

Bishop Sullivan Center

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PROJECT ELDERCOOL WORKS! Heat-related Deaths in Kansas City a Thing of the Past

As you can read from a photocopy of The Kansas City Star from August 1st, 1999, six people died due to the heat the day before. All six were over the age of 72. It brought the heat-related deaths up to 19 that summer. More such deaths would follow.

It was the loss of life due to the heat that summer, mainly among the elderly, that led to the creation of Project ElderCool in the summer of 2000. Since then, headlines such as this are a thing of the past.

Thanks to your generosity over the years, many lives of low income seniors have been spared the summer's heat.

THANK YOU NOTES FROM LAST SUMMER:

“I would probably be sick from a heat stroke if this gracious donation was not provided. Thank you so very much for your assistance!”

“Thank you Lord and thank you all. I’m out of the ‘heat’ and into God’s ‘love’ with so much cool air. I had no money but you and God came my way.”

“After 70 1/2 years of my life, it feels so good to send this note to you, without sweat dripping all over this card. I THANK YOU again!”

“Thank you so much for the air conditioner. It has been wonderful to get a good night’s sleep.”

“Thank you very much for the Air Conditioner. Without it, I am not able to breathe very well. It helps me tremendously- I really do appreciate it.”



Front page of The Kansas City Star from August 1, 1999, reporting heat-related deaths.



Before receiving an air conditioner through Project ElderCool, this woman used two fans in an attempt to beat the heat.

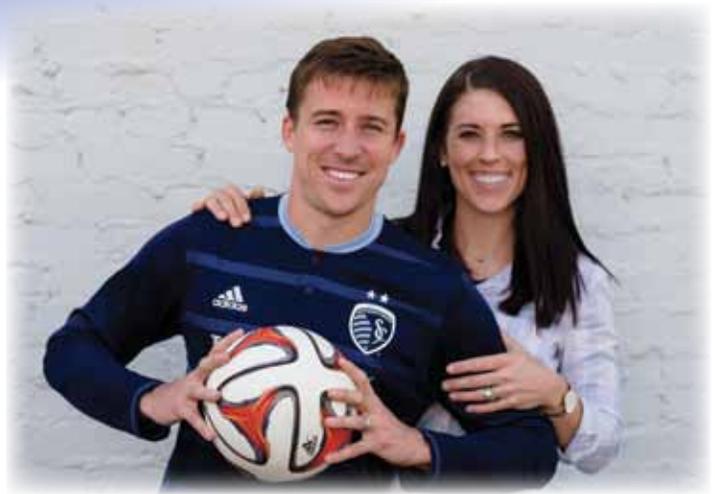
SPORTING'S MATT BESLER HELPS DEFEND AGAINST HUNGER

Periodically, parents call us and ask if they can bring their children to our Center as they want their kids to understand that there are people who are not as fortunate as them. Parents want their kids to appreciate what they have as well as learn about the importance of sharing with others.

Sporting KC's Matt Besler wants to use his status as a public figure to help our city. His position on Sporting KC is that of a defender. Now, he's ready to live out this role off the field as well with his program, "Defend Against Hunger."

Defend Against Hunger engages families with hands-on activities and a simulation at our Center to better understand the impacts that hunger and food insecurity have on families.

Through education, this program hopes to empower youth and families to make a difference through donation drives and advocacy for those whose stories often aren't heard.



Matt and Amanda Besler are kicking off Defend Against Hunger this summer.

The impact of Defend Against Hunger, then, is two-fold. We hope that youth and their families are taking away lifelong lessons: an understanding of hunger and poverty, learning how to set big goals and achieve them, and choosing as a family to let their actions reflect their values. The outcome of this program reaches far into our city - the food from these donation drives is the difference between dinner and an empty table tonight for thousands of families.

At the end of the summer, families are invited to spend time with Matt Besler, some of his teammates, and celebrate the success of their donation drive! Together, we can Defend Against Hunger.

**If you and your family want to team up with
Matt Besler this summer, visit
bishopsullivan.org/defend-against-hunger.**



Matt Besler serves dinner at our community kitchen.

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To donate make check payable to Bishop Sullivan Center and mail to the address below or donate online.

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