

# Nutritional Development Services

Dear Friends,



ARCHDIOCESE OF PHILADELPHIA

## Loaves and Fishes

The opening of the new school year is always a busy time at Nutritional Development Services. Staff has not yet wrapped up all of the required documentation for the summer meals program and they are busy processing applications for the school lunch program. The staff of our child care program is also working with the child care centers to get their children enrolled in the meals program as well. Staff of the after-school snack and supper program are actively training programs for this year. It is never dull at Nutritional Development Services! In all of these programs, we strive to ensure that the children we serve are receiving a nutritious meal, whether it is at breakfast, lunch or after-school snack. We also work with the elementary schools of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia on their Wellness Programs, providing practical ideas on how wellness and health-promoting activities can be incorporated into the school day. In the course of the year, over 17 million meals are served through the various child nutrition programs sponsored by NDS.

Nutritional Development Services participates in the charitable mission of the Church through its work of feeding children, encouraging and assisting parishes and schools with food resources to share with other members of the community who are in need and through our advocacy efforts to raise our elected and public officials' awareness about increasing hunger in our community. It is with that mission in mind that we welcome Archbishop Charles J. Chaput, O.F.M. Cap. as the new shepherd of the Catholic community of Philadelphia. Archbishop Chaput is recognized for his commitment to the social and charitable works of the Church. We look forward to his leadership and pray that we represent him well in the communities that we serve.

The Community Food Program has launched the annual Peanut Butter and Jelly Drive. The Catholic elementary school children are incredibly supportive of this drive. Last year 81,200 pounds of PB&J, valued at \$129,920, was collected. As staff of NDS says, "PB&J Goes A Long Way" and the donations we receive last just about one year, when the next drive begins.

The annual Alternative Christmas Card sale is starting and more information is contained in this issue of *Loaves and Fishes*. The funds we realize from the sale of the cards is critical to the operations of Community Food. We are grateful for all of the support that we receive each year for this effort.

Finally, I would like to welcome all of our new schools, child care centers and after-school programs to the Nutritional Development Services family. We look forward to working with each of these programs so that they are successful in achieving our shared goal of feeding children so that they can develop to their fullest potential.

Gratefully,

Lorraine M. Knight  
Director



Students from St. Dominic School



Students from Mother Divine Grace School

## Community Food Program



*KPMG summer intern at Providence Center*



*Holy Redeemer Chinese Catholic School*



*Annunciation BVM School*



*Cardinal O'Hara High School*

Many people have demonstrated unique ways to support Nutritional Development Services and our partners. Whether it is the gift of time, talent, food or a financial contribution, it all makes a tremendous difference in the lives of needy people throughout our local area.

Summer interns from the accounting firm KPMG connected with NDS and First Book to make a very well-received donation of books to Providence Center.

Students at Holy Redeemer Chinese Catholic School made little sacrifices throughout the last school year and presented NDS with a very generous check, which will enable us to purchase food for over 30 food cupboards throughout the Archdiocese.

In celebration of Mercy Day, students at Annunciation BVM School in Havertown assembled breakfast bags that were shared with Our Mother of Sorrows Parish to be used with their Aid For Friends meal program.

Under the leadership of Father Paul O'Donnell and Mrs. Jessica Reick, the Community Service Corps' Sandwich Club at Cardinal O'Hara High School in Springfield have been a great supporter of the work of NDS by making sandwiches twice a month throughout the school year. CSC Executive Board Member Brittany Riffert shares "the Sandwich Club is one of the most popular outreach efforts of the Community Service Corps. The students really enjoy knowing they are making a real difference."

## Cupboard Corner

If you know anything about Kensington, then you are probably familiar with the good works happening at the Cardinal Bevilacqua Community Center (CBCC). The Center, a project of Visitation BVM Parish, provides a safe place to offer community outreach, continuous education, and recreation while seeking always to embrace and celebrate the diverse cultural communities of Kensington and its surrounding neighborhoods.

One of the good works happening there every day is the food cupboard newly located in the center's main hallway. Many people are a part of the staff helping to feed the hungry, including Center Director Sister Karen Owens, SSJ; Colleen Gibson, Assistant Director; and Father John Olenick, Pastor of Visitation BVM Parish. Last but not least, the cupboard is staffed by two long-time volunteers, Helene Laffey, who has been a dedicated volunteer since 1993, starting at Visitation Parish Food Cupboard and then moving over to Cardinal Bevilacqua Community Center, and Ed Jenson, who has been working since 2000 stocking the pantry, making up bags, and helping with distribution! What a dedicated team! NDS is proud to partner with you in feeding the hungry in Kensington! *(To donate food to the food cupboard, contact Colleen Gibson at 215-426-9422 x34204)*



*Colleen, Helene, and Father John!*

## National School Lunch Program

With the season of Fall upon us, area schools have greeted new and returning students while Nutritional Development Services has welcomed both returning schools and several new sites as well. The largest new school to partner with NDS this fall is Pan American Academy Charter School, located at Front and Dauphin Streets. Serving close to over 400 students each day, Pan American is pleased to be part of NDS' Meals Program.

