

## FRANCISCAN DELIGHT GARDEN



Local "Starbucks" staff (L) volunteered on an April morning to help Chuck, the Master Gardener (R) to clean up and prepare Bernardine Center's garden, Franciscan Delight, for spring planting.



Students/Alumnae from Widener University's Social Work Department volunteered on a crisp May morning to continue garden clean-up and to plant vegetable seedlings.



Today, the "Franciscan Delight" garden has already produced many harvests of fresh vegetables for distribution to food pantry families, thanks to all the willing service from volunteers and our gardener, Chuck. (L) String beans, (R) Kale & Swiss chard.

## BERNARDINE CENTER IS GRATEFUL TO...

**CONNELLY FOUNDATION**  
for a generous \$2,500 gift to meet the Christmas 2017 needs of poor families and for a \$1,000 discretionary gift (6/18) to support worthwhile efforts of Bernardine Center.

**THE DAPPLECROFT FUND OF THE PHILADELPHIA FOUNDATION**  
for a 12/2017 \$5,000 grant specified for general operating support.

**SONS OF BEN**  
for its "Help Kick Hunger 2017" event gifting BC with \$7,015

**RASKOB FOUNDATION**  
for a \$15,000 grant (7/17) to support a stipend for the Director of Bernardine Center.

**PIERCE FAMILY FOUNDATION**  
for a \$5,000 grant (11/17) for General Operating Support for the Food Pantry and Westside Brunch.

**THE W.W. SMITH CHARITABLE TRUST**  
for a \$24,800 (6/17) grant to help with the repair of the building's rear wall and support for the Food Pantry, Brunch Service, and Baby Cupboard.

**INDEPENDENCE FOUNDATION**  
for a \$5,000 grant (7/17) and a \$5,000 grant (7/18) for the Food Assistance Programs

**ETHEL SARGEANT CLARK SMITH MEMORIAL FUND**  
for a grant of \$6,000 (11/17) for purchase of fresh foods for distribution through its Food Pantry and Westside Brunch meals.

**PHIL AND CAROL LYNN STINE**  
for their 11/2017 addition of a 25,000 gift to the Bernardine Center Fund founded in 2015; it has been matched by G.E.

**BERNARDINE CENTER**  
is a long-time member of the Delaware County Interfaith Food Assistance Network (DIFAN) receiving food through the State Food Purchase Program (SFPP) and the Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP)

**BERNARDINE CENTER**  
serves all those in need regardless of age, disability, national origin, orientation, race or religion.



Bernardine Center  
2625 West Ninth Street,  
Chester, PA 19013  
[www.bernardinecenter.org](http://www.bernardinecenter.org)



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SUMMER 2018

# THE BernardineCenter TIMES

A NEWSLETTER OF THE BERNARDINE CENTER

A Ministry of the Bernardine Franciscan Sisters

## YOUR HUNGER INTELLIGENCE QUOTIENT

- |  | True                     | False                    |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. More than 20 percent (1 in 5) children in the U. S. live at risk of hunger.   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. One in seven Americans receives benefits from the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), formerly called food stamps.                  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. 48.1 percent of SNAP households are employed with two-thirds of recipients being children, elderly, or disabled.                                  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Almost 50 percent of all black children younger than six live in poverty.   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. Pennsylvania is the 27th hungriest state in the country.  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. One in eight households in PA struggles to put food on the table.   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7. People of color in PA are four times more likely to live with hunger and poverty.   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 8. In 2016, U.S. poverty and food insecurity rates continued to decline, while both median household income and health insurance coverage increased. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 9. While African Americans make up 13 percent of the U.S. population, they represent 22.5 percent of those experiencing poverty and hunger.          | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 10. Chester, PA's population is 33,988. Black/African American race ranks as 69.4% of that population.   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

See Advocacy Box for answers and references to above statements.

## Send an advocacy letter to your Senator and Representative

Dear Representative \_\_\_\_\_ or Senator \_\_\_\_\_,

As Congress works on the fiscal year 2019 budget and spending bills, I ask you to invest in and protect key programs that reduce hunger and poverty.

