Do you remember, going back to the 1990’s, when the phrase “What Would Jesus Do?” was popularized? Known chiefly by its abbreviation, WWJD, the phrase – often worn on bracelets – embodied what many saw as a moral imperative to act in a way that demonstrated the love of Jesus.

In a world predicated on change (cosmological, geological, biological, technological), this moral imperative has remained resolutely the same. Love, generosity, inclusion, selflessness, dignity, humility, kindness – these are immutable, as ideas and practices in terms of how we should think and live.

And think about the changes since Jesus walked the Earth. He inhabited a planet with roughly 300 million people on it, a figure that remained mostly static for the next millennium. Not until 1800 did the population hit the 1 billion milestone, and since then, the changes have been radical and unprecedented. The population hit 2 billion in 1927, and has climbed to nearly 7.3 billion today, showing few signs of slowing down, an absolute profusion of humanity driving change faster than we can process what the large and small-scale implications of these changes are.

Population studies is a fascinating, visceral way to grasp the old Buddhist adage that all life is change. Imagine how the global landscape – its literal landscape – has changed as population centers, first concentrated in Asia, filtered out to Europe and Africa, then across the Atlantic to the Americas. Gaze out the window of your next flight and the intricately ordered networks of land uses can be mesmerizing. And it's easy to forget how new, in the scheme of things, it all is. At the dawn of the 18th Century, the census showed less than four million people in the colonies (not including Native Americans, of course, but that’s another story). What would become the United States, just 300 years ago (and in fact, much more recently than that), was a wilderness. If one continued to venture west, who knew what was there? Could anyone, even 100 years ago, conceivably imagine contemporary Los
Yet as the world changes and times rolls on, our basic needs remain. Think about it: Are the basic needs of someone living today – whether in Akron or London or Hong Kong or in the rural outskirts of Saskatchewan or Sudan – any different than the basic needs of someone living 2,000 years ago, or 4,000 years ago, or beyond? Have the dimensions and sensations of hunger changed? Does being without – without money, shelter, support, hope – feel any different today than it ever has? Can any advance in technology alleviate what it feels like to be marginalized, forgotten, left in the cold?

It’s easy to fall prey to the seductive idea that globally, as a human culture, we’ve come a long way. The appearances are all there. Our homes are more comfortable. Travel is much simpler and faster. Information of every variety is available instantly, all the time. We can eat what we want, when we want. Talk to who we want, when we want. But beyond these comforts, our needs remain. We need love, community, and support. We need, more basically, food, clothing, shelter, and an environment that frees us – whether we’re children or adults – from stress and trauma, so we can think, grow, and ultimately thrive. Without these fundamental building blocks, the odds of thriving decline in ways that are unquantifiable. This is the genesis of inequity, and inequity, like basic needs, is a fact of human existence that remains unchanged despite our best efforts to level the playing field.

And yet, even though we haven’t cracked the puzzling code to an equitable global culture, a good place to start is always to ask oneself, *What would Jesus do?*

This newsletter is dedicated to the people of the Catholic Hunger & Shelter Network putting that maxim into action, and doing so with energy, enthusiasm, and a relentless drive to make the world around them a little less difficult for those struggling in their communities.

Tucked away in corners across the eight counties of the Diocese of Cleveland that many of us overlook or even make efforts to avoid, there are forty-seven locations providing a variety of services such as shelters, crisis centers, food pantries, hot meals, case management, educational services, clothing, clinical services, and more, and whose doors are open to anyone.

For instance, turning the corner from South Street to Princeton Street just south of downtown Akron, a residential area throttled by extreme poverty, you’ll come across an oasis called Open M that provides food, employment, education, social and health services free of charge. Julie Carneal, the Building and Food Manager, sees to it that guests have access not only to top-quality hot meals, but a food pantry so well stocked, colorful and organized you could confuse it for an experience at Whole Foods, a company she partners with to offer guests access to healthy, otherwise unattainable items – be it produce, toothpaste, or detergent.

Or Chris Van Dusen at the Madison Food Center, who’s set up an educational room equipped with a smart TV just outside the food pantry to show her guests instructional videos so they can make the best use of the sometimes unorthodox supplies she brings in. Don’t know what to do with the fresh beets you just picked up? Take a seat in the comfortable library, have a cup of coffee, and learn preparation techniques and recipes.