Donna Longo Scoleri, Director of Operations and Finance, shares "For the administration, seeing how much the children are enjoying the meals, makes it all worthwhile since we are here in service to our students."

NDS has expanded its partnership with Sankofa Freedom Academy Charter School, who have added several new grades at a new location. Lynette Richards, who coordinates the program, is very pleased that NDS is now serving the second location. She is especially pleased with the fact that breakfast is served right in the classroom for the kindergartners and first graders and reports that teachers see the difference it has made.

The newest suburban school to join us this fall is St. Rose of Lima School in North Wales. Principal Mrs. Phyllis Tyrrell is enthusiastic about the program and looks forward to a great year. New School Lunch Manager Barbara Meyer shares "the students and parents are looking forward to the new lunch program." For information on how your school can partner with NDS with the Child Nutrition Programs, contact Anne Ayella at [aayella@ndsarch.org](mailto:aayella@ndsarch.org).



*This trio of hard-working lunch managers serve over 400 children each day at Pan American. From left to right: Beverly Baldwin, Sandra Franco, and Annie Mendez.*

## After-School Meals Program

To meet the growing need of the after-school meals program, NDS continues to identify sites that are interested in making a snack or meal available to the children in their care. As we begin the new school year, there are 108 sites serving approximately 4,000 cold suppers each day; seven sites serving 305 hot suppers and 24 sites offering a snack to 1,230 children on a daily basis. The program is much more than the sum of the number of meals served. It is a program that makes a real difference to area children and their families.



**Girls enjoying cold supper at Aspira Hostos!**

One of the new sites working with us is Aspira Hostos After-School Program located in the former Cardinal Dougherty High School. Since Aspira Hostos' After-School program is sponsored by Philadelphia Health Management Corporation, it includes project-based learning. Students are exposed to a variety of appealing activities, such as nutrition/fitness, environmental studies, visual/media arts and performing arts. The cold supper energizes the students and gets them ready for an exciting after-school program.

Martha Sierra, Chief Operating Officer at Aspira Hostos, shares that "the children are really enjoying the meals and they look forward to the supper served each day. They are especially enjoying the variety and selections offered." She adds that the parents "see a real benefit, as well."

## Nutritional Development Services

222 N. 17th Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19103

Phone: 215-895-3470  
Fax: 215-895-0830  
Website: [www.ndsarch.org](http://www.ndsarch.org)



### *Looking To Direct Your United Way Gift?*

*Committed to the mission of feeding the hungry  
in our community?*

Nutritional Development Services of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia strives each day to feed the hungry in our midst. You can join in this mission by donor designating your United Way of Southeastern Pennsylvania donation through the donor designation program. It is easy to direct your United Way gift to NDS. Select donor designation on your United Way pledge form and enter code number 05864.

Note: This NDS code only applies to the United Way of Southeastern Pa. For other United Ways or Combined Campaigns, fill in the name and address of NDS on your pledge form.

*Visit us on the web at [www.ndsarch.org](http://www.ndsarch.org) and  
on Facebook at NDS Community Food Program!*

## Infant Meals Program

In addition to the breakfasts, lunches and snacks that NDS provides, our office has developed a program to supply infant products to centers. In the early days of our sponsorship of the Child Care Food Program (CACFP), parents with infants in care were required by most centers to provide infant products until the child reached one year of age and could participate on the regular food program. More than a decade ago, NDS began offering the parents of infants the opportunity to obtain a milk-based or soy-based formula and infant rice cereal through our office. The centers order these products along with their other meals and supplies. The formula and cereal is delivered to the center and is provided to the infant during daycare hours. Over the years, we have expanded our formula options to include those currently being highlighted by WIC. We have also added oatmeal infant cereal.



Currently, we provide over 1,500 infant meals each month. CACFP has an infant meal pattern that must be followed in order for our office to receive government reimbursement for the infant products that we supply. Given that 80% of the children that participate through our sponsorship qualify for free or reduced-price meals, this enables infants to receive these expensive products at little or no cost. For the many families in need that we serve, this is a tremendous benefit.

Our goal is to enhance the offerings of this program. Last year, we began a pilot with one center to try to determine an effective mechanism to enable the provision of jarred baby food items. After we come up with the best model, we will introduce it to all centers. We are very excited by the incredible impact that the infant meals program has made and, as in all things, we look forward to improving and expanding this service.

*Please feel free to contact Robert Jones, Assistant Director: 215-895-3470, ext. 77904,  
to learn more about the Infant Meals /Child Care programs.*