members receive support that strengthens both health and quality of life.

I hope this message conveys the true value of the online pantry program. Your efforts make a tangible difference, and our family, along with many others in the community, are deeply grateful.

Join Our Friends at the Table!

We're deeply grateful for all of our generous Friends at the Table who help us fight hunger each year. You are the heart of our work and the reason why we can help to put food on the table for families, children, and seniors in York County every single day.

Not one of our Friends at the Table yet?

Monthly giving is one of the easiest and most impactful ways to help our neighbors in need. When you join this dedicated community of supporters, you help to create a healthier, hunger-free future in which every neighbor can access the nourishing foods they need to thrive.

Please visit yorkfoodbank.org/friends-at-the-table to make your first monthly gift today!

Friends at the
Table