

# Bishop Sullivan Center

FOOD JOBS AID

WINTER 2023



## One Meal at a Time

**Did you know that One City Café, Bishop Sullivan Center's community kitchen, served more than fifty four thousand free meals last year?**

At OCC, all are welcome. To join us for a meal, no qualifications must be met, no identification is required, and no questions are asked. From families with little ones, to neighbors experiencing homelessness, to

community members in need of a little help between paychecks, those who dined with us for those fifty four thousand meals in 2022 have one thing in common: **they were hungry, and your support gave them food, fellowship, and a seat at the table.**

Interested in sponsoring a meal in honor of a friend, a loved one, or cause you care about?

**Scan the code below** to make your reservation, and we'll send your honoree a letter letting them know good food and community are being served in their name.

Scan the code to sponsor a meal today:



## Santa's Helpers: Bringing Christmas Magic to Families in Need



Our team is blessed to encounter many stories of faith, hope, and joy, but **a special magic happens when Santa gets involved.**

Almost twice as many families took part in our Christmas Adoptions program in 2022, **putting gifts beneath the tree for nearly 400 local children.** And thanks to a coat drive at Our Lady of the Presentation parish, each child also received a warm new coat.

**"Thank you so much for our gifts,"** said one mother. **"Time has been very hard for us, but this makes my kids' Christmas very especial."**

Thank you to all who hosted toy drives and sponsored families, including VIVE Culture Church, St. Pius X High School, Borromeo Academy, Visitation Parish, the Federal Reserve Bank of KC, and CSL Plasma.

"When you are facing hard times, it isn't just one light shining through the darkness, but many."

*Shilo Foster, BSC Programs Manager*



## Partner Spotlight:

BSC works with Sarah Cannon Cancer Center to lighten the load for patients

When a cancer diagnosis hits, the day-to-day often gets re-prioritized. For those living paycheck to paycheck or relying on fixed income, it can be hard to focus on health when the financial implications seem insurmountable.

"Some patients aren't able to work due to their treatment, or due to the side effects of the disease," said **Victoria Jonas, Outpatient Oncology Social Worker with Sarah Cannon Cancer Center at Research Medical Center.** "They can quickly dwindle down whatever savings they have."

The Center assists with Medicaid and disability applications, but the process, explained Victoria, can take awhile. That's where partnerships with organizations like Bishop Sullivan Center can make all the difference.

"Having cancer is a full time job, and many patients are here every day. They're sick; they can't wait in line for hours with their paperwork to get help." Instead, **Victoria works with Shilo Foster, Programs Manager at BSC, to gather the right information and get patients the support they need.**

"I can't think of an instance where we haven't been able to help."

"I love partnering with other organizations," said Shilo. **"It lets the person we're assisting know there's a community surrounding them with support."** And with everything these patients are facing, that support is important.

"There's not one resource in KC that's going to solve all of our patients' problems," said Victoria. **"But if we can take one worry away from someone going through this, that's something."**



## Volunteer Spotlight:

Rockhurst seniors start the year at Bishop Sullivan Center

This January, four Rockhurst High School seniors spent the first few weeks of their semester immersed in the BSC mission. The students interacted with clients on a daily basis and worked behind the scenes on different projects within the agency, helping us to better serve the community and getting to know the need — and the people experiencing it — firsthand.



**Thank you, Rockhurst seniors, for dedicating your time to help our neighbors in need!**

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