



COVINGTON OUTREACH ASSOCIATION

Annual Report

2023 Accomplishments

The COA serves as a compassionate resource for our Covington neighbors who can use a helping hand. We hear stories every day about the struggles our residents are facing. We offer food and financial assistance to hard-working moms who need help with the electric bill, seniors with serious health conditions, and school children who sometimes don't have enough food to get through the weekend. Our programming has spread far beyond a simple food pantry, and as times change, we have expanded our programs to better serve the needs of our village.

<u>Program</u>	<u>Monthly Usage</u>
Food pantry	\$42,657: 50 to 60
Rent/utility aid	\$2315: 3 or 4 families
Food 4 Kids	\$6905: 50 to 60 students
Back 2 School	\$7575: 50 students
Seniors Christmas	\$4759: 88 seniors
Childrens Christmas	\$14,909: 71 children
Total 2023 Assistance	\$79,120



Virtual Food Pantry

Our food pantry program allows families to select their own groceries at Meijer and then a COA volunteer pays with Simply Give cards earned during our annual fund-raising campaign. A gift card to Dollar General is given to each family to buy taxable items which are not covered by the Simply Give program. We appreciate generous support from the Covington Community Chest for the Dollar General cards. We have also begun offering Kroger cards to folks who are unable to shop at a scheduled time due to work, illness, or transportation issues.



Summertime Stock Up

Summertime Stock Up kicks off the summer with plenty of household essentials plus a bonus tote of outdoor fun for children including info on the J.R. Clarke summer reading program and brochures from Miami County Parks District. As a bonus this year, we shared a gift card to Sweet Treats for ice cream.

Thank You

Many thanks for the contributions made in memory of: Karen Angle, Daniel Kendig, Sally Langston, Janet Laughman, Janice Meyer and Paula Montgomery.

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Back to School Program

"Head to Toe, Get Ready to Go." Each student receives a new backpack with grade appropriate supplies, a voucher to Troy Great Clips and a \$50 voucher to Shoe Celebration.

Christmas Program

For the COA staff and volunteers, the most wonderful time of the year is Christmastime. And not because of the material gifts given to our young ones but because of the outpouring of loving kindness we witness from all corners of our village. Our residents, churches, businesses, schools, and organizations all unite to ensure everyone is remembered at Christmas.

This year, 71 children received a specially selected gift from Covington area church members, Perrigo employees, and the CHS Boys Varsity Basketball Team. They also received hats, scarves and stuffed animals from Mrs. Young and the CCC's Teddy Bear Toss. The J.R. Clarke Public Library sponsored a Toy Train and their patrons donated board games, **Legos** and a **giant teddy bear**. A local toymaker and several crafty ladies shared their homemade gifts.

Two dozen residents without little ones received a Kroger card, hand-knitted hat, and sweet treats. The 64 seniors at the Stillwater care center received a beautiful, hand-made quilt from the ladies of St. John's Lutheran Church, cards drawn by Covington Christian Church and Fields of Grace Sunday School children, plus games and puzzle books for the activity room donated by a Thrivent Financial Grant.

Our Christmas program is generously supported by funds raised at the Stacie Jo Blythe Memorial Golf Tournament and the Ladies' Auxiliary of the Covington Eagles. Our donors appreciate knowing their contributions stay right here in our town.



Thank you to Ben Robinson for providing us with photos from our Christmas Program.



Paula M Montgomery Food 4 Kids Program

The Paula M. Montgomery Food for Kids program provides breakfast, lunch, and snack foods to young students to take home over long weekends and holiday breaks. Each month, the grocery bags are packed by the CHS Hope Squad. Additionally, we also support to the in-school food pantry open to junior and senior high students. Our heartfelt thanks to Miss Paula's family and friends for the memorial donations made in her honor.