

WARM

ways...

www.warmwesterville.org

4th quarter 2017

Restoring dignity and hope by  
offering a Hand Up, not a Hand out.



## for Ashleigh

*Hi Rich, I just wanted to message you and see how you were doing today, and tell you how much I appreciate everything you've done for me throughout the past few weeks, you would never believe how much I appreciate it and I don't know how I could ever repay you. I know that you would tell me to just pay it forward and do for others as you have for me or at least try to help others when I see people in my situation. I always have and will continue to, but I definitely have more of an insight on trying to help people and that's all thanks to you. You didn't just help me, you've helped people in the future because of helping me. I hope you know that and it comes from the bottom of my heart. You've been there for me no matter what, good or bad. It brings tears to my eyes and you know I'm not a crier.*

*Thank you, Ashleigh*

### **Ashleigh, age 29, was homeless and living out of her car.**

Homeless shelters would not accept her, because she was considered a high risk, because of her serious medical condition. Ashleigh suffers from autoimmune disorders: Lupus and Rheumatoid Arthritis. Ashleigh must check into a hospital every 2-3 days for kidney dialysis treatment; the only time she gets to sleep in a bed. Although Ashleigh receives SSI benefits, there is little money left after medical expenses and auto insurance. She has small children who live with Ashleigh's parents, and it is difficult to travel to see them. An employee at Riverside hospital suggested to Ashleigh that she contact WARM for help.

WARM welcomed her with emergency food and a hotel room for the night. WARM began the coaching process and contacted key partner St. Paul the Apostle Church for additional assistance.

ASHLEIGH'S STORY IS ONE OF HUNDREDS CURRENTLY AT WARM. IF YOU OR A LOVED ONE IS IN NEED OF A HAND UP, PLEASE BEGIN THE STEPS TO LET US PARTNER WITH YOU TO NAVIGATE THROUGH LIFE'S TOUGH TIMES. WE ARE CALLED TO WALK WITH ONE ANOTHER.

*Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. –Romans 12:12 ESV*

Please call us at 614-899-0196 or visit [www.warmwesterville.org](http://www.warmwesterville.org), click About, then How to become a WARM client.

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# WARM ways

A quarterly publication.  
Westerville Area Resource  
Ministry, Westerville, Ohio.



## NEW TO WARM?

Call for a tour and experience  
how we strive to provide a  
Hand Up!

## CONNECT WITH US

### WARM Office

150 Heatherdown Dr.  
Westerville, OH 43081

### Office Hours

Monday-Friday 9 am-4:30 pm

**Phone** 614-899-0196

**Fax** 614-899-1042

### WARM Online

[www.warmwesterville.org](http://www.warmwesterville.org)

[info@warmwesterville.org](mailto:info@warmwesterville.org)



Westerville Area  
Resource Ministry



WARM\_1972



warm\_westerville

## WARM ways

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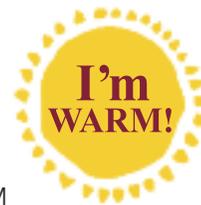
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**By Cheryl Wooten - Editor**

It's hard to believe how quickly this year is passing. It seems like we just turned around from the 40th Anniversary to celebrating 45 years in the Westerville community and surrounding areas! There have been many changes through the years, but several things have remained constant. There are neighbors in our community who are struggling. There is a desire within the community to help. WARM is blessed to serve as a resource to offer Dignity and Hope with a hand up, not a hand out.

We continue to be blessed by champions that support us financially, spiritually and physically. One of our greatest compliments is when others refer friends, neighbors and family members as clients. That indicates your trust of our services and your comfort as to how we will treat your loved ones. Rest assured that our commitment to best practices and high integrity is a top priority. Our goal is to work as unto the Lord. We commit to love and care for anyone who associates with WARM during the *next* 45 years. We embrace the fact that all people matter to God and you matter to us!

With WARM Appreciation,  
Cheryl, Director, Development and Communications

for Ashleigh continued from page 1

Through continued collaborative efforts WARM and St. Paul were able to secure community financial assistance of one month's rent and a security deposit when Ashleigh found an affordable apartment.

Ashleigh located and was approved for an apartment! Additional resources were available for clothes, gas for her car and cell phone service to communicate with her children and continue the process of getting back on her feet. The collaboration continued with apartment furnishings, housewares and small appliances, moving and set-up of her new home.

Amazing progress was made. Ashleigh continued to make positive strides. Her financial situation was looking up; however, her health was not and took a sad turn for the worse. Ashleigh recently passed. WARM was blessed to offer services and guidance during Ashleigh's all too brief journey.

It was a privilege to serve and walk alongside Ashleigh. She taught us the value of perseverance and grace.



