



SUMMER 2026

FEEDING HOPE NEWS



*Who Says Raising
Money Can't Be Fun?*

If you haven't already, be sure to check out Mercer County Food Bank on Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, and X (formerly Twitter) to see how some of our amazing supporters helped us celebrate throughout the campaign. From fun videos and dancing to plenty of laughter along the way, this year's PA OH Gives proved that giving back can be just as fun as it is impactful.



Thanks to the incredible generosity of our donors, we not only reached our \$20,000 goal—we soared past it, raising an amazing \$32,153.26 before any matching. **Enough to provide over 64,000 meals!**



To every donor, volunteer, supporter, and social media cheerleader who liked, shared, commented, donated, or simply helped spread the word, **thank you!** Your generosity and community spirit made this campaign one to remember. Together, you proved that when a community comes together, incredible things happen.

THIS ISSUE

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Bingo Lingo, Truck Full of Hope & RSGO

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SUMMER GREETINGS

BOARD MEMBERS

Jennifer Winchester
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Jim McClusky



Dear Friends,

I hope you're enjoying the sunshine, warm weather, blooming flowers, family cookouts, and all the simple joys that summer brings.

While summer is a season of fun for many, hunger doesn't take a summer vacation. Right here in Mercer County, 1 in 7 neighbors and 1 in 5 children face food insecurity, making the summer months especially challenging for families who no longer have access to free school meals.

At the same time, the need for food assistance continues to rise while the availability of donated food and federal commodities through The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) has declined significantly. Despite these challenges, your generosity has made an incredible impact. Thanks to supporters like you, Mercer County Food Bank has distributed more than 1.2 million pounds of food to neighbors in need already this year.

Your support is also helping programs like Myron's Meal Mobile reach more children than ever before. This summer, our retrofitted school bus is on track to serve more than 6,000 hot, nutritious meals to children and their families throughout Mercer County, ensuring they have access to healthy meals even while school is out of session.

As you continue to enjoy the warmth of summer, I hope you'll keep Mercer County Food Bank and the families we serve in your heart. If you are able, please consider making a gift to help ensure that no neighbor has to face hunger alone.

Whether you give a financial gift, donate food, or volunteer your time, your support makes a lasting difference. Together, we are providing nourishment, hope, and dignity to thousands of our neighbors each and every month.

Thank you for believing in our mission and for helping us build a stronger, healthier, and more food-secure Mercer County.

With heartfelt gratitude,

Rebecca Page
Executive Director

EMPTY BOWLS SUCCESS

We don't want to get too soupy, but... just like every good bowl of soup, another Empty Bowls has come to an end. Thankfully, the impact of this incredible event will last long after the final spoonful.



Thanks to the extraordinary generosity of our sponsors, volunteers, potters, restaurants, and everyone who attended, this year's Empty Bowls was another record-breaking success, raising more than \$50,000 to help provide over 100,000 nutritious meals to our neighbors facing hunger across Mercer County.

To everyone who sponsored the event, donated food, purchased a ticket, volunteered, or supported Empty Bowls in any way **THANK YOU**. When we say, "It takes a community to feed a community," this is exactly what we mean. Together, you've shown that a simple bowl of soup can nourish far more than an empty stomach it can help nourish hope, strengthen our community, and ensure thousands of our neighbors have food on their tables each and every day.



Thank you Sponsors!

SOUPer Bowl Sponsors



Three Bowl Sponsors



Two Bowl Sponsors

A GIFT MADE IN HONOR OF
Harper, Palmer,
Landry and Owen



JB Winner
and Family

One Bowl Sponsors

AAA Pest Pros

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Giant Eagle

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JCL Energy

Reeves Information Technologies

Jones Performance

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Joy Cone Co.

The 21st Century Energy Group

Paramount Games

UPMC Horizon Community Health

Quota of Hermitage

Foundation and UPMC Horizon

Sunbelt Solomon

Spoonful Full of Hope Sponsors

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M&R Power Equipment

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Penn State Shenango

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Sharon American Legion Post 299

Omega Lumber

Shenango Valley Sons of Italy

REV Electric

Signage Sponsor: Minuteman Press

Quality Life Services



Keep the momentum going! Check out our upcoming events on pages 10-11.

CAUSE FOR CELEBRATION

Ribbon Cuttings

Over the past several months, Mercer County Food Bank has had the privilege of hosting ribbon-cutting ceremonies at several of our partner agencies throughout Mercer County.

