



NORTHSIDE
**FOOD
PANTRY**
ADVISORS

2021 Annual Report

2021: A YEAR IN REVIEW

With another year of the global pandemic concluded, the Northside Food Pantry proved just how important and adaptable we can be in trying times. In June, our center of operations, the Northside Common Ministries building on Brighton Road, closed for some much-needed renovations. The pantry operations pivoted to an outdoor market for that month, which was highly attended. And while in-person shopping did not resume in 2021, curbside service continued to operate in robust fashion with customers growing accustomed to our new ordering process and ever-changing selection of food and shelf-stable products.

2021 also provided the opportunity for collaboration with our Northside neighbors. On July 24th, we worked with the locally owned and operated Freeman Family Farm & Greenhouse to hand out packages of assorted fruits and vegetables during the Manchester Day festival, a celebration dedicated to the community members of the historic Manchester neighborhood on Pittsburgh's Northside.

In December, we also hosted two large volunteer-led food drives, the first of which was held in the Northview Heights neighborhood. In collaboration with the United Methodist Church Union, we were able to seize the opportunity and pass out fresh produce to the families who attended their



coat drive. Later that month, we partnered with the Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank to provide families with groceries and treats just in time for Christmas. These new ventures proved to be successful and allowed us to extend our network of care to people who previously might not have been aware of our services.

Without a core group of people willing to withstand ever-changing weather and long hours, we would not have been able to meet our fundamental goals this year. It is with the continued support of our donors and volunteers that the Northside Food Pantry can distribute their products, produce, and services each week to our growing list of clients. Your time, money, and energy allows us to provide our vulnerable neighbors the support they need to lead healthier lives.



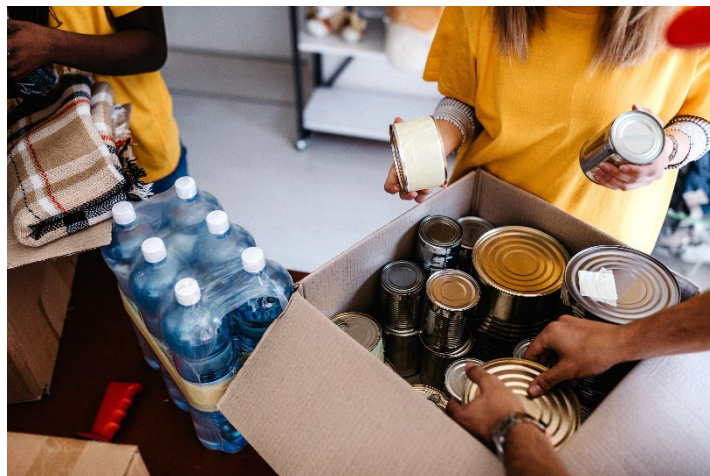
2021 PRODUCE DISTRIBUTION

One of the top priorities for the Pantry in 2021 was providing families with access to the same quality fruits and vegetables available in supermarkets. As one of the largest food pantries in Pittsburgh, the Northside Food Pantry is the only pantry in southwest PA that offers fresh produce on an unlimited basis, with many of our neighbors returning two or three times a week for available distributions. 62,000 pounds of produce were distributed to clients in the 2021 calendar year with the help of grants, donations, and wholesale purchasing. Overall, we were able to greatly expand the assortment of fresh food to our clients, the consistent availability of which allows families the opportunity to plan, eat well, and improve their health in what was another stressful year for all of us.



WHO WE SERVED

Over the course of the year, we observed a significant decrease in the number of families seeking help from the food pantry compared to pre-pandemic levels, which we attributed to increased support from the government. Despite this development, we consistently served the following groups on a monthly basis:



- **250** households
- **10** new clients
- **75** children
- **119** seniors
- **538** unique customer visits

As government assistance fluctuates, we anticipate increased usage of the pantry in the new year. Though we have all graduated to a modified sense of normalcy, we look forward to building on the successes and innovations of the last year as we work to maintain our momentum and distinguished customer service.

SUPPORT FOR CONTINUED SUCCESS



REUSABLE BAGS: If you are on our Northside Food Pantry Advisors email list, you have surely been notified about our need for bags. We are grateful for those who donated in 2021 and helped us meet this very important need. While we can't thank everyone who dropped off bags, special thanks to the following who were instrumental in helping us meet our bag demand in 2021:

- Nylah Trabulsi and Shadyside Academy
- Girl Scout Troop 16388

As we look forward to 2022, the need for bags remains, as they are key to the continued success of our curb-side service. We will be actively looking to expand our corporate partnerships to meet this pressing need. If you have reusable cloth bags or the heavy plastic grocery bags (found at Aldi and Target delivery), please drop them off at Northside Common Ministries.

OTHER LIMITED DONATIONS: We are grateful for all donations, but there are several products where we have a continued need to meet the demand of the families that we serve, including:

- Women's Hygiene Products
- Plastic Containers of Red Wine Vinegar
- Baking Soda
- Toothpaste
- Brownie Mix

DRIVES: A special thank you to Shadyside Academy and the Pipitone Group for coordinating drives in 2021 and helping received much needed items for our continued success.



VOLUNTEERS & CORPORATE PARTNERSHIPS

We would not have succeeded in 2021 without the dedication of volunteers and our corporate partners who showed up in person as well as volunteered from home. We are so grateful for you and your contributions.



DONATIONS IN HONOR AND MEMORY

For the first time in 2021, we allowed donors to offer in honor of or in memory of someone special. Thanks to those of you who chose to honor loved ones in this way.

