

By Kara Brown, Executive Director



Dear Friends,

As summer comes to a close and we prepare for fall, we're reminded how important our community is. At the CLM Food Pantry and Bliss House Recovery Program, the need for help from our community remains strong. Many families count on the Food Pantry for help as they are stretching their budgets to put food on the table while buying school clothes and supplies. In addition, our Bliss House residents are working hard to rebuild their lives and count on safe housing, support, and encouragement to stay on their path throughout the year.

Your support makes this possible. Whether it's donating nonperishable food items, giving financially, or volunteering your time, every act of kindness directly impacts lives right here in our community.

As the cooler months approach, we invite you to join us in ensuring that no neighbor goes hungry and that women in recovery continue to have the care and opportunities they deserve. Thank you for being our community and being on this journey with us—you truly make a difference!

With gratitude,

—Kara

Help CLM Raise \$20,000 on September 18

It's almost time for Give For Good Louisville! On September 18th we need your help to make our fundraising campaign a success! Our goal is to raise at least \$20,000 in just 24 hours! Give for Good Louisville is a 24-hour online campaign that starts at midnight and goes until 11:59 p.m. that same night.

Would you donate to help us continue providing food to neighbors in need and our Bliss House program of recovery for women? Donate on September 18 at: www.giveforgoodlouisville.org/organizations/center-for-lay-ministries

Thank you in advance for your support!



Seeking Sunshine & Laughter at the Bliss House

By Stephanie Satterly, Bliss House Director

Summer is almost over and the Bliss House has been busy soaking up every sun-filled moment! On July 5th, we hosted our much-anticipated pool party at the Jeffersonville Aquatic Center, and it was an unforgettable day of laughter, connection, and celebration. The water was cool, the food was delicious, and the joy was contagious! It was a true reflection of what Bliss House is all about: healing, sisterhood, and hope. In mid-August our residents enjoyed our annual camping trip. For many of our residents, it's a chance to reconnect with nature, find peace by the campfire, and build deeper bonds with one another. Thank you to everyone who contributed supplies and

snacks--we're always grateful for your support. We continue to be amazed by the strength and growth we witness every day within our walls. Whether it's shared stories on the front porch or new skills gained through our community classes, Bliss House is blossoming—and it's all because of the love and support we receive from YOU. Hoping you all enjoy these last days of summer sunshine!



We are grateful to **Turner Construction** for organizing a Volunteer Event at CLM in August. Employees of **Turner Construction, IKORCC, WSP, and Meta Jeffersonville Data Center** volunteered their time and skills to tackle needed repairs at the CLM Bliss House Recovery Program and the CLM Food Pantry. It all looks amazing! Thank you!!!



CLM Food Pantry Volunteer Corner

By Rhonda Grangier, Volunteer Coordinator

The Heart of the Community: Volunteering at a Food Pantry

In every community, there are people quietly working behind the scenes to ensure no one goes hungry. Food pantries are essential lifelines for families facing food insecurity, and they rely on the dedication of volunteers to keep their shelves stocked, their operations running smoothly, and their doors open to those in need. Volunteering at a food pantry is more than just giving your time—it's about giving hope. It's hands-on work—but also heart-first. Many volunteers say the connections they make are what keep them coming back. There's something powerful about offering nourishment, both physical and emotional, to someone who needs it.

Volunteers who have been at the Center for Lay Ministries for a while have seen many changes. We have drastically increased the number of households/individuals we serve, as well as *how* our clients are served. With this growth, the roles of our volunteers have increased; therefore, the number of volunteers needed has grown! Sorting donations, preparing food boxes, assisting clients, managing inventory, driving trucks, answering phones, picking up donations, delivering to clients, keeping our

warehouse and boxes organized, along with regular maintenance, our volunteers are the heartbeat of our organization! I am happy to announce we have welcomed over 25 new volunteers in 2025! A few were with us for a short time to gain service hours for school/work, but most are now weekly volunteers! We are so thankful for **ALL** of our volunteers!

The beauty of food pantry volunteering is that almost anyone can do it. Retirees, students, families, corporate groups, and faith-based organizations all find meaningful ways to contribute. Shifts are flexible, and no experience is required—just a willingness to help and a compassionate spirit. Each hour you spend volunteering helps feed a neighbor, lightens a burden, and strengthens your community. It's a powerful reminder that small acts of kindness can create lasting change. Whether it's once a week or once a month, your time at a food pantry makes a difference. Come be a part of something bigger—come be the reason someone doesn't go to bed hungry.

If you are interested in volunteering, you can contact Rhonda at volunteers@layministries.org.



Samtec Cares Awards CLM \$40,000 Grant for Box Truck

Samtec Cares awarded a \$40,000 grant to the Center for Lay Ministries Food Pantry to purchase a box truck. The truck is used to pick up daily food donations. Thank you Samtec Cares for being a great community partner and helping us feed our



Jeffersonville Meijer Simply Give Campaign

Meijer Double Match Day: Saturday, September 13

The Center for Lay Ministries (CLM) Food Pantry is proud to announce a partnership with Meijer to provide much-needed relief to local families facing food insecurity through the retailer's customer-driven hunger relief program, Simply Give.

"We appreciate our community's generous donations to support the CLM Food Pantry through the Meijer Simply Give program," said Kara Brown, CLM Executive Director. "The gift cards allow us to buy food to stock our shelves and feed hungry children and adults."

Each Meijer Simply Give campaign feeds hungry families by replenishing the shelves of more than

270 food pantries in Michigan, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Kentucky and Wisconsin. The program encourages customers to add a \$10 Simply Give donation card to their cart,

which is then converted into a Meijer food-only gift card and given to a local food pantry.

The Center for Lay Ministries will benefit from donation cards purchased at the Jeffersonville Meijer store through September 28, 2025. In addition, Meijer will double match any cards

purchased on September 13 effectively tripling contributions made on that day.



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