Our country and the world have made some progress against hunger and poverty in recent decades. I urge you to continue that progress by investing in programs like SNAP and tax credits for low-income workers. It is important to me that my Congress persons act to reduce the poverty and the hunger that prevail in my county and state. Pennsylvania is the 27<sup>th</sup> hungriest state in the United States.

My faith impels me, as your constituent, to urge you to make public investments that will move us closer toward the end of hunger in our country and in our world.

Sincerely,

Answers to T & F - all statements are TRUE based on [www.bread.org](http://www.bread.org)  
"Facts on Hunger and Poverty in the U.S." (Statements #1-9)  
(#10 at [www.Neighborhoodscoutonline.com](http://www.Neighborhoodscoutonline.com) "Race & Ethnic Diversity" Chester, PA)



## Mission Statement

The Bernardine Center provides a helping hand to low-income Chester area residents by distributing emergency or supplemental food and supplies.

The Bernardine Center also offers educational, spiritual and advocacy programs to help clients build better lives for themselves, their families and communities.

All the ministries of the Bernardine Center are rooted in Franciscan hospitality and the social teachings of our Catholic Christian tradition.



## B.C. HAPPENINGS



Sister Sandra serves brunch to Jerry and Danny.



Individuals and families seek a healthy, warm meal at Bernardine Center. Meals are provided on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays 10:00 am to 12:00 noon.



Clients socialize outside the food pantry door prior to distribution time.



Sons of Ben's "Help Kick Hunger" fundraiser for Bernardine Center was held at Yards Brewery in December 2017, giving Sister Sandra a chance to speak to attendees about the Center. Bill Gusler, President of Sons of Ben, is to the left of Sister Sandra.



The back wall of the Bernardine Center underwent a major repair to prevent the rain from entering the building through large cracks in the exterior wall. We are grateful to W.W. Smith Charitable Trust for its grant.



During different prayer dinners of the "Women of Peace Empowerment," Carla (above) and Sylvia (below) receive their special T-shirt and peace dove after participating in three bi-monthly gatherings.

## MORE BERNARDINE CENTER HAPPENINGS



Students from two different series of Anger Management classes receive their certificates of participation, needed as part of their probationary requirement. Mike (R) is the teacher.



Young parishioners from St. Francis of Assisi Parish do a photo pose after the delivery of 5,849 lbs. of food from the "Super Bowl of Caring" food drive (2/18) for Bernardine Center families.



Mothers choose 2017 Christmas gifts for family members; all gifts are donations from churches and organizations. We are so grateful for your support in helping to meet the various needs of our families.



Volunteers and staff spend the next week checking expiration dates, separating and shelving or storing the "Super Bowl of Caring" food for pantry distribution.