More than an hour south off I-71, Gene Heller has faithfully and quietly run the Helping Hand food pantry in Loudonville for the past thirty-five years, and shows no signs of slowing down. A short trip from Helping Hand is Judy Klobuchar at St. Edward in Ashland, who runs a hot meal for local residents that’s so under-funded she oftentimes puts together meals at a cost of less than sixty cents per person. Not only does she find a way to make ends meet and then some on her threadbare resources,
we had to turn her down more than once when she insisted we walk out the door with the Taco-Mac
her volunteers were in the process of making for the night’s dinner.

At St. Aloysius, Carol Bunn, in addition to running a food pantry, hot meal program and providing
emergency assistance services, begins scouting in the spring for deals on supplies to provide her
guests with all they’ll need for the best Thanksgivings and Christmases possible for their families. Just
around the corner, at St. Martin de Porres, Ginny Hearn runs a bustling pantry with the crisp
efficiency of an auctioneer (it’s unbelievably busy, and time is of the essence for many of the guests
who fit in the time between or during work hours) coupled with the warmth and compassion of a
woman who knows her audience and cares deeply for their wellbeing.

Priscilla Franklin and Barb Taylor oversee one of the most kinetic hubs of human activity in Ohio City,
at the West Side Catholic Center, a beautiful campus providing job-training, shelter, hot meals, and a
clothing closet that could be mistaken for a department store. In Hough, Shelli Brooks runs the food
pantry and helps clients with emergency assistance at the Fatima Center, an impressively large,
diverse, and architecturally stunning place for people of all ages to congregate and engage in
programs and services such as homework assistance, parenting classes, computer literacy, health
screenings, and more.

At Project Hope in Painesville, Judy Burr has been the Executive Director since 1993, when the shelter
(Lake County’s first emergency shelter) was established after a long and arduous legal battle with the
city. Since then, she’s won the heart of her community by showing how reaching out to the area’s
most vulnerable and giving them tools for success affects positive change. Many of her former guests
now give back to the shelter and serve in the community on all levels.

Also in Painesville, Mallory Babika is using her experience as a survivor of domestic violence to now
serve as the Program Director for Forbes House, a domestic violence shelter for women and children,
an opportunity she calls her dream job. In Wooster, Joe Szeker, who retired young after a stint with
the Department of Defense and then a successful business venture, has instead opted to spend his
time devoted to the operations of People to People, an emergency needs ministry offering food,
clothing, and toys to children in need. John Polutnik, also a retiree after a career with General Motors,
now oversees the Elyria Hospitality Center.

On the other side of town, near the intersection of E. 55th and Woodland, James Bruening provides an
uncommon energy to those he serves at the St. Vincent de Paul Woodland Pantry, another center
that, similar to St. Edward in Ashland, struggles with resources to provide a community in dire need of
basic necessities, yet always finds a way.

The people and locations mentioned above are only a glimpse into the Catholic Hunger & Shelter
Network at large.

What would the world be like without these people? For the people they serve, the answer is clear.

We spoke with a few of our partners in the network to get more of an in-depth look at what they do
and how they operate. The conversations below are just that – conversations recorded on an iPhone
and transcribed afterward, hence the conversational nature. We thank each of the five women below
for their time and eloquence on the spot – no small task. And we thank them for the incredible work
they’re doing in their communities. Catholic Charities is proud to support them.
We were founded in 1981 by Sister Hope Greener. There was a tremendous need for kids in the neighborhood, lots of single moms, and a crack-cocaine epidemic not unlike what we’re seeing with the heroin epidemic today, so she started a crisis nursery. Fast forward to today, and we’re doing really intensive family preservation services along with the emergency shelter that Sister Greener first started.

Our goal is to provide emergency shelter for children whose families are experiencing crises so that they can overcome whatever they’re experiencing and have their kids in a safe place. The next layer of that, which began around 2005 or 2006, was the family preservation services doing all of the work with families to connect them to resources and help them manage mental health issues, find housing, find employment, and whatever they need to move forward.

