

Preventing hunger this summer

Program spotlight

Kingdom Life Fellowship

Set on a hill in Pittsburgh's Knoxville neighborhood, Kingdom Life Fellowship Church has been feeding their community with the help of Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank for three years. The church runs a Summer Food Service Program site where approximately 40 kids arrive at noon to receive a meal. They also have a backpack program to ensure kids have weekend food. A Sunday morning breakfast and Wednesday evening meal are open to families. "No kid in our community is going a day without a meal," says Reverend Frederick White who oversees the programs. "That's our mission."

Rev. White says they started the Summer Meals because of the need they saw in the community. Lunch is served from noon to 2 p.m., Monday through Friday. Afterwards, the church provides games and crafts for the children. Although the food is available for anyone 18 and under, the majority of the kids are under 14. On a busy day, they serve as many as 80 to 100 children.

Every child deserves a chance at success

Rev. White believes every child should be given a starting point where success can be a goal and not a wish. "That chance starts with a basic

human need to eat," says Rev. White. "We want to provide a safe haven that gives them a chance to grow up and be contributors to the community. How can we expect people to become positive members of our

community when, from the starting line, they're fighting to survive?"

"On this level, it would be impossible to do without Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank," says Rev. White. "Even though we're in a big building, we're a small church. And we just don't have the resources to meet the everyday need." And to the people who support the Food Bank Rev. White says, "God Bless you. I hope you know you're not just giving money; you're changing lives."

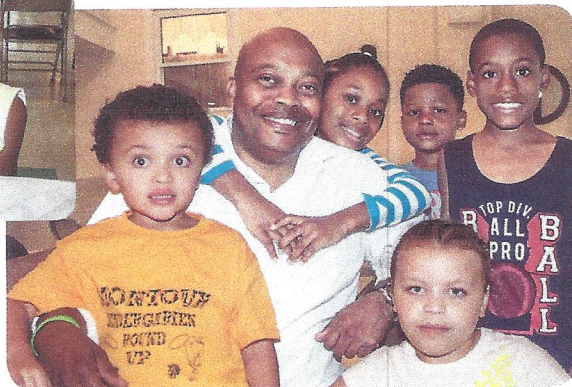
"I hope you know you're not just giving money; you're changing lives."

—REV. WHITE

Rev. White's church hosts a Summer Food Service Program site for kids in their community.



Raquia likes the mashed potatoes, carrots, fruit and hamburger she gets in her lunch.



A good thing for the children



I'm Syreeta and I want to let people who support the Food Bank know what a good thing it is for the children in this neighborhood to be able to get a hot meal. I bring my son, my nieces and other kids from the neighborhood to the Summer Food Program. Coming here they get a chance to have a good meal, play with friends and meet new people. It keeps them out of trouble! I've also had times in my life when I needed help from a food pantry, so I appreciate all the ways the Food Bank supports our community.

Helping at-risk kids get healthy food

Every summer, thanks to you, the Food Bank supports the Summer Food Service Program. The Food Bank actively recruits sites in underserved areas and provides marketing, best practices and advocacy to help kids get the healthy food they need. Last year, the program served over one million meals to at-risk children in our region.

This summer we're assisting at more than 500 sites, expanding our work into all 11 counties within our service area. We were recently able to add Armstrong County to our list of counties served thanks to community collaboration efforts there. Your support is helping at-risk kids get the healthy food they need!