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ANNUAL FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN UNDERWAY



GCV's annual fundraising campaign is in full swing. Supporting our 50+ year mission of engaging people to serve the community through meaningful volunteer opportunities with a financial

donation would mean so much. It's easy to donate at our website: greaterclevelandvolunteers.org/support-us/

Thank you!

Greater Cleveland Volunteers is funded in part by AmeriCorps Seniors and the Office of Juvenile Justice & Delinquency Prevention.

As we approach the close of another meaningful year, I want to extend my warmest wishes for a joyful holiday season and a hopeful, healthy New Year. This time of year gives us a chance to reflect—and when I look back on 2025, I am filled with deep gratitude for every one of you who made Greater Cleveland Volunteers such a powerful force for good in our community.



Whether you volunteered your time, contributed your expertise, or supported our work as a donor, you played an essential role in improving lives throughout the Cleveland area. Every student who received extra help with reading, every older adult who felt less isolated, every nonprofit that strengthened its impact—these moments were made possible because of you.

Our mission has always been simple yet vital: to connect people with opportunities to serve. This year, you showed once again that compassion and commitment can transform an entire region. Your spirit of service continues to inspire our staff, our partners, and, most importantly, the thousands of people whose lives are brighter because of your efforts.

As we look to the year ahead, we remain dedicated to expanding volunteer opportunities, supporting our nonprofit partners, and ensuring that everyone who wishes to serve has a meaningful place to do so. I am excited for what we will accomplish together in 2026.

Thank you for your generosity, your kindness, and your belief in our mission. From all of us at Greater Cleveland Volunteers, happy holidays—and warmest wishes for a wonderful New Year.

—Kevin Gross, Executive Director

WELCOME TO OUR NEW PARTNER AGENCIES



Help sick kids get their magic back! Perform bedside magic and deliver strength to sick kids facing difficult illness, unexpected hospital stays, and frightening medical situations. Full training provided, no magic experience needed. Learn to transform young patients into laughing kids again.



Business Advisers of Cleveland (BAC) volunteer executives provide free, unbiased business advice to individuals who want to start a business or non-profit organization. BAC also serves existing businesses and non-profits who face difficult business challenges. BAC volunteers provide their confidential advice for free.



We are teaching children in Cleveland to be respectful and responsible through mindfulness, self esteem and conflict resolution activities. Our programs incorporate evidenced-based social emotional learning curriculum, real world experiences and mentors who care to create an environment for students to learn, lead and succeed.



AquaMissions' purpose is to save and change lives by building trust and enhancing skills through introductory water experiences, safety instruction, and swim lessons for Greater Cleveland's youth. AquaMissions' flagship offering is a school-based Learn-to-Swim program that removes economic and social barriers to basic water safety education and learning to swim.



Since 1975, Womankind walks with women along the journey of pregnancy and beyond by providing free prenatal care, personal support, and social services in a caring and non-judgmental environment. Comprehensive services available regardless of insurance, income, immigration status, location, or plans for pregnancy.

HOLIDAY VOLUNTEERING AND HUNGER OPPORTUNITIES

Volunteering for food pantries, Meals-on-Wheels, and other hunger-relief programs in Greater Cleveland is more than just an act of charity—it's a powerful way to build community. In our region, one in six people is food insecure, according to the Greater Cleveland Food Bank, meaning they're unsure where their next meal will come from.

This staggering reality highlights how critical volunteers are. Food pantries rely on hands-on help to sort and distribute groceries. Without volunteers, lines grow longer and access becomes more limited. For older residents and those with disabilities, programs like Meals-on-Wheels deliver not just nourishment but dignity and companionship—lifelines that bridge physical or social isolation.



The demand remains high. In the last 12 months, Greater Cleveland Food Bank and its partners served more than 400,000 people across six counties. But it's not just about numbers—it's about people: families facing impossible choices, older adults on fixed incomes, and children who go to bed hungry.

By contributing your time, you help fuel a safety net that meets immediate needs and strengthens our community's resilience. Whether you want to sort food, deliver meals, or distribute food at a local pantry, every hour you give matters. Volunteering isn't just generosity—it's hope in action.



EXAMPLES OF HUNGER VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES

FOOD DISTRIBUTION: Help with registration, directing traffic, sort and re-package produce and load vehicles.

FOOD PANTRY: Volunteers assist with stocking shelves, sorting, organizing and packaging and helping customers shop.

MEALS ON WHEELS: Preparing meals, picking up meals, driving, or walking the delivery to the door.

FOOD RESCUE HERO: Pick up donated food items and deliver them to a non-profit agency.

Visit greaterclevols.vsyslive.com for volunteer opportunities, or scan the QR code. Contact Nancy Dzurnak at contact@greaterclevelandvolunteers.org or 216-391-9500 x2123 for more information.