We’re what’s called a crisis nursery. There are about 70 throughout the United States and Canada, and each one’s different. Most only do emergency shelter and serve children from about birth to five years old, and they provide shelter typically for 72 hours. We’re newborn through twelve years old, and house people anywhere from 24 hours to 60 days in certain circumstances, so a much broader scope. About a third of the families we see are homeless and we recently started tracking basic needs gaps. About 40 percent of the women we see don’t have the means to provide basic needs for their families. We see families fleeing domestic violence, drug and alcohol addiction, mental health issues, parent hospitalizations, and more. We’ve had moms who are getting treated for cancer and are in and out of the hospital and have no place to go, or for their kids to go while they’re hospitalized. There’s a big spectrum of different crises. Oftentimes women will tell us they’re fleeing domestic violence and we find out that mom maybe has mental health issues, so it’s not uncommon to deal with compound crises once they’ve decided they really trust us and can open up and realize we’re here for them no matter what. Our services are completely voluntary. No one can mandate that children come here. About 70 percent of our inquiries are self-referred. Parents have heard about us from friends, family, or others who have used our services, so they give us a call or reach out to one of our social workers, which is pretty incredible.

The average length of stay for children is about 30 days. For homeless families it’s usually closer to two months. It depends on what the crisis looks like. Although we serve birth to twelve, our core population is in the birth to five range – the really little ones.

We work with 120 agencies throughout Cleveland to partner for referrals, or referring clients back and forth depending upon their needs. Our social workers are very active in outreach on our clients’ behalf. We had someone recently call Providence House a super-connector. We try to connect parents to everything they need. For instance, there are a ton of food pantries doing wonderful work in the
area, so we’re not going to duplicate that service; rather, we’re going to let the parents know where those services are, including other agencies that provide information for housing, employment, mental health, etcetera. We don’t need to provide those services, we just need to be able to make sure people know how to access them. We’re big on the connection with our parents, meaning we’re not just giving them some phone numbers to call, but rather making the calls with them.

Our families sign a family engagement contract when they come in that says they’ll agree to case management, and not just drop their kids off. It’s intensive. About 92 percent of our families are fully engaged and compliant with it, which is fantastic. After their stay, about 99 percent of our families were reunited and didn’t end up in foster care. We’re also incredibly invested in our families’ long-term success. What happens to families three or five years down the road? Are these families ending up in foster care anyway? Are we making a difference long-term? That’s really important to us. What we’ve found out is that about 66 percent of our families coming in are high-risk. Three to five years down the line, 82 percent of our families stayed out of foster care. That is exactly why we’re here. We want to make sure we’re helping families stay out of foster care. In doing so, we’re saving foster care on an average year around 8 million dollars.

We want children to be protected, to keep families together, and we want the families to go back into their communities stronger than ever, with the resources they need to support their kids in the best way. We have a saying that we toss around here: “Parenting poor doesn’t mean poor parenting.” We heard someone say that and it stuck with us. It’s true. A lot of our parents, of course, can’t know what they don’t know. Between our parent education programs, teaching them fundamental skills and connecting them to resources to continue their engagement and success, these things can be transformative over the long-term.

---

**Malachi House**

2810 Clinton Avenue

Cleveland, OH 44103

**By Jena Olsen, Development & Event Coordinator**

Malachi House was founded in 1987 by Fr. Paul Hritz who was the Pastor of St. Malachi Parish along with one of his parishioners, Catherine “Kaki” O’Neill.

Father Paul Hritz was watching a lot of people die on the rectory doorstep, cold and alone or in abandon cars. He felt he had to do something about it. One of his parishioners owned four row houses that were built in 1904 and was willing to donate them when they found out about the need of the dying poor. The parishioners got together and about 100,000 volunteer hours later – painting, scraping, and redoing electrical – Malachi House was opened with six beds.

Many of our first residents were folks with HIV. Back then, no one knew much about it, so it was a scary time. We had beautiful people that still took care of them and didn’t judge. There’s always a need for serving this population.
There are also people like you and I, who, if we didn’t have insurance and we’d gone through, say, two rounds of chemotherapy, it wouldn’t be unlikely that we’d be financially depleted and suffering the fallout, like losing our home. These are people without the financial means to go to a nursing home, nor the safety to stay in an existing home in which they may struggle to keep the utilities on, or, say, the bathroom might be on a second floor and too difficult to access, or there’s no one around to manage their medications safely. There could also be estrangement in the family, so maybe they don’t have anyone to care for them and they’re all alone in this world, so they come here and they’re not alone anymore. Their quality of life improves because they’re getting three meals a day; they don’t have to worry about their lights being turned off or someone breaking in to steal their pain medication. All they have to worry about is trying to live the best, last days of their lives, and we do all we can to make that possible.

