

Bishop Sullivan Center

FOOD

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One City Café, A Refuge During Summer Heatwave

Summer is always a busy time at One City Café, but this summer brings the additional challenge of an early heatwave and rising food costs. Since the summer began, kitchen staff and volunteers have welcomed over 300 daily diners who take a break from the heat to enjoy a healthy meal. One City Café is the only community kitchen in the city to offer lunch and dinner Monday through Friday.

In June, our café brought back the salad bar, which had been closed since the pandemic. The salad bar offers fresh fruit as well as traditional garden and pasta salads to many who could otherwise not afford fresh produce. Vincent, pictured here with his salads, shared that he appreciates that One City Café is open five days a week for meals. Vincent recently obtained stable housing, but he is struggling with the sudden increase in food costs. One City Café helps by providing him with an occasional meal.

Blue Tee Tailgate- A 50 Year Celebration



We commemorated our 50th with a cookout! One City Café diners, clergy, community members and Bishop Sullivan Center volunteers and current and previous staff members gathered in the St. James Church parking lot for food, music and to celebrate 50 years of providing assistance to those in need in our community. More than 500 attendees helped us observe this milestone in early June.

The Blue Tee Tailgate, formerly known as the Blue T-shirt Dinner, is a 17-year tradition that had not taken place since the pandemic. We could think of no better way to celebrate our golden anniversary than to bring back the cookout.

The tradition began when a long-time volunteer bought hundreds of blue t-shirts for everyone to wear to the event. He thought everyone should look like we are on the same team. We continue to wear blue t-shirts every year as a reminder that we are one community. It was perfect to celebrate with everyone who contributes to our organization. Thank you for your continuous support of our programs and One City Café.



Off to a Fast Start



The early heatwave has also contributed to a quick start for our ElderCool program. This program, which provides AC units to low-income seniors throughout the city, is in full swing. Our team of three interns answer calls for units, coordinate the installations and also perform the AC unit installations. Our summer interns, Francisco and Billy, continue to install around 4 units a day during the weekdays. We will continue to help the elderly and disabled members of our community beat this summer heat.



We completed an early AC unit installation for Louise, who is 91 years old. Louise had a previous window unit for years, but when she turned it on this year, it blew out warm air. Louise thought the warm air would be fine, but then the temperatures went into the 90's and the home became uncomfortable. Louise is grateful for her new AC unit and the relief it provides her.

Save the Date: Auction/Trivia Night!

- Saturday, October 15, 2022
- Sheraton Kansas City Hotel at Crown Center
- Additional information to follow



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