

nourishing

HOPE



Fall 2022
Quarterly Donor
Impact Report



A LETTER FROM OUR CEO

Dear friends,

Thank you for your unwavering support of our work at Nourishing Hope. You're helping us to serve an alarmingly high number of people — and particularly families with children — who have been turning to us for help.

Put simply, it's going to be a very tough holiday season for so many of our Chicago neighbors. We're seeing it already with record numbers of people turning to our food programs. We are proud to serve them but we know we cannot do this work alone.

Your support makes this work possible.

I do have some good news — we have a new chief development officer! Keenya Lambert joined our team in late October after previously working as the vice president of development at the Shriver Center on Poverty Law. With Keenya's expertise and leadership, we'll be able to serve more people throughout the city.

Again, thank you for your commitment to helping our neighbors. Because of you, families will be able to gather together for holiday meals. What a gift!

Kellie O'Connell
Chief Executive Officer, Nourishing Hope

AFTER HEALTH CRISIS, A DANCE TEACHER PERSISTS

Kirby Reed was once one of Chicago's most beloved and sought after jazz and hip-hop dance teachers. He taught the art form to thousands of students at some of the most prestigious dance schools in the city.

But in August 2009, Kirby suffered a devastating health crisis — two strokes and two heart attacks, all within an hour or so. He survived but his life was forever changed. He was paralyzed on the left side of his body.

Today, Kirby is one of about 200 people on Chicago's South and West Sides who are served by Nourishing Hope's home delivery program. The program serves older adults and people with disabilities.

This program is made possible by your support.

Once a month, Kirby receives boxes of fresh produce, meat, dairy and other groceries through the program. He didn't used to be someone who needed such help, but he's grateful for it now.

“FOOD IS ALWAYS AN ISSUE,” KIRBY SAID. “YOU HAVE TO DECIDE BETWEEN FOOD, MEDICAL COSTS OR PAYING A BILL. THIS REALLY HELPS.”

And amazingly, Kirby is teaching dance again.

[Read more of his remarkable story at nourishinghopechi.org/blog.](https://nourishinghopechi.org/blog)



FOOD PROGRAMS

Throughout the city, Nourishing Hope continues to provide fresh and healthy food to an increasing number of Chicagoans in need. At El Mercadito — our recently renamed food pantry partnership with La Casa Norte in Humboldt Park — service levels have more than doubled compared to last year, a reflection of the increased need and greater awareness of the resource.

Through our second fiscal quarter, visits to our food programs remained more than 40 percent higher compared to last year — a sure sign of the impact of inflationary food prices on households.

With your support, we plan to provide 3,200 turkeys this holiday season, in addition to 900 hams, 900 chickens, and 2,400 Cornish hens, and other holiday food.

The reason is simple: We believe everyone should be able to have a special holiday meal with loved ones.

SOCIAL SERVICES AND MENTAL HEALTH

Nourishing Hope provides free mental health counseling and social services, such as job and housing assistance, to anyone in need. So far this fiscal year, our housing case management team has provided 1,300 services to 425 people. The need for mental health counseling also continues to grow. So far this fiscal year, we've provided 1,332 therapy sessions.



GO TEAM NOURISHING HOPE!

Congratulations to our first ever Team Nourishing Hope at the Bank of America Chicago Marathon! Our team raised more than \$26,000 toward our mission of providing food and social services. If you're interested in joining next year's team, contact Aliya Prescott, director of volunteers, at aliya.prescott@nourishinghopechi.org.

And volunteers — we need your help this holiday season! Please be on the lookout for special volunteer opportunities that will be great for individuals and groups alike.



PARTNER SPOTLIGHT

This fall, we launched a new online market partnership with Latinos Progresando, a nonprofit in the Little Village neighborhood on Chicago's West Side that provides immigration legal services and cultural programs.

We've also launched an exciting new partnership through our Health and Hope program with Cara Collective, a nonprofit committed to development pathways.

Both partnerships illustrate how we are growing our impact on the South and West Sides through strategic partnerships with trusted organizations.

This important work is possible thanks to your support.



GALA RAISES MORE THAN \$790K!

We did it!