Some myth busters: You don’t have to be Catholic to live here. All faith traditions can be practiced. We aren’t a hospice house, nor are we a nursing home, we are a home. We stay at fifteen beds, because if we increased to sixteen we’d be considered more of a group home or a nursing home, and our regulations would be very different. We receive no government monies, Medicare or Medicaid. We rely heavily on foundations, family foundations, individual donations, corporations, events, food drives, and wish-list drives to sustain us, and we do a good job. We’re probably one of the best nonprofits run in Cleveland, and I don’t say that just because I work here. We’re incredibly responsible with our funding and strive to keep the money by the bedsides. Things like building a fence, which we’re doing right now, to protect the fortress, aren’t necessarily things we want to spend money on, but they’re necessities to keep Malachi House safe.

In terms of needs, we always need anything a person would require to run his or her own household. So the next time you’re grocery shopping, look in your cart and multiply it times fifteen. That’s what we need. Anything from bathroom supplies, produce, canned goods, baking products, dish soap, and light bulbs, to name a few. But we also need office products, like stamps and things – the things that make any place run.

We love volunteers, and you don’t need to be trained in end-of-life care. We have caregivers for that and a hospice team. Our volunteers can do a multitude of things, such as cooking, cleaning, gardening, artwork, or even bringing in their certified pet for therapy. St. Ignatius does their sophomore service here, which they’ve done since our inception. Last year we honored them at our Gala. If we were to pay volunteers, the hourly rate determined would be $25.63. If you do the math and multiply the 20,000 hours, St. Ignatius volunteers have put in, it comes out to roughly half a million dollars that St. Ignatius alone in volunteerism has saved us in payroll. They’ve mopped and swept and taken out the garbage, and it’s huge. That’s money that we’ve been able to save and use for our residents.

On a personal note, while I’m new as a staff member to Malachi House, I’m not new to Malachi House. My father was friends with Father Paul, so I knew him when I was a young girl. He made quite an impression on me. I like to think that my dad and Father Paul had something to do with me working here today. It’s a beautiful thing.
ACCESS Women’s Shelter

974 E. Market Street
Akron, OH 44305

By Jackie Hemsworth, Executive Director

Our organization has been around since the early 1980’s, and our primary focus is mothers with children, and single women that are experiencing a housing crisis, so they are currently homeless and without a housing situation on the horizon. They come to us and it’s our mission to help them take the next steps on their journey to have a more independent lifestyle. We use the word “empowerment” a lot at ACCESS. We want women to feel they have the power to change their lives. Sometimes it’s in the small choices they make, and sometimes there are some big choices for them to make, so we want to give them the skills and opportunities they need to make those healthy choices for themselves and their families.

Typically, women are here for around thirty days. They get not only shelter and hot meals, but also intensive case management, life skills classes, goal planning, looking at financial literacy, taking the next steps to increase income, and finding permanent housing. We try to address a lot of needs. We see many women with mental health and substance abuse issues, and we try to help connect them to resources to address those needs while they’re here, and then to continue those services after they leave ACCESS, and our outcomes are strong. Over 80 percent of women exiting are getting into a permanent housing opportunity. Over 50 percent have a maintained income or increased income after leaving the shelter.

I like to say our staff does a ton, but the women themselves – our residents – are the ones doing the hard work. They get up every day and get to it. We have many women working one or more jobs while they’re at the shelter.

As a shelter we continue to face the challenges of a stretched capacity. We have a very lean budget of 1.2 million dollars per year that we try to stretch as much as possible, but we always want to do more and improve. We’re constantly reassessing what we’re doing and how we’re spending the dollars that we’re given through ongoing grant-making activities and fund-raising activities to make sure we’re using the dollars in the best ways to serve the population. We expect to continue to do that. We’re looking as an organization to become more trauma-informed and client-focused, and to continue to evaluate the services we provide to be responsive to the needs of the women and children.

2019 has been the year of the child here at ACCESS. We think it’s really important to highlight the services we’re providing to more than half of those we see at the shelter – usually between 200 to 250 children under the age of 18. This year and at the beginning of 2018 we started an expressive therapy program including art therapy, music therapy and group therapy. Those have been a great success and we’re very excited to continue them. But we have some other projects in the works. We’re hoping to dedicate a space in the shelter for art therapy, meaning we’d expand it to include our adults, who have shown quite a bit of interest in participating alongside their children or at a time aside from them to explore art therapy as a way to express their feelings and challenges. Another project that we’re really excited to work on is a new reading room. This would be a space constructed within our current
playroom for our younger children – an interactive castle with bookshelves and nooks for children to climb into and read in, with brand new books that they can take with them in a brand new backpack when they leave the shelter. Along with that program would be a volunteer reading program, so several days a week we’d engage volunteers to have story time at the shelter. I think that will be a great addition to what we provide for kids here.

