

# Bishop Sullivan Center

Winter 2022

## Gratitude for the “Givens”

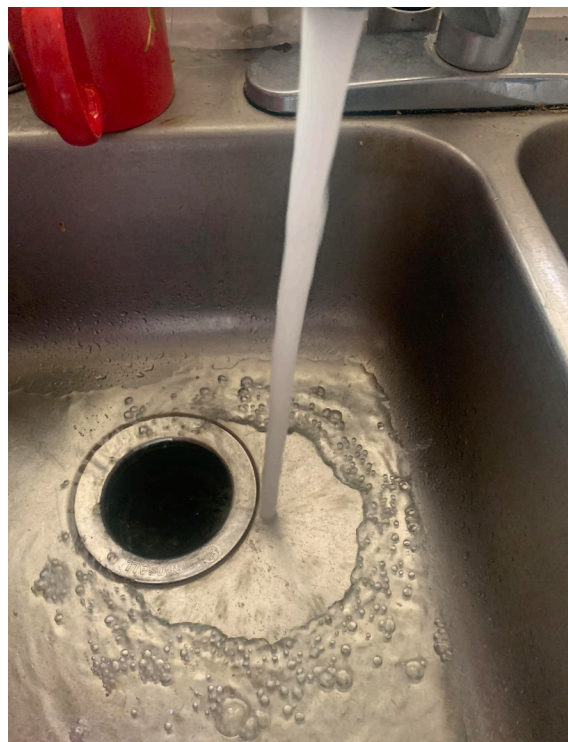
Pause for a moment to consider a few things you're most grateful for today. Maybe your mind goes to a relationship, a recent accomplishment, an upcoming celebration. But with all the beauty that surrounds us, how often do we stop to consider the “givens” – like the water flowing when we turn on the faucet?

We recently worked with a single mother who was struggling to provide for her autistic child. After being laid off, she had fallen behind on bills, and the two were left without running water for more than two months. She was working for meal delivery services to make ends meet, putting all her tips towards the overdue water bill.

Thanks to your support, our Household Assistance program was able to help her catch up and get the water turned on.

“Thank you so much OMG! I really can't put it into words. OMG! Thank you! They just called me and told me,” she expressed in her thank you note, which included the picture to the right.

**“I'm going to go home. Shower. Wash clothes. Drink water out of the faucet. Thank you so much.”**



## Volunteer Spotlight: Holy Family Knights of Columbus



From left: Steve VanKeirsbilck, John LaBella, and Frank Boos.

Stocking, sorting, and bagging groceries in the food pantry isn't easy work. “But it's good for the heart,” said volunteer John LaBella, “and a little bit of a workout.”

John is one of a handful of volunteers from Holy Family parish's Knights of Columbus council who prepares grocery packages in Bishop Sullivan Center's Truman food pantry every Wednesday morning.

“Volunteering here always does even more for the giver than those who are receiving,” said volunteer Steve VanKeirsbilck.

“I would encourage other Knights councils to get involved and commit to one morning each week,” said volunteer Frank Boos. “Like Jesus said, **‘Whatever you do for the least of My brothers, you do for Me.’**”

# Supporter Spotlight: A Season Filled with Giving

From food, to coats, to hot boxes and bedding, the 2021 holiday season was jam-packed with generosity from the local community. Check out a few highlights below, and connect with us on social media for details!



Local H&R Block employees collected and wrapped Christmas gifts of children's clothing and bedding to help fill the clothing closet for community members in need.



Cosentino's Food Stores delivered a semi-truck filled with more than 40,000 pounds of non-perishable food to help stock the food pantries.



Sioux Chief Manufacturing donated a van to help the food pantry team at our Truman location pick up food and in-kind donations, make deliveries to seniors in need, and more.



Grant support from Cerner Charitable Foundation allowed us to purchase a new hot box for One City Café, providing healthy meals for even more hungry community members.

## Rick's Kids

### Join the fight against diaper poverty in KC

It's no secret that diapers are expensive, with an average supply setting a family in need back \$80 each month. This can leave some in our community to choose between dinner and a diaper change.

Founded in 2021 in memory of Rick Koenig, friend and supporter of Bishop Sullivan Center, **the "Rick's Kids" program provides diapers and wipes for families in need.**

You can help Kansas City families keep their children clean, dry, and healthy by making a gift to Rick's Kids today, or by hosting a diaper drive through your church, school, or organization. Contact us at (816) 231-0984, or visit [bishopsullivan.org/ricks-kids](http://bishopsullivan.org/ricks-kids) to learn more.



Diapers collected in KindCraft's January diaper drive. Bottom left: Rick's grandchildren with donations.



## The Blue T-shirt Dinner is back!

We can't wait to bring the community back together later this spring for the annual Blue T-shirt Dinner. Stay tuned for more details coming soon!



Printing generously donated by NextPage. Sign up for our monthly email newsletter by scanning the QR code to the left. To donate, make your check payable to Bishop Sullivan Center and mail to the address below, or donate online.

**BISHOP SULLIVAN CENTER • 6435 TRUMAN ROAD • KANSAS CITY, MO 64126**  
[www.bishopsullivan.org](http://www.bishopsullivan.org) • 816-231-0984

Follow us on social media to keep up with Bishop Sullivan Center, learn about the people we serve, and see the difference your support makes.