Thanks to your generous support, our Nourishing Hope Gala on October 14 raised more than \$790,000, far surpassing our goal for the evening.

It was the largest fundraising event in our organization's history, which dates back to 1970. In a challenging year for nonprofit fundraising, this gala was a tremendous success.

We cannot thank you enough for your support, whether you were an attendee, a sponsor, a board committee member or a supporter in some other way.

We want to extend our gratitude for our amazing gala co-chairs, Sivan Galinsky and Toby Eveland; our presenting sponsors, the American Medical Association, the AMA Foundation, and IMC; and our board members and gala host committee members.

Thank you also to elected officials who found time to attend our gala, including: Mayor Lori Lightfoot and First Lady Amy Eshleman; state Sen. Sara Feigenholtz; state Rep. Margaret Croke, Ald. Andres Vasquez, 40th Ward; and Ald. Timmy Knudsen, 43rd Ward.

It's not too soon to consider how you might want to get involved for next year's gala.

For more information about sponsorships or in-kind donations, please contact Drew Moran, Director of Corporate & Foundation Partnerships, at drew.moran@nourishinghopechi.org.



DONOR SPOTLIGHT

BILL PELUCHIWSKI

A senior managing director at Houlihan Lokey, Bill's transformational support has empowered Nourishing Hope to grow its vehicle fleet, and provide more than 800,000 meals across the city. Asked why he supports our mission, he said it's simply the right thing to do.

“Food is one need that we all share in common,” Bill said. “No one should go hungry in this country. Nourishing Hope helps address the needs of the people along with emotional support. It’s just the right thing to do with the added benefit of reducing needless waste and food anxiety.”



CORPORATE SPOTLIGHT



Nourishing Hope wants to shine the corporate spotlight on two partners this quarter — IMC and Dom's Kitchen and Market.

A longtime supporter of Nourishing Hope, IMC recently increased its giving from \$25,000 yearly to \$100,000 this year — a critical investment as we grow to serve more people.

IMC, a technology-driven trading firm, was also a presenting sponsor of the Nourishing Hope Gala.

This holiday season, IMC employees are also engaged in a virtual food drive — a fun way to raise money in the workplace. They're also volunteering with us this month.

Thank you, IMC!



Dom's Kitchen & Market, a new upscale grocery retailer in Chicago, is also supporting our work in a variety of ways.

Led by Bob Mariano and Don Fitzgerald, both former Mariano's executives, Dom's now has two locations in Lincoln Park and Old Town, respectively.

Last year, Dom's collected toys at the Lincoln Park location and donated them to our annual Nourishing Hope Toy Drive. Since its launch last year, Dom's Kitchen has also donated more than \$12,000 to support our mission and recently participated as a sponsor of our gala.

Thank you, Dom's!

START A VIRTUAL FOOD DRIVE!

Virtual food drives are a fun and easy way to raise money for Nourishing Hope's mission. Because we buy food at scale, we can make those dollars stretch to buy the items most needed. To learn more, visit our [Fundraising page](#) for more information and get started today!

HOLIDAY OPPORTUNITIES

WAYS TO GET INVOLVED FOR THE HOLIDAYS

- Help to provide turkeys, hams, chickens and other holiday food to thousands of families by supporting our [annual Turkey Fund](#).
- Every donation through December 31 counts as one entry to win a VIP Concert Package giveaway at the Metro Theater.
- Around the holidays, we always need more volunteers. [Register here!](#)
- Donate to support the [Nourishing Hope Toy Drive](#) or become a small business/corporate sponsor!



MISSION MOMENT

WATCH OUR GALA VIDEO

At our Nourishing Hope Gala, we premiered the powerful eight-minute film on our work and mission, produced by Chicago film company Small Forces. Learn how we're growing to serve more people throughout the city of Chicago by hearing from them firsthand. We promise you: It will be eight of the best minutes of your day. [Watch the video on YouTube now.](#)



Food for today. Hope for tomorrow.

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Nourishing Hope, formerly known as Lakeview Pantry, is a dynamic social services organization providing food, mental wellness counseling and other social services, such as job and housing assistance, to our Chicago neighbors in need. Founded in 1970, we strive to serve the needs of the whole person — with respect and dignity, always.