North American Indian Cultural Center

111 West Avenue

Tallmadge, OH 44278

By Cindy Kemp, Program Director

The North American Indian Cultural Center started as a way to keep native culture alive. Initially they decided the most important thing was education, so they got into the WIOA program (Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act) and have been there ever since. We’ve operated the JTPA program (Job Training Partnerships Act) since 1985, and get our funding from the U.S. Department of Labor. Now we operate a food pantry, funded by Catholic Charities and FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency), and our workforce program.

We used to have a program for domestic violence and kids against bullying through the Health Path Foundation in Cincinnati. We had kids and families coming in here with multitudes of problems, so we taught them various tactics to avoid and defuse conflicts at school, and had them engage in positive activities like dancing and Indian culture. We ran that program for almost two years. The kids went to a couple pow-wows to dance and show that there are still Native Americans alive and well in Ohio.

My heritage is Cherokee on my mother’s side. Like a lot of Ohio people, I can’t formally prove it because records are lost or gone. People in the Cherokee Tribe that got removed through the Trail of Tears weren’t all recognized, and also back then, acknowledging one’s Native American-ness wasn’t in one’s best interest. A lot of Native American people tried their best to integrate into mainstream American society, primarily in Tennessee and Kentucky. That’s how my family got to be here. I can identify as white and Native American, but I can’t say that I am American Indian. You have to be able to prove it with documentation. I can’t.

I didn’t start truly recognizing my Indian heritage until I began working here and investigating it more. My granddaughters wanted to show their heritage and were told by peers at school that Indians no longer existed. One of our board members has been going to Tallmadge schools for many years to do demonstrations on American Indian heritage. She also did a PBS special called “One State, Many Nations” about Native American history in Ohio. She had the girls help her in a demonstration. They got to wear their regalia and perform in a dance. This helped not only to instill their own sense of identity with their heritage, but to broaden their peers’ views on the fact that these cultures are not dead, so that was pretty cool.

Our job placement program is 100% Native American, and that’s in our guidelines for that program. And these folks have to be able to prove their heritage. There are probably six or seven different tribes that are most prevalent around here because they were brought here during the relocation program
in the 1950’s. There are Sioux, Cherokee, Choctaw, Mohawk, Iroquois, and Canadian Indians.

In addition to the job placement and training program, we run a food pantry and provide supportive services. For instance, if people need help with rent or utilities, or need work clothes or tools for their jobs, we can help with that. We also help quite a bit with tuition fees and books per semester. Additionally, we can sometimes help with money for transportation, mostly with car repairs, because if your car doesn’t work and you can’t get to work, that becomes a major problem, fast.

Our food pantry serves anyone living in Summit County. We do get a lot more people with Native American heritage than most pantries, but we see a lot of other families also. What I notice most nowadays are multi-generational families. Grandmothers, moms and dads, kids, and grandkids, oftentimes all in the same house. It’s a sad situation.

We do quite a bit with Veterans at the Valor House downtown. Many of them suffer with PTSD, so we help them out with food for their families.

In terms of success here, these stories are hard to determine because everyone’s struggling, and we do our best to help. But I like to think of the people we help through school as successes, because no matter what, they’re taking the first steps toward bettering themselves. Some go on to do greater things than others, but for instance, when I got a letter to attend a graduation party for a young woman graduating from Altman, a nursing school, she said she really wanted me there, and it was so powerful it made me cry.

Another young lady we helped get through school is now a park ranger. She represented Summit County at the Policeman’s Memorial for the State of Ohio in Columbus. There she was, in her deputy uniform, and it was amazing to see that. It’s always so wonderful to hear back from people we’ve been able to help, that they care to let us know how things are going. Although it makes me feel old! I’ll be 70 soon. I used to look at my dad at 70 and think, wow, he’s old, and now here I am!

