



**2017-18 NBA Ministry and Mission Grantees
Impact Report:
Expanded Kitchen at The Dinner Table
(Welcome Table Community Meal) Macedonia, Ohio**

Through the **Expanded Kitchen at The Dinner Table** ministry, we offer hospitality and nourishment for body and soul. We serve a free, home-made hot meal twice per month and additional community meals throughout the year. Equally important is a building of relationships and strengthening of community that happens by sharing meals and conversation together.

Mission Area: Intergenerational - At-Risk Children and Youth, Older Adults

Catalyst Grant: US \$5,000

Goals, Outcomes, and Learnings:

- We were able to purchase a commercial grade refrigerator, freezer, and convection oven. We were additionally able to purchase a steam table, which allows us to efficiently and safely keep food warm for serving.
- With the purchase of larger, commercial-grade equipment, we are able to more efficiently and safely prepare the meals. This allows us to feed more people and focus our energy on building relationships rather than wrestling with outdated and insufficient equipment.
- The equipment was a tangible upgrade that has really allowed for an expansion of relationships and partnerships between local grocery stores, nonprofits, and the nearby neighborhood community center.
- We have been able to partner with our local Costco and Gordon Food Service. We now receive 3,000 pounds of fresh produce weekly, which we are able to

share with the local food pantry, serve with our meals, and offer to the community.

- Through upgraded equipment we have been able to increase the number of people touched by (connected to) and receiving meals from 200 to 1,000 people monthly. People come here to eat, and many take well-rounded protein-rich foods home to share with neighbors and family members who aren't able to attend the meals in person. Leftover food is safely stored until it can be taken to a nearby community center and distributed.
- We hope to partner with the local YMCA to provide transportation to our bi-weekly dinners for individuals who live in a particularly disadvantaged neighborhood nearby (but beyond walking distance). On weeks when we serve dinner, the YMCA bus would transport people to the church, and on weeks when our dinner is not served, the bus would provide transportation to the local food pantry (which we sponsor).







As the health and social services general ministry of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), the National Benevolent Association partners with congregations, regions, general ministries, and a variety of Disciples-related health and social service providers to create communities of compassion and care. Founded in 1887 by six women responding to the needs of the day and on their doorsteps, for more than 130 years the NBA has continued to serve "the least of these." Learn more at www.nbacaes.org.