## **CENTER SPOTLIGHT**





### **MARIA'S STORY**

Maria is a 42 year old single mom. While raising her daughters on her own has had it's challenges, she does everything she can to provide stability and guidance. Maria recently lost her nursing job and with so many hiring freezes she has struggled to find work.

Unsure of how to feed herself and her girls with no money for food, Maria started asking around and found out about Redemptorist Social Services Center's Pantry. Unfortunately, between her daughters' school schedules and her job search, Maria is not be able to make it during the Center's hours of operation.

Maria found out that RSSC has a mobile food distribution event on Wednesday nights between 5:30 pm and 6:30 pm. She starting coming whenever she needs the help. Maria told one RSSC employee through her car window one night, "it helps more than anyone could ever know."

Like the hundreds of other people who receive boxes of food on Wednesday nights, Maria is so grateful for the help while she get back on her feet. Knowing that she will be able to put food on her daughters' plates each week has offered such relief to Maria and she is welcome to continue using our services until she no longer needs them.

#### **VOLUNTEER FEATURE**

This month we would like to thank our hard working volunteer, Marchand. Marchand works in Social Services and makes a regular appearance at the Center. Over the years she has attended fundraising events and delivered food boxes to clients. She is one of our dependable volunteers at the Wednesday night food box distributions and we don't know what we would do without her!

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# ON THE MOVE: THE CENTER'S MOBILE FOOD DISTRIBUTION

The #KCFOODBOX program started in April of 2020. Over the years RSSC has partnered with various organizations and distributed food boxes at multiple locations. Hundreds of families from all walks of life have been able to participate both as recipients and as volunteers.

The boxes are packed full of fruits, veggies, perishable and nonperishable food items and beverages. Each week the center adds various hygiene items to the box such as face masks, toothpaste or tissues, and other weeks there are special items like Thanksgiving turkeys or holiday fixings.

The drive-thru food distribution is open to anyone in need on the 2nd, 4th and 5th Wednesday each month from 5:30pm to 6:30pm, or until food boxes run out. To keep up with future mobile food distribution updates, you can look on Harvesters Community Food Network website or contact Redemptorist Social Services Center.

Our staff and volunteers work tirelessly to make this program a reality. They have worked in the heat, cold, rain, snow and sleet. We are so thankful for our supportive community, but we want to see you face to face! Contact the Center if you are interested in being a part of this amazing program!





When people were hungry, Jesus didn't say, "now is that political, or social?" He said "I feed you." Because the good news to a hungry person is bread.

- Desmond Tutu