---

Open M

941 Princeton Street

Akron, OH 44311

By Julie Carneal, Building + Food Manager

I’ve been affiliated with Open M for about 16 years, volunteering in some way, shape or form. Back in the day when I worked for the school system, I ran their summer youth program for several years. We had about 150 kids that we’d take on field trips, provide breakfast and lunch, and then a snack to go home with. That was a big stepping stone for me to keep going because I had two small kids, and it was great for them to see what volunteering was all about – seeing the other side of peoples’ lives to learn that, fundamentally, no one’s any different from anyone else regardless of the situations we come from. This is the biggest thing I’ve tried to instill in
my kids, that they treat everyone the same whether they’re rich, poor, or whatever. Everybody’s equal.

My aunt was the CEO of Open-M after the Pastor and former CEO passed away. This was when I got more involved, volunteering with The National Night Out.

Open-M has been in business for 50 years and started with the United Methodist churches. A group of them – about four or so – decided that helping people in the community needed to become a bigger priority. Open-M started as a soup kitchen. Church members would head also go into the community to paint houses and fix up places, anything they could do to help.

Harry Donovan had a dream that he was going to build this for us. It started with half this existing building and took around ten years to raise the money to finish it. The structure was formerly a house, and we fed people out of the basement. They’d line up outside to get in. The hot lunches started about 35 or 40 years ago, and because the space they had to work with was so small, people had to wait outside, in the cold, snow, rain, or whatever. That tugged at everyone’s heart strings and served as the catalyst to grow. When the Food Bank started in the community, it created a big, communal push to fight hunger and poverty. It’s kind of cool that Open-M has been around long enough to see a bunch of organizations come together over this common cause, and has been on the cutting edge of it.

We’re still growing and still very much trying to figure out how to get to the root of poverty to fight it. I wish we could end it, but there’s no answer. Poverty’s been here since God created the earth. People have always struggled in some way, shape or form, so I don’t think we’ll ever end it, but to help people out is a huge step – getting the government on board, people on city council, etcetera, and getting more money out there for people to get jobs that can actually sustain their lives. We don’t just feed those that others commonly conceive of as impoverished, we feed a lot of working people, and even middle-class people that can’t support themselves because of medical bills, kids’ sports, a car breaks down, or whatever may happen. I would never judge anyone who walks through our doors because I’m always keenly aware it could be me or anyone else I know. All it takes is me not having a husband or losing my job, my furnace breaking or some other unseen factor. These things happen to hard-working people every day. We never know what’s brought people here.

Open-M is now involved in healthcare. We have over 20 specialties, from diabetes, cardiologists, working with area hospitals to get people free testing, lab work, and things like that. The area hospitals have really stepped up and gotten on board to help us out with our medical clinic. Our doctors and dentists volunteer their time, unpaid, to see people who otherwise wouldn’t get medical care. Our philosophy is to treat the mind, body and soul, through hot meals and medical care, but also through ministry and tending to the spiritual aspect of life.

Because we’re a larger agency, we can get a lot of our food at bulk. I try to build our menu by stockpiling items that are available at a discount if I know it’s something we like to have on our menu. I’ve become adept at knowing what I’m low on and knowing how fast it’s going to turn over, and planning accordingly, which I don’t think a lot of mom and pop pantries have the luxury of doing. They don’t have the financial means nor the storage space to buy in quantity. But if you don’t ask you don’t receive. I always ask and re-ask stores about their supplies and whether or not I can drop by and pick up produce or whatever’s available. Even if we know we’re getting items we can’t put in every bag, we’ll often pick up items that some of our people can use to give them different options. We try not to put random items in peoples’ bags, but rather tailor bags to individual’s needs. We can’t do this all the
time, of course, but we try to do our best, especially with essentials. We stock toilet paper, body soap, and laundry soap. Those are the three primary things to keep people clean that a lot of pantries don’t have. They have the option to choose their toothpaste, deodorant and shampoos off the shelf if they need it. Keeping people not only fed but clean is essential to their health.

We also have two job programs. One is called the Up Program, which is a program for people on assistance. Over three months they take a course a week to educate them on ways to get out of poverty, find a job, better their self-esteem, and importantly, instill the drive to want to get a job. We also have CWA, which is Community Works Akron. This is a one-week class that provides counseling, education, and financial literacy. If they need transportation when they get a job, we provide that for six months, along with a case manager that will help them along the way to overcome the myriad barriers people who have been out of work for a long time face. We’re there to hold their hands and walk them through so they can succeed in the long-term.