Each celebration was an opportunity to recognize the incredible work happening across our hunger relief network and to honor the volunteers, staff, supporters, and community members who make it all possible.

These ribbon cuttings were about more than cutting a ribbon, they were about celebrating partnership, strengthening community connections, and recognizing the collective impact we make when we work together to fight hunger.

To all of our agency partners, thank you for your dedication, compassion, and collaboration. We are proud to stand alongside you as we continue building a stronger, healthier, and more food-secure Mercer County.



Lakeview School District



Primary Health Network



Mercer County Aging



Mercer Area School District



ROAR Center



Wilmington School District

AND WE'RE NOT DONE CELEBRATING! *Stay tuned – there are even more ribbon cuttings and exciting milestones on the horizon.*

Get Involved!

Looking for opportunities to get involved? There are many ways you can partner with MCFB to help our neighbors in need such as...

- Volunteer
- Donate
- Host a Food Drive
- Become a Fork Lifter or Meal Maker
- Join the Carrot Club
- Become an Ambassador

Learn more at mercercountyfoodbank.org/getinvolved



Recognizing local HUNGER HEROES



What do postal workers and superheroes have in common?
They both save the day one delivery at a time.

On May 9th, our local postal workers proved just that during the National Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive, collecting an incredible 7,056 pounds of food in a single day to help stock the shelves of our neighbors in need.

As the nation's largest single-day food drive, Stamp Out Hunger is no small feat. Our dedicated letter carriers went the extra mile, literally collecting food donations along their routes and delivering them back to their local post offices, all while continuing their regular deliveries.

A heartfelt thank you to the United States Postal Service, the National Association of Letter Carriers, our incredible volunteers, and our generous community for making this year's campaign such a success. Together, we're delivering hope to neighbors facing hunger one delivery at a time.



Carrot Club | *Getting to the "root" cause of hunger!*



Looking for a way to make a meaningful impact in OUR community? Then look no further. MCFB is challenging all local businesses and organizations who want to be a part of the solution in OUR community to take a look at Carrot Club – the food bank's annual giving program. This unique program is designed to highlight the amazing contributions of our community partners who have a shared desire to lend a hand up to a neighbor in need. We hope you'll consider making a one-time gift that has the potential to provide thousands **(YES, thousands!)** of meals to our neighbors in need.

Harvest Sponsors



[Your logo here]



SharonTube

Root Sponsors



Sprout Sponsors

JB Winner and Family • Primary
Health Network • In Honor of
Harper, Palmer, Landry, and Owen

Seedling Sponsors

Giant Eagle, JCL Energy, Jones Performance
Products Inc., Quota of Hermitage, Saint John's
Orthodox Church, Sunbelt Solomon

For more information, contact Alexis Spence-Locke, Development Director at
724-981-0353 x108 or visit mercercountyfoodbank.org/carrot-club to learn more!

Schools Out for Summer FEEDING OUR COMMUNITY

Myron's Meal Mobile Kick Off

The final school bell has rung, backpacks are packed away, and summer break is officially here, but Myron's Meal Mobile is just shifting into high gear!

Now in its 6th summer, Mercer County Food Bank's retrofitted school bus is back on the road, delivering hot, nutritious meals to children and families throughout Mercer County. While school may be on summer break, healthy meals are still in session!



We are looking forward to visiting with familiar faces, welcoming new families, and serving up another summer of smiles one meal at a time!



From June 8th through August 14th, the Meal Mobile will serve lunch weekdays from 11:30am–1:00pm (or while supplies last) at the following locations:

- Mondays – Hillside Presbyterian Church, Greenville
- Tuesdays – Towers Church, Grove City
- Wednesdays – Mark Twain Manor, Jamestown
- Thursdays – Stey-Nevant Library, Farrell
- Fridays – The Buhl Club, Sharon



A Special Thank You to Haitian Sensation

Thank you for being an incredible partner in the fight against hunger

When Myron's Meal Mobile hit an unexpected bump in the road and required repairs, one local business didn't hesitate to answer the call.

A heartfelt thank you to Haitian Sensation for stepping up with their food truck to ensure children and families continued to receive hot, nutritious meals without interruption. Their willingness to jump in at a moment's notice is a true example of what community partnership looks like.

As the saying goes, "A strong community isn't measured by what happens when everything goes right, but by who steps up when things go wrong." Haitian Sensation embodies that spirit every day, helping us continue our mission of feeding children throughout Mercer County when it mattered most.