Donations were made in honor of the following

- Robert Miles
- Panopto Team
- Barbara and Les Gray
- Alissa Wilmot
- Sue Carlino
- Don Dawson
- Darlene & Derwin Durrwachter Rushing
- Rachael Heisler
- Siena Lane & Greg Murray
- Carrie Dodson Pierson
- Shenel & Andrew Heisler
- Carrie Martin
- Anneke Elmhirst
- Sue Kerr and Laura Dunhoff
- Lisa Vanderwielen
- Cathy Serventi
- Lynn Colwell
- Jay Poliziani

Donations were made in memory of the following

- Carol Jo Seapker
- Bill Altmire
- Hapje Heisler Young
- Mary Alice Dykstra
- Carolyn McDuffie

ABOUT

The Northside Food Pantry Advisors serve as a “friend of” organization for the Northside Food Pantry, which allows flexibility with the immediate purchase of items in need. Our efforts are 100% volunteer and funds raised go towards the purchase of produce, dry goods, and household essentials, like toilet paper. Under the fiscal sponsorship of United Methodist Church Union, financial donations to NFPA are fully tax-deductible.

The following individuals were members of the 2021 Northside Food Pantry Advisors Executive Committee: Renee Brown, Dr. Sharon Cowden, Moira Regan Edmiston, Linda Ehrlich, Kimberly Giles, Rachael Heisler, Collyn O’Donnell, Cheri Pogue, Darlene Rushing, Ben Sgroi, and Jana Thompson.



Thank you to our 2021 Northside Food Pantry Advisors Donors

- Zandrea Ambrose*
- Donna Anderko
- John Mcnamara & Adele Armann
- Mary Armstrong
- Tod Aronson
- Richard & Eileen Arthurs
- Hasan Askari
- James Badaracco
- M&T Bank
- Fran Barbush
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- Clint Benjamin
- Dena Bertram
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- John Bolanos
- Jeanette Bongiovi
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- Carol Brenneisen
- Carolyn Briggs
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- Kimberly Butler
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- Heritage Presbyterian Church
- Sandee Collins
- Julie Conners
- Mario Costanzo
- Sharon Cowden*
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- Silas Davidson
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- Shanelle Dawkins Lane
- Delwin Enterprises Db a Pure Hyde
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- Kathleen Deis
- Alana Delaney
- David Dempsey
- Carole Dempsey
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- Linda Ehrlich*
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- Lillian Evans
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- Shelly Ferris
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- Timothy Foster
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- Buhl Foundation
- Pittsburgh Foundation
- Queequeg Foundation
- John Francona*
- Katherine French*
- Allegheny General Hospital
- Auxiliary Funds
- Bright Funds
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- Barbara & Les Gray
- Galen Grimes
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- Seth L. Hallam
- Betty Harris
- Jessica Heathcote
- Kathy Heisler
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- Susan Hillman
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- Jocelyn Horner*
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- Andrew Inglis
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- Reyne Jablonski
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- Arthur James*
- Jennifer James*
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- Julie & Will Kaigler
- Erin Guay & Douglas Kamper
- Patrick Kane
- John Keck
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- Kyle Ketchesin*
- Emma & David Kieran
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- Joan Kimmel*
- Laurie Klanchar*
- Bob And Nonie Knaus
- Pamela Kresson
- John Kyle
- Mike Lewis
- Martha Lilly*
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- Randi Marshak*
- Penny Martin
- Lauren Mazanowski *
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- Amber Morgan*
- Meghan Morris
- Lauren Moser
- Hilary Mosser
- Mary Anne Murphy
- Darilyn Nagy*
- Collyn & Jameson O'Donnell*
- Rebecca Obley
- Sarah Olexsak
- Betsy Oneill*
- Gary Otto

Thank you to our 2021 Northside Food Pantry Advisors Donors (continued)

- Renee Piechocki
- City Of Pittsburgh
- City Of Pittsburgh
- Retirement Plans Plus
- Marian Porac*
- All In Good Taste Productions
- Holly & Dan Pultz
- Robert Riefle
- Marjolijn Rietsema*
- Carol Rinas
- Carole Robbins
- Carole & John Robert
- Anna Roberts*
- Robert Rolley
- Amanda Rotharmel
- Darlene Rushing*
- Ian Ryan
- John & Cory Schaffranek*
- Dr. Carol Schramke & Mr. Carson Lane
- Dennis Bergevin & Doug Schreck
- Stephen Schrom
- Lisa Schroth
- Mitchell Schwartz
- Benjamin Sgroi*
- Florence Shaner
- Michael Sheleheda*
- Stevie & Will Sheridan
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- Susan & Bill Steen
- Randy Strothman*
- Barbara Talerico*
- Sagar Thakur
- Jana Thompson *
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- Ramona Vaughn
- Edward Venator*
- Katherine Wagner
- Katherine Wagner
- James Wallace
- Stephanie & Dean Walters
- Leslie Ward*
- Joanna Warhold
- Lynne Weber*
- Laura Winter*
- Dan Wintermantel*
- Michelena Wolf
- Richard Worl
- Anna Yoder
- Neal Young
- Alex Zanon*

Recurring Donors

Included in this list and noted by an asterisk are our 2021 recurring donors. By the end of 2021, we had 66 recurring monthly donors who were donating \$2,701 per month. In total, our recurring donor program raised \$32,417 in 2021. This program has seen considerable growth in 2021, adding more than \$7,000 (~25%) additional dollars over 2020. Our efforts would not be possible without our monthly donors, who are the backbone of our giving efforts and allow for stability in income from month to month.

Thank you.

