

10 QUESTIONS: Mike Earach

By Lisa Biedenbach. To suggest a member to profile for "10 Questions," call Director of Operations Lisa Biedenbach, 513-217-4915, or email lbiedenbach@centralconnections.org.

How long have you worked at Central Connections?

8 years—in maintenance, stocking the kitchen, and as a kitchen assistant. I now am the offsite congregate meal coordinator. I deliver congregate meals Monday through Friday to 3 offsites in Middletown and 2 in Hamilton and assist in the kitchen as needed.

How many people does Central Connections typically feed for offsite congregate meals?

These are average numbers; they could be more or fewer meals—in Middletown: 15 at Dublin House, 30 at Trinity Manor, and 18 at Mayfield Village; in Hamilton: 45 at Belle Tower Apartments and 20 at Booker T. Washington Community Center.

What is involved with offsite congregate meals?

The offsite congregate meal is the same congregate meal as served at Central Connections. For delivery to an offsite, I heat several hot packs (insulated boxes) to 350 degrees and place inside them the serving pans with the hot meal and then ensure that the hot packs are sealed air tight. I load the hot packs and all serving items—disposable plates and utensils, serving utensils, etc.—in the Central Connections van and

drive to the offsite where I set up the serving table



Offsite Congregate Meal Coordinator Mike Earach delivers and serves homecooked meals to clients at Dublin House, Mayfield Village, and Trinity Manor in Middletown, and Belle Tower Apartments and Booker T. Washington Community Center in Hamilton.

and dish out portions to offsite clients. When everyone has been fed, I pack up and make sure the food is at proper temperature to avoid spoilage. The delivery and serving process takes one to 2 hours, depending on travel time.

What is the offsite congregate meal schedule?

Belle Tower daily; Booker T. Washington on Tuesday and Thursday; Trinity Manor on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday; Dublin House on Monday and Thursday; and Mayfield Village on Wednesday.

What do you like about delivering congregate meals offsite?

Getting to meet different personalities and knowing our clients are getting a nutritious meal, especially people who are limited financially.

Tell us about your Japanese cartoons hobby.

Growing up, I watched Japanese cartoons on TV and online with English subtitles. For 5 years, I have attended conventions where I and others dress as our favorite characters. My favorite character is Takeru Takaishi in the show Digimon (digital monster). He is a guardian to a Digimon who defeats bad guys.

Where have you traveled for cartoon conventions?

To Columbus for "Ohayo-con" which in Japanese means "good morning" and to Austin, TX, for RTX, a much larger convention hosted by the media company Rooster Teeth. O-con draws a few thousand people and RTX 50,000+.

Who is family for you?

My father, Mike Earach, Jr., my mother Joni, sister Toni, and nieces Alexis and Alyscia. My grandmother Anna Thier is a Central Connections member, and my uncle Leon Inga-brand drives for Transportation Services. And my 3 dogs.

What is something few people know about you?

I am an Eagle Scout. I built a ticket booth for Franklin High School's Atrium stadium. It is still in use.

What is on your bucket list?

To cruise a sea. 🌿