MCFB is ON THE MOVE



SV Chamber T-shirt Tuesday

Jim Bombeck, Executive Director of the Shenango Valley Chamber of Commerce, recently stopped by the Food Bank as part of the Chamber's popular T-Shirt Tuesday Member Spotlight Program. During his visit, Jim proudly sported his MCFB T-shirt and even put his pallet-moving skills to the test in our warehouse!



Family Children and Community Association Community Baby Shower



Grove City Chamber After Hours at Citizens Bank



Huntington Economic Summit



Grove City Chamber Speed Networking Event



Meet Me on Main Greenville Chamber



HopeCAT's Arte Blanche



Strawberry Days in Sharon



Strawberry Days in Grove City



Healthy Kids Day at Grove City YMCA



Living Local

Distinguished Impact Award



Congratulations to Patty Tucker, MCFB Development Manager, for being awarded the Shenango Valley Chamber of Commerce Under 40 Distinguished Impact Awards!

HELPING HANDS

Ways to get involved & volunteer spotlight

Stuff the Truck

Want to help at the next Stuff the Truck event?

Every donation helps support neighbors facing hunger across Mercer County. Stop by one of our upcoming Stuff the Trucks and donate a few non-perishable items to help our neighbors in need.

- Saturday, July 11th at Walt's, Mercer
- Saturday, Aug. 8th at County Market, Grove City
- Saturday, September 26th at Giant Eagle, Hermitage
- Saturday, November 7th at Greenville Walmart



**Stuff the Truck –
Donofrio's**



**Stuff the Truck –
Grove City Walmart**

Volunteer Spotlight

Bill Marshall

How long have you been volunteering at MCFB?
Since October 2025

What inspired you to volunteer at the food bank?
Retired from a 24-year career feeding children in a large urban school meals program. When government support for feeding hungry families was imperiled in 2025, it reminded me that the need never stops.

What is your favorite part of volunteering? To work with and among the amazing folks who've been performing the vital work of Mercer County Food Bank, professionals and volunteers alike, is both humbling and fulfilling. It's a genuine privilege to join a team with so many wonderful people!

What do you do outside of volunteering? Reading non-fiction, particularly biographies and 19th and 20th century European history

Do you have any creative talents/special interests? Regenerative home gardening, Dutch oven cooking over a campfire. Former volunteer with Erie County Emergency Management – Amateur Radio; former Erie County Sheriff's Search & Rescue team member; 30-year blood donor.

Favorite Food: Fresh-caught Walleye

Favorite Movie: *The Fisher King* (1991)



Support MCFB with TikTok!

There are now two easy ways TikTok users can help fight hunger through Feeding America.

1. Round Up at Checkout

Through December 31, 2026, eligible TikTok Shop purchases can be rounded up to support Feeding America, with funds distributed to local food banks based on ZIP code.

2. TikTok Pro Events

FIFA World Cup 2026™ fans can complete in-app activities and choose to direct TikTok-funded charitable donations to Feeding America, helping support food banks like us.

Small actions can make a big difference in the fight against hunger!

Thank you VOLUNTEERS & DONORS

Because of the ongoing support of our dedicated volunteer groups and generous donors, MCFB is able to #fighthunger and #feedhope for our neighbors across Mercer County.

DONORS



SCI American Legion



Dairy Princess



Sharon Elks



Hermitage Walmart



The
Brotherhood
Masonic
Motorcycle
Club

VOLUNTEER GROUPS



Lamar



Black Bear
Dispensary



First Energy



Hermitage School District
Life Skills Class



Serve with Liberty



Serve with Liberty

As Liberty Mutual says, they're committed to "sharing their greatest assets: their time and talent." That's exactly what the Serve with Liberty team did during their recent volunteer day at Mercer County Food Bank. Their generosity and teamwork made a meaningful impact, and we're grateful for their partnership in the fight against hunger.



Support Takes Flight with Top Drone



Through a creative social media campaign, they pledged \$1 for every "like" received, raising \$1,000 to help provide food for neighbors facing hunger across Mercer County. What made the effort even more impactful was the challenge to local businesses to step up and do the same, sparking a ripple effect of giving. Their creativity shows how a simple idea can grow into meaningful support for families in need.

Have an idea for a fundraiser or community challenge? We'd love to partner with you to help turn your creative idea into meaningful support for local families. Contact us today to learn how you can get involved.



