

This Grandfather Is Grateful for Your Compassion

BECAUSE OF YOUR GENEROSITY, ALLEN AND HIS FAMILY HAVE NOURISHING FOOD.

Allen may be retired, but he's still very much the father and provider of a large family. He lives with his wife and their nephew and often looks after grandchildren, too. Right now, all of them are living on a tight fixed income that includes Social Security and Allen's modest work pension.

About a year ago, the LSS Food Pantry appeared like a beacon of hope on a day Allen wasn't even looking for

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“ You're giving to the community – to the people who really need it. ”

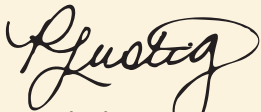
Allen
LSS Food Pantries Client

**A MESSAGE FROM
RACHEL LUSTIG,
PRESIDENT AND CEO**

Sometimes all we need to do is get the word out.

This thought came to mind when I read the story of Allen, who relies on the LSS Food Pantries to help feed his family. He never knew we were distributing food in his neighborhood until he happened to walk by. I'm sure you've heard it said that if we all shared, we'd all have enough – and I'm simply grateful that you have chosen to share.

Your kind support is opening a brighter future for so many people, and I hope you're encouraged to see what a wonderful difference you're making. Thank you for being such a good neighbor, and for ensuring others in need can receive the food, shelter and care that helps them persevere through many challenges.



Rachel Lustig
President and CEO



Our Neighbors Need Your Support

This summer, thousands of neighbors are eager to leave homelessness, hunger and abuse behind and see their own *hope for home* become reality. Their journey to transformation starts with you. A generous donation today would help many people in need get back on their feet and find new hope for the future. Your help will reach:

- Neighbors who lost jobs, savings and homes.
- Victims of domestic violence and their children fleeing abuse or working to recover and rebuild after experiencing trauma.
- People who are struggling with poverty, grief or other devastating crises.

Because more individuals contact the LSS Network of Hope each day for help, your support will go right to work providing nourishing meals, safe shelter and life-transforming healing services for our neighbors in need.



HOPE FOR HOME

SUMMER 2024 CAMPAIGN

Please consider giving today by sending the enclosed reply slip with your gift or going to lssnetworkofhope.org/SummerNews. Thank you!

THEY SERVED US. THANK YOU FOR SERVING U.S. VETERANS!

Through our LSS homeless services programs, your support helped **536 veterans** last year.

Programs include emergency shelter, transitional housing and Supportive Services for Veteran Families, a VA-supported program designed to quickly get homeless veterans and their families into permanent housing.



Thank you for blessing these American heroes!

LSS FOOD PANTRIES



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help. "I was just walking by, and someone here told me about this place." Relieved to find a little help for his family, Allen drops by every so often for groceries when money gets tight.

Like so many other Americans on fixed incomes, life was hard enough for his family before the price of food and most everything else shot up. Once inflation hit, making ends meet became just about impossible.

"I'm struggling to afford dentures," Allen says. When a person cannot pay for medical bills or other basic needs, food is often the first thing sacrificed. That makes LSS Food Pantries a lifeline for families who might otherwise be skipping meals. "I stop in to get bread, eggs and vegetables," Allen says. "It's very helpful to us."

That's why Allen is so thankful for friends like you, who give generously to care for our neighbors in need. "It's a blessing that people donate," he says. "You're giving to the community – to the people who really need it."

Thank you for showing kindness and making life better for families in need across Central Ohio!

It Takes Teamwork to Feed Hungry Neighbors

The pandemic had a huge impact here at LSS Faith Mission – and one of our greatest ongoing concerns is a decrease in meal donations. Before COVID-19 hit, close to 40% of our meals were donated by volunteers like you. Today, only 18% of our meals are provided by individuals, businesses, churches and groups from our community. This is especially challenging given the high cost of food right now.

Can you rally a team to help? We're asking groups of any size to provide a hot meal, sack lunches or collect nonperishable ingredients for our kitchen. If you're interested in helping or would like to learn more, contact Miranda Dean, volunteer manager, at mdean@lssnetworkofhope.org.





“We Were Not in a Good Place”

FAITH AND HER SONS FACED HOMELESSNESS, BUT YOUR SUPPORT SAVED HER.

Faith was running out of options. She and her two sons lived with friends, but it was a very unstable situation. *“There were constant fights and arguments there,”* she says. *“We were not in a good place.”* Desperate to escape but jobless and penniless, she came to Faith Mission. Faith remembers, *“Friends told me, ‘Don’t go to a shelter... you’ll be back a year later.’”*

Despite the discouragement, Faith believed LSS Faith Mission was the right move. That’s why she made the tough decision to move her sons in with family while she came here and began to rebuild her life from the ground up. We quickly helped Faith with job readiness, and through that, Faith found a job and began saving money. Through your support, Faith also received her first eye exam in years – and now has new glasses with the correct prescription. As you can imagine, she’s thrilled with the result: *“I could hardly see for the last year and a half,”* she says, *“I was practically blind.”*

During this time, it became clear that Faith had a gift for styling hair. She was

serving the other women at Faith Mission, and the results were outstanding. To help her secure a brighter future, we encouraged Faith to enroll in a cosmetology course. *“I had never even considered going to school,”* she says. She’s doing great – and once she graduates, her new career should provide a much more stable future.

As she prepares to reunite with her sons, Faith reflects, *“I’ve built my own family here at Faith Mission.”* She is grateful for your support, and her plans are now clear: *“My goal is to find an apartment where my kids and I can be together while I work in a salon.”*

Thank you for building a brighter future for Faith and her children.

“ I’ve built my own family here.”

Faith
LSS Faith Mission Client

Your gift offers healing and hope to people in need across the LSS Network of Hope. That includes:



Meals and shelter to homeless and hungry neighbors at LSS Faith Mission in both Franklin and Fairfield counties.



Nutritious food for families struggling with hunger at the LSS Food Pantries.



Safe refuge and healing for victims of domestic violence and their children at LSS CHOICES.

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THANK YOU TO OUR FUNDERS



STAY CONNECTED