## Servant Leaders

*Serve the Lord with gladness.*

Psalm 100:2 ESV

Over 71 groups have served in some capacity at WARM since the last newsletter. Here are just a few.

1. Cornerstone Church Youth Group prepare our gardens for the season.
2. Girls on the Run collected food for WARM, helped sort and date check their collection.
3. Canvas Church sorting food at the one of their monthly service projects.

*Follow us on Facebook and Instagram for more.*



UPCOMING

# Events

save the dates

OCTOBER							NOVEMBER							DECEMBER								
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4							1	2				
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11			3	4	5	6	7	8	9
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	12	13	14	15	16	17	18			10	11	12	13	14	15	16
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25			17	18	19	20	21	22	23
29	30	31					26	27	28	29	30				24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
															31							



## 10/28

### Hunger Heroes 5k and 1 mile Fun Run

3rd annual event - Westerville North High School, Proceeds benefit WARM's Share Bac A Pac program.

Sign up to run or walk today! [www.otterbein.edu/Events/hungerrun](http://www.otterbein.edu/Events/hungerrun)

THANKSGIVING  
*Blessing*

## 10/30-11/13

**Thanksgiving Blessing** Fill a brown paper bag with the list of items needed.

**What goes in the bag?** Brown Sugar (2lbs bag), Cranberry Sauce (2 cans), Turkey Gravy Mix (2 packets), Chicken Broth (32oz), Baked Beans (2-28oz cans), Mini Marshmallows (1 bag), Canned Yams (40oz), Stove Top Stuffing (1 box), Coffee (10-12oz)

If you would like to help further please include in an envelope a \$5 donation to help purchase our fresh items such as turkeys, pies, produce and more.

Please deliver bags to WARM (150 Heatherdown Drive) between October 30 and November 13.

Questions please contact Chad Maxeiner: [chad@warmwesterville.org](mailto:chad@warmwesterville.org), 614-899-0196 ext. 229.



## 11/25-12/2

**Holiday Food Drive** This year we welcome Kroger Co. as Presenting Sponsor of the Holiday Food Drive. With the assistance of Rotary, WARM benefits from the largest food drive in Westerville. Be on the lookout for bags to be distributed sometime between 11/25-11/29. **Keep an eye on your front doors for the bags.**

A team of volunteers will be out on **Saturday, December 2 from 9am to 12pm** picking up your filled bags. *Please have them on your front step by 8:30am to ensure pick-up.*

**Want to volunteer?** Please contact Taylor Owens at WARM, [taylor@warmwesterville.org](mailto:taylor@warmwesterville.org), 614-899-0196 ext. 221.



#GIVING  
TUESDAY™

## 11/28

**Giving Tuesday** Annual nationwide initiative to follow up Black Friday shopping with online giving. (see page 5 for more information)

# Celebrating 45 Years in Westerville

WARM celebrates 45 years serving and collaborating with the Westerville community. Over 300 champions of WARM were in attendance July 29 at Villa Milano for the 45th Anniversary Gala, A Celebration of Provision and Transformation.

Cabot Rea was on hand as Emcee.

WARM continues the celebration throughout the remainder of the year!



## 2 WAYS TO give

IF YOU COULDN'T ATTEND THE 45TH GALA THERE ARE TWO MORE WAYS TO GIVE TO THE MISSION AND VISION OF WARM.

**THE BIG GIVE.**  
**26-Hour Online Giving Rally**  
**October 10-11**  
**Go BIG. Be KIND!**  
**#biggive**

**Thank you to all those who donated through the Big Give! It is amazing what can happen in 26 hours!**  
**Columbus Foundation**  
**The Big Give**

**\$18,002,517** total  
including bonus pool  
**906** non profits  
**30,306** donations

**1** Did you miss the Big Give? Consider a year-end gift to WARM.

**There is time to celebrate our 45 years by financially investing to the mission of WARM.**

**2** Black Friday. Cyber Monday.  
Get it. Got it. Give.

**#GIVING TUESDAY™**  
**11.28.2017**

**Help others through the gift of your time, donations, goods or your voice.**

#GivingTuesday is a global day of giving fueled by the power of social media and collaboration.

Celebrated on the Tuesday following Thanksgiving (in the U.S.) and the widely recognized shopping events Black Friday and Cyber Monday, #GivingTuesday kicks off the charitable season, when many focus on their holiday and end-of-year giving.