Join us for a 5K run, 2-mile walk, and Kids Fun Run, followed by a personal pie for all participants and a pie-eating contest after the race!

SATURDAY, AUGUST 1, 2026

Training & Workforce Development Center at LindenPointe

Registration Available on the Day of Race!

Kids helping Kids

JULY

GIVING STARTS NOW!

Help your child claim a day to make a difference for kids in Mercer County!

To sign up, contact
Patty Tucker at
724-981-0353 x 103
ptucker@mercercountyfoodbank.org

1 Cooper's Month of Meals	2 Girl Scouts Troop 16365 Food Drive at Shelter 2 Buhl Park	3 Check out the coloring pages made by Rowan on Saturdays at Sharon Farmers Market all summer long!	4 Alexis and Gabby Light up the sky for hunger!
5 Jersey and Jemma's lemonade and hair glitter stand. Proceeds to benefit MCFB	6 Buhl Park Kids Camp Food Drive All week long!	7 Avery's cookie sale. Proceeds to benefit MCFB	8 Zion's Lemonade Bar Proceeds to benefit MCFB
9 Aubree's 9 for 9 Challenge!	10 Nico's Food Collection	11 CeCe's Lemonade Stand. Proceeds to benefit MCFB	12 Camryne's Cannonball for a Cause at Buhl Park Pool
13 Homchosky girls lemonade/cookie stand. Proceeds to benefit MCFB	14 Hickory Golf Team goes ORANGE for Hunger Awareness	15 Rowan's baby snack attack	16 Lily's CHANGE makes a difference
17 Smith Sister's Sale for a cause. Proceeds to benefit MCFB	18 Evalee's lemonade/snack stand. Proceeds to benefit MCFB	19 The Nolfi Kids Bake Sale. Proceeds to benefit MCFB	20 Sophia's lemonade and cookie stand. Proceeds to benefit MCFB
21 Hickory Soccer Car Wash. Proceeds to benefit MCFB	22 Rowan and Asher's Pup Cups at Buhl Park pool house. Proceeds to benefit MCFB	23 Sadie's Caring Cup at Haitian Sensation. Proceeds to benefit MCFB	24 Gus Macker Food Collection for MCFB
25 1,2,3,4 Buhl Club Day Care declares a Change War!	26 Greater Morris Chapel youth Dept. Bakesale 1-3pm. Proceeds to benefit MCFB	27 Building Blocks Childcare Center's Cereal Domino Challenge Kick Off	28 Glo's Food Drive at St. John's Orthodox Church
29 The Benton's Bake Sale. Proceeds to benefit MCFB	30 The Hunger Heroes food collection founded by: Jaxon, Leo, Austin and Luca	31 Luca's Food Drive at UPMC	

MERCER COUNTY FOOD BANK



Friday, December 4, 2026
5pm-9pm (doors open at 4pm)

St. Bartholomew Church
311 West Ridge Ave, Sharpsville PA

SAVE THE DATE

Truck-Full of Hope

FOOD DRIVE

Kick-off will be Monday,
November 2nd at noon.

DIEHL
AUTOMOTIVE

2757 E. State St.
Hermitage, PA



Help feed our neighbors in need. Bring a
bag filled with non-perishable food items
to Diehl and lets fill the truck with hope!



Join us for the 3rd annual
**MERCER COUNTY
FOOD BANK**

ready... set...

GO ORANGE!

Are you looking for a way to
make a huge impact in our
community? **Look no further!**
Join us for this 12-hour event
to feed our neighbors!

Fri. Sept. 11, 2026
9:00 AM – 9:00 PM



Call Patty at
724-981-0353x103

Take action this **HUNGER ACTION MONTH** and
sign up today for **Ready...Set...GO ORANGE!**

INCREASE YOUR IMPACT

Join our monthly donor program!



Fork Lifters and Meal Makers is Mercer County Food Bank's monthly giving program designed to make a huge impact in Mercer County. Every gift creates a steady source of hope and nourishment for neighbors in need. **Together, we can make sure no one goes hungry in Mercer County!**

Curious how one gift can do so much? Scan the QR code and see how just one monthly donation can provide multiple meals to children, families, and seniors across our community. Join Fork Lifters or Meal Makers today and start making a difference—one meal at a time (and yes, that's multiple meals!)



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Make a Donation

[Click here to give online!](#)

Mercer County Food Bank, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, is committed to fighting hunger right here in our community. Every dollar donated provides meals to neighbors in need across Mercer County.