## MONETARY AND INKIND DONATIONS

JANUARY 28, 2017 THROUGH JUNE 28, 2018

- |   |  |  |  |
|---|--|--|--|
| Abdullah, Benita<br>Acme, Glen Mills<br>Ailes, Richard<br>Alexander, George & RoseMary<br>Alwang, J. Roger & Janet<br>Anderson, Vincent & Veronica<br>Archbishop Carroll High School<br>Archuleta, Ligia<br>Arena, Barbara<br>Balmer, Cynthia A. Mellon<br>Barbagiovanni, John & Elaine<br>Barrar, Sarah - "Loving Coins"<br>Baxter, Cynthia Jama<br>Bello, Kathleen<br>Benson, R. Patrick & Maureen<br>Bernardine Center Garden<br>Betsch-Burns, Susanna<br>Bernardine Franciscan Development Office<br>Bird, Matt<br>Blanc, Jonathon<br>Boates, Robert<br>Boccella, Patricia<br>Boylan, William & Mary Anne<br>Boyle, Joseph & Jean<br>Bramble, Linn<br>Brennan, Jane M.<br>Bruno, James & Margaret<br>Burns, Judith<br>Burrige, Nora<br>Cacciatore, Paul<br>Capanella, Anne<br>Cardile, Jim & Kathy<br>Carpenter, Steve<br>Carzo, Kathy<br>Cennane, Robert<br>Chester Post Office<br>Chominski, David<br>Chominski, Helen<br>Church of Saint Joseph, Aston<br>Cinnamon, Mr.<br>Coburn, Diane S.<br>Cocchi, Addie<br>Cody, Shannon<br>Comcast Corporation<br>Community Arts Center, Wallingford<br>Congregation Ohev Shalom<br>Connell, Janet<br>Cooney, Janelle<br>Corey, Jr., Francis I.<br>Covenant United Methodist Church<br>Crawford, Nancy<br>Cully, Peg<br>Cummings, Mary<br>Cunningham, Sheila<br>Curry, Josephine<br>Czarnota, Janet<br>Dawson, Henry<br>DeAntonio, Gene & Laxton, Brandi<br>DeCaro, Geriann<br>Delaware County Council<br>Delco Magazine<br>Delp, Maggie<br>DelVacchio, Michael & Betty<br>Diersing, Ann V.<br>Dion, Arthur & Barbara<br>Divine Child School 5th grade, Dearborn, MI<br>Doherty, John<br>Dolan, Patricia<br>Duffy, Marie<br>Embon, Daniel & Lisa | Family & Community Service of Delco<br>Farrell, Gloria<br>Federal Government, TEFAP<br>Fee, Frank & Mary<br>Ferriola, Luke<br>Fetrow, John & Theresa<br>Feyas, Thomas<br>Finer Technology<br>Fisher, John A.<br>Fisher, Margie<br>Fisher Tank Company<br>Florio, Marie<br>Flynn, John & Mary<br>Follman, John<br>Frasciello, Mimi<br>Fresh Baked Theatre Company<br>Gannon, John & Loretta<br>Giant Food Store, Aston<br>Gisoni, Celeste<br>Gladulich, Elizabeth<br>Godbey, Robert<br>Gordon-Tomlinson, Olivia<br>Grugan, James & Karen<br>Gurnick, Prudence<br>Haggerty, Betty<br>Harenza, Leon & Patricia<br>Harris, Brian & Barbara<br>Harvin, Keith<br>Burrige, Nora<br>Cacciatore, Paul<br>Capanella, Anne<br>Cardile, Jim & Kathy<br>Carpenter, Steve<br>Carzo, Kathy<br>Cennane, Robert<br>Chester Post Office<br>Chominski, David<br>Chominski, Helen<br>Church of Saint Joseph, Aston<br>Cinnamon, Mr.<br>Coburn, Diane S.<br>Cocchi, Addie<br>Cody, Shannon<br>Comcast Corporation<br>Community Arts Center, Wallingford<br>Congregation Ohev Shalom<br>Connell, Janet<br>Cooney, Janelle<br>Corey, Jr., Francis I.<br>Covenant United Methodist Church<br>Crawford, Nancy<br>Cully, Peg<br>Cummings, Mary<br>Cunningham, Sheila<br>Curry, Josephine<br>Czarnota, Janet<br>Dawson, Henry<br>DeAntonio, Gene & Laxton, Brandi<br>DeCaro, Geriann<br>Delaware County Council<br>Delco Magazine<br>Delp, Maggie<br>DelVacchio, Michael & Betty<br>Diersing, Ann V.