



Project Hope Happenings

PROJECT Summer Edition, 2016
HOPE

Volume 2016, Issue 3
July - September

Everything's Coming Up Roses

We heard through the grapevine that summer has begun, and that excitement has us moving like there are ants in our pants. What's not to love about sunshine, fresh air, and ice cream cones?!



Life in our neck of the woods has been peachy keen as we head into summer's garden variety of beginnings, endings, and everything in between. In this issue of Project Hope Happenings, you'll find news of our new partnership with Immanuel Pathways, closing remarks from Lutheran Volunteer Corps member Amanda, and more. Thank you for your continued support of Project Hope, and we hope you have a cream of the crop summer!

Staying cool as cucumbers,
The Project Hope Family

Project Hope, Inc.
6201 N. 60th St.
Omaha, NE 68104

Phone: (402) 453-7649

Website:
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Email:
projecthope.lori@gmail.com

Office Hours:
Mon, Wed, Fri: 9am - 4pm
Tues: Call for hours
Thurs: 9am - 3pm

Pantry Hours & Locations

Main Location:
Mon, Wed & Fri
11am - 2:45pm
3rd Tues of the Month
5pm - 7pm

Satellite Pantries:
Holy Cross Lutheran
4117 Terrace Dr.
3rd Thurs of the Month
5pm - 7pm

St. Matthew's Lutheran
1725 S. 60th St.
3rd Sat of the month
10am - 12pm



Breaking New Ground—A Partnership with Immanuel Pathways

Earlier this year we partnered with Immanuel Pathways to expand our clientele reach. Immanuel Pathways is a non-profit organization offering a unique service to enable people with chronic care needs to be served in their homes and communities whenever possible.

As an approved PACE (Program of All-inclusive Care for the Elderly) organization, Immanuel Pathways offers a complete health plan for eligible individuals, providing a more personal and comprehensive way of getting health care. Their services include preventative care, so this partnership was established in order to get food into the homes of eligible participants who would otherwise not be able to acquire an adequate food supply for themselves.

Since February, we have served an average twenty-four clients per month through this partnership. We look forward to continued collaboration with Immanuel Pathways, and we thank the supporters like you who make opportunities like this possible.

*For more information about Immanuel Pathways, visit:
www.immanuelcommunities.com/pathways*

Project Hope Staff

Lori Lindberg
Executive Director

Amanda Zasada
Volunteer Coordinator



How Does Your Garden Grow?— Call for Extra Produce

Do you have loads of lettuce lingering, bunches of broccoli bulging in bins, or tomatoes toppling out of your toes? If so, bring it on over! We will gladly take extra garden produce off your hands so clients can get it into theirs. Fresh fruits and vegetables are pantry favorites!



Generosity in Spades—Omaha Gives Recap

We send our sincerest thanks to everyone who showed their support on May 25th during Omaha Gives. Together we raised \$2,641.45 to help those in need!

Thorns in Our Side—Pantry Needs

While you're out enjoying the sunshine, don't forget about us! Summertime is when our shelves thin out most, so consider making an extra donation to help us serve our clients well all year long. All non-perishable items are welcome, but here is a list of our consistent needs if you need ideas:

- Canned Meat (tuna, chicken, SPAM, etc.)
- Fruit Items (Canned fruits, juice, raisins, etc.)
- Cans of Soup
- Spaghetti Noodles and Other Pastas
- Ramen Noodles
- Microwave Popcorn
- Cereal
- Personal Care Items (Dish Soap, Bar Soap, etc.)



The End of a Season—Amanda's Closing Remarks



Humbled. Welcomed. Amazed. Broken. Challenged. Carried. Changed. This is what happens when you dedicate a year of your life to service.

I began my Lutheran Volunteer Corps year with no expectations. I knew enough of myself to recognize my limited views of the world, so I charged in with open eyes, ears, and arms. Ten months later, I am delighted to report that this experience has been so much more than anything imaginable.

I was humbled by awareness of my privileges, but welcomed anyway by those without. I was amazed by the power of listening and broken by the stories received in return. I was challenged in my views, yet carried through to a higher ground of understanding. This year has changed me immeasurably, and for that I am incredibly grateful.

I tell my stories best in person and with exuberant hand gestures, so feel free to track me down if you would like to hear more about my year. I will be at Project Hope through the end of July; after that, I will be hitting the stage as a chorus member in the Opera Omaha fall productions and filling my days with whatever adventures the wind brings along. Many thanks to all of you who have supported Project Hope and my journey this year.

Much love,
Amanda



Hoping for Bountiful Harvests—Director’s Note

“To plant a garden is to believe in tomorrow.”
- Audrey Hepburn

The thought of a garden is intriguing, but the work of a garden can be overwhelming. We plant, water, tend, and watch a seed, but we never fully know if it will grow. Much like a gardener helps her plants, we help our clients in a variety of ways. We listen to their stories (seeds), we provide encouragement and God’s love (water), and we help their situation in a range of ways, some which we will never know (tending).

As Hepburn said, the key to a garden is believing in tomorrow; it is hoping that an abundance of fresh food will come because we did our best to help. Here at Project Hope, we are full of that hope.

We hope that our ministry and resources will provide hope for the clients who come in to access our services. We extend hope to the downtrodden, who for most of their lives have been unable to get ahead in life. We offer hope in the name of Jesus and pray that we are making a difference in the lives of our clients, in little ways and in big ways.

As we help our clients become a little better off, we are hoping for bountiful harvests.

Blessings!
Lori

Let’s Not Beat Around the Bush—Pantry Definitions

Project Hope fights *food insecurity* by offering a *client choice* pantry filled with food provided by individual donors and the local *food bank*—but what does this all mean?



Food insecurity refers to the USDA’s measure of lack of access to enough food for an active, healthy life for all household members and limited or uncertain availability of nutritionally adequate foods. Food insecure households are not necessarily food insecure all the time. Food insecurity may reflect a household’s need to make trade-offs between important basic needs, such as housing or medical bills, and purchasing nutritionally adequate foods.

Client choice is a model of food distribution which enables clients to select their own food, much like a grocery store. This model allows clients the ability to choose from a wide variety of foods, better enabling clients to meet their personal dietary needs and preferences.

A **food bank** is a not-for-profit organization that acquires foods in bulk through donation and purchase and then repackages those foods for distribution to its member programs/agencies within its service area. Food Bank "members" are front-line hunger-relief agencies or programs that serve prepared meals or give food directly to clients to take home. A food bank solicits, receives, inventories, and distributes donated and purchased grocery products to its members, adhering to grocery industry and other regulatory standards.

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 Omaha, NE 68104

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**PROJECT
 HOPE**

A food and clothing pantry
 serving North Omaha and
 the surrounding areas.

Pantry Services in 2015 and 2016

MONTH	2015 HOUSEHOLDS	2015 INDIVIDUALS	2016 HOUSEHOLDS	2016 INDIVIDUALS
January	487	1,095	307	720
February	364	717	287	570
March	437	971	363	728
April	429	917	367	775
May	346	744	348	736
June	397	899	~340	~730
July	423	963	-	-
August	353	713	-	-
September	339	826	-	-
October	444	1,041	-	-
November	737	1,653	-	-
December	402	901	-	-
Totals	5,158	11,440	2,012	4,259



Like us at [Facebook.com/ProjectHopeIncOmaha](https://www.facebook.com/ProjectHopeIncOmaha)
 to get up to the minute updates from our pantry!