**Go to <https://www.givingtuesday.org/>  
Watch the Video for more information.**



## 2017 Food Truck Fest and Cops & Kids

Congratulations to the WARM Great Westerville Food Truck Fest production team for offering a unique community event to raise awareness of and funding for WARM. Venessa Amoroso, Dennis Blair, John Bokros, Linda Bokros, Dede Carothers, Kathy Cocuzzi, David Colley, Julie Colley, Amy Cooley, Diane Cowgill, Janet Davis, Willie Franklin, Stephen Gale, Laura Horton, Larry Jenkins, John Kellogg, Kim Kellogg, Suzanne Kile, Scott Marier Taylor Owens, Jeff Reschke, and Cheryl Wooten! Thank you David Koo and **Nationwide Children's** complex for hosting as a presenting sponsor along with **Pepsi!**



Westerville Area Kids Lunch Club



## 2017 Outcome Report

# 43,374

### Total Meals Served

In 2017, the Westerville Area Kids Lunch Club, operated every weekday during Westerville City School's summer break. With the help of Westerville City Schools, a nutritious, complete meal was provided each day of the program to any child ages 1 to 18. Aiding the mission to feed kids during the summer, WARM was selected to participate in the governor's Summer Weekend Meals Program and a weekly Mobile Produce Market. After-lunch enrichment was another key focus of the Kids Lunch Club, including: Columbus Zoo and Aquarium, Cheryl's Cookies and so much more! Volunteers served more than 2,400 hours this summer serving meals and building positive, lasting relationships.



**18,126**  
lunches

**25,248**  
weekend meals

**10**  
sites

**326**  
children per day

**63,552 lbs**  
of produce

**Over 350**  
individual volunteers

**1,794**  
individual children  
served by KLC

An eye-opening look at who's really going hungry in America.

# The Gift of Food

by Jennifer Ball-Tufford from *Family Circle*



ILLUSTRATION BY ELLAPHANT IN THE ROOM

Last Halloween, there was a food drive at the school where I work. Strolling by one day, I checked out the bins. There were gluten-free crackers, rice pasta, olive tapenade, artichoke hearts packed in seasoned oil, and quinoa. Another woman happened by. She smiled, then said this:

*"Too bad they won't know what to do with most of it."*

It was one of those moments in life when your ears hear something but your brain can't quite process it. I asked, *"What do you mean?"*

The woman turned toward me, still smiling. *"Those people won't know what most of that stuff is. I mean, really. Quinoa?"*

Yep. I'd heard correctly. Those people.

At that moment, it had been eight months since the last time I had gotten groceries at our local food pantry. Eight months since the long-overdue child support from my ex-husband kicked in. Even though it wasn't much, it made the difference between being able to buy enough food for the five of us and having to supplement from a food pantry. For that, I'm grateful.

Those people.

I can still vividly recall my first time visiting the food pantry. I'd driven by many times, trying to work up the courage to pull into the parking lot. I'd whisper "I can't" and keep driving, home to the barren refrigerator and the "Old Mother Hubbard" cupboards. Until desperation overshadowed my pride.

Those people.

Once you get past the hardest part, which is walking through the door, being at the food pantry isn't so bad. Sure, there's the heat on your cheeks as you fill out the paperwork, giving these strangers your life history. Explaining what you do for money, how much you get, and what you spend it on. But you get used to having hot cheeks.

I quickly learned that food pantries are hit-or-miss. Some days the shelves are full, and with really good things. Annie's Macaroni and Cheese. Organic marinara sauce. Fresh vegetables. Whole chickens in the freezer. Brie from Trader Joe's that's only two days past the expiration date. Other days, you have to scramble to get near the required weight. (You get a certain number of pounds of food depending on the size of your family.) Dented cans of creamed corn. Spoiled produce. Individual sleeves of saltine crackers. But beggars can't be choosers, right?

I visited the food pantry a total of five times over the course of 11 months. When I told my kids, I expected them to laugh or get angry or be embarrassed. Instead, they helped me put the groceries away, quietly. I can recall almost all the meals I made with food pantry goodies. Oven-roasted chicken with quartered rosemary potatoes. Turkey chili. French toast. More mac and cheese than I care to admit. One of my favorites was an organic risotto, flavored with mushrooms and olive oil.

Those people.

I wanted to walk up to that woman in the hallway, grab her by the shoulders, and shake her as I yelled at her, "You don't know a thing about how it feels to walk into one of 'those' places and be one of 'those' people. You've never looked at your kids and had to hide your tears because you had no idea how you were going to feed them." I wanted to say that, but I didn't. Instead, all I could muster was:

*"I like quinoa."*

To which she replied, *"Well, yes, of course. You're not one of those people."*

If only she knew.



**WARM**  
Westerville Area Resource Ministry

150 Heatherdown Dr.  
Westerville, OH 43081

Providing a Hand Up through our valued champions

OUR HEARTFELT WISH

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May your Holiday Season be a journey of gratitude and  
filled with the Gifts that Lift!

HAPPY THANKSGIVING † MERRY CHRISTMAS † HAPPY NEW YEAR!