

Rising Costs and Dwindling Income Threatened this Family. But There Was Hope.

YOU HELPED FEED CHINYERE'S FAMILY WITH KINDNESS AND HOPE ...

Someone living right next door to you could be struggling with food insecurity and you might never know it.

Chinyere is a college graduate, wife and mother. She has a son in college and a daughter in high school, both with dreams of good-paying careers. But these days, that no longer guarantees success or even stability, as Chinyere knows only too well.

Diagnosed with multiple sclerosis, Chinyere had to give up working full-time. She works part-time as her health allows, but her greatly reduced income has impacted the family's finances. *"My husband is a barber, but as the economy went down, his clients went down too,"* she explains.

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“ I'm just so appreciative of people who can give. ”

Chinyere
LSS Food Pantries Client

LSS FOOD PANTRIES



**A MESSAGE FROM
RACHEL LUSTIG,
PRESIDENT AND CEO**

Easter is just a few weeks away, a great reminder to us that all things can be made new. LSS renews lives all year round, providing assistance that serves the whole person, offering practical solutions and bringing hope for lasting change.

Their hope comes from your compassionate support. Many arrive hurting and lost. You provide services that inspire hope and confidence. Thank you for helping our vulnerable neighbors rise up and overcome all kinds of hardships this Easter season.



Lustig

Rachel Lustig
President
and CEO

Our Neighbors Need You This Easter – Please Help

High prices and record evictions across Columbus and central Ohio are driving more and more people into hunger, hardship and homelessness. For those who struggle to make ends meet and those who have lost the fight, there is hope.

Your gifts offer so much to our neighbors in urgent need, including meals and compassionate care. In fact, a nourishing meal at LSS Faith Mission or LSS CHOICES is often the first step toward healing. Likewise, many families depend on the LSS Food Pantries to stretch severely limited resources and keep their children well fed and healthy.

Please send your most generous donation today to help people in need rise up, persevere and overcome overwhelming challenges this Easter season. Thank you!



“ Arise, shine, for your light has come. ”

– Isaiah 60:1

PLEASE GIVE NEW CLOTHES AND SELF-CARE ITEMS

At LSS Faith Mission, people start to recover from homelessness the moment they walk through our door. You can help by providing neighbors in need with the following items:

- Men's new athletic/casual pants
- Men's deodorant
- Men's new underwear
- Men's flip flops

Donations can be dropped off at 217 N. Grant Ave. at the McKee Alley door (south side of building) Mondays and Fridays from 12:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Questions? Please visit our website at lssnetworkofhope.org/get-involved/giveitems.



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Everyday living has become more and more expensive. *"Utilities are going up,"* Chinyere says. *"And the kids need things."*

The family's struggles reached a critical point when their rent increased from \$850 a month to \$1,350. Faced with the daunting prospect of finding an affordable alternative and the expense of moving, Chinyere says, *"It is what it is. I'm just trying to work here and there to make ends meet."*

The LSS Food Pantries were a blessing to Chinyere's family.

Before starting college, Chinyere had come to the pantries with her grandmother. Now, needing help herself,

she tells us, *"I can't live without it. It's a plus for me because we mostly do vegetables and fruits. It's always available, damage-free. We get sweet potatoes. We got greens today. Juice. The kids love to make sandwiches, and we get bread. It's wonderful."*

Chinyere admits that even with help from the LSS Food Pantries, life is still a struggle. But she is deeply grateful for the assistance her hardworking family receives through the generosity of people like you.

"I'm just so appreciative of people who can give, the kind people in the world who help others in any way they can," Chinyere says. *"When I get the chance to do that, I will do the same thing. I'm just thankful."*



Years of Success and Counting

BRYAN FINDS HIS WAY BACK FROM HOMELESSNESS AND PAYS IT FORWARD

Everybody at LSS Faith Mission knows Mr. B. For the past five years, Mr. B, or Bryan, has worked here in various positions, currently in security. He also offers support and guidance for our residents as he works toward his Chemical Dependency license. This is all in addition to his full-time job as owner of a successful landscaping business.

Bryan is always on the go, working and lending a hand wherever and whenever he's needed. But before he came to Faith Mission as a resident in 2008, he had nothing but time on his hands.

Bryan spent two years on the streets. Once he was referred here, Bryan quickly realized that he'd been given a very valuable gift, an opportunity to transform his life. He vowed that he would not waste that gift and, more importantly, would someday share it with others.

"This is a program for people who want to get help," Bryan says. "You've got to help yourself to get there. I can only guide you. You have to do the rest."

Today, this entrepreneur and homeowner loves to give back, and Faith Mission gives him the perfect platform. *"There is meaning for me every day when I'm here,"* Bryan says. He also acknowledges your support. *"I appreciate everything you do because you help me do my job better."*

We're excited to report that Bryan recently earned the Spirit of Excellence Award, chosen from 700 LSS employees. Way to go, Mr. B!

Become a Faithful Friend Today!

It's a real comfort to have family or friends in our corner when times get tough. But our homeless neighbors don't have that comfort. You can be a *Faithful Friend* to them by sending a monthly gift of support to the LSS Network of Hope.

As a *Faithful Friend*, your monthly gifts will provide a steady stream of life-changing resources like nourishing meals and groceries, safe emergency shelter, case management, health services, support for veterans, and everything else a person may need to get back on their feet. By joining this special group of monthly donors, you'll impact the lives of hurting people all over our community.

To sign up, visit lssnetworkofhope.org/give-monthly and select the Give Monthly option or scan the QR code.



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Your gift offers healing and hope to people in need across the LSS Network of Hope. That includes:



Meals and shelter to homeless and hungry neighbors at LSS Faith Mission in both Franklin and Fairfield counties.



Nutritious food for families struggling with hunger at the LSS Food Pantries.



Safe refuge and healing for victims of domestic violence and their children at LSS CHOICES.

THANK YOU TO OUR FUNDERS



STAY CONNECTED