<br>Dion, Arthur & Barbara<br>Divine Child School 5th grade, Dearborn, MI<br>Doherty, John<br>Dolan, Patricia<br>Duffy, Marie<br>Embon, Daniel & Lisa | Maris Grove Outreach<br>Marshall, Chuck & Central Baptist Church<br>Martin, Mary<br>Martindale's Natural Market<br>McAnally, Steven<br>McCabe, James<br>McCausland, Garrity & Marchesani Funeral Home<br>McEntee, Maureen<br>McIntyre, Margaret<br>McIvor, Bob & Denise<br>McKee, William & Kathryn<br>Florio, Marie<br>McTeague, MaryEllen<br>McVeigh, Michael & Paula<br>Merz, James & Patricia<br>Middleton, Jane<br>Miller, James<br>Mina, Barbara<br>Minaret Court #154<br>Mitchell, Robert<br>Morris, Theresa A.<br>Morrissey, Marie<br>Murray, Richard T & O'Gorman, Mary<br>Naef, Robert & Rosemarie<br>Nasella Construction Co., LLC<br>Nasella, Steve & Maryann<br>Needlework Guild of America, Concordville<br>Needlework Guild of America, Hatboro<br>Nenno, Mr. & Mrs. Richard W.<br>Newcomers & Neighbors<br>Novak, Josephine<br>Novelli, Stephen<br>Nyiri, Jane<br>O'Flynn, Richard & Teresa<br>O'Leary, Elizabeth<br>Office of Behavioral Health<br>Olphert, Bill<br>Ortoleva, James & Bette<br>Our Lady of Angels Convent<br>Our Lady of Charity Parish<br>Our Lady of Charity PREP<br>Parris, Elizabeth<br>PASR - Delaware County Chapter<br>Pasternack, Vickie & PEO Chapter<br>Patel, Chetan<br>Pennsylvania Machine Works, Inc.<br>Pessin, Joseph & Family<br>Peterson, Kathleen<br>Philadelphia Archdiocese<br>Philadelphia Union<br>Pirillo, Pod Peter & Rita<br>Polish American Heritage Association<br>Popcorn Obsession<br>Posey, Jennifer<br>Powell, Lakeeha<br>Powell, Sandra<br>Pro, Joseph & Debra<br>Randall, Geraldine<br>Renzi, John<br>Reyes, Michael<br>Rivera, Carmen<br>Roberts, Scott & Donna<br>Robinson, Dorothy<br>Roletter, Thomas<br>Rosado, Marisol<br>Ross, Rebecca<br>Rutkowski, Carole<br>Ryan, Jody<br>Sacred Heart Parish, Havertown<br>Sam & Sam Meats | Sanders, Dr. Ana & Jerome<br>Sarmir, Janine<br>Saunders, Joseph & Janet<br>Scanlon, Jim & Gena<br>Schaeffer, Dennis & Alice<br>Seeley, Carol<br>Seidman, Marian<br>Shaw, Rosalie<br>Shor, Craig, Karen, Jonah & Emily<br>Siani, Gwen<br>Sienko, Dorothy<br>Sister Catherine Feuerstein, OSF<br>Sister Danielle Marie Kubelsky<br>Sister Domina Oszmianska<br>Sister Francis Canice Reinhardt<br>Sister Kateri Peake<br>Sister Marilisa Helena da Silva<br>Sister Marinetta Harenza<br>Sister Patricia Lynn Farrell<br>Sister Veronice Plewinski<br>Sisters of St. Francis of Philadelphia<br>Slowik, Albert G.<br>Smedile, Thomas & Teresa<br>Smith, John J.<br>SOAR - Vickie Vettese<br>Sons of Ben<br>Springfield Pasta<br>Sprows, Kathy<br>Staffieri, Suzanne<br>State Government<br>St. Anastasia's St. Vincent DePaul Society<br>St. Francis of Assisi Parish - "Souper Bowl"<br>St. James Alumni, Dog House<br>St. John Chrysostom Boy Scout Troop 605<br>St. John Chrysostom Parish<br>St. John Chrysostom's St. Vincent DePaul Society<br>St. John Fisher Parish<br>St. Joseph Guild, Aston<br>St. Joseph Villa, Reading<br>St. Kevin Parish<br>St. Madeline Parish, Christmas Giving Tree<br>St. Mary Magdalene Community<br>St. Thomas More Convent, Allentown<br>St. Thomas the Apostle Parish<br>Stier, Frances Rhoda<br>Stulginsky, Bill & MaryFran<br>"Support for Girls"<br>Swarthmore Post Office<br>Szczepaniak, Joseph<br>The Ken Margolis Family Giving Fund<br>Thomas, Angela<br>Townsend, Pamela<br>Villanova University<br>Villelo, Tony<br>Vito, Mark S.<br>Waddell, Gerrie<br>Wawa<br>Weiss, Allison T.<br>Weiss, Peter<br>Wentz, Judith<br>West Council Verizon Partners<br>WIC - Cynthia Barrar<br>Wolfe, Beth A.<br>Wood, Ann C.<br>Wychozowycz, Nina<br>Young, Geraldine<br>Youtz, Edwin & Mary<br>Zaleski, Rich & Alice<br>Zech, Charles & Ann<br>Ziegenfuss, Margaret E. |
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