Our goal is to eradicate hunger and poverty so we can close our doors. But aspirations and efforts cannot always surmount the reality of suffering in our city. Last year we served over half a million more meals than the year before—nearly 2.5 million. We saw a 24% increase in the number of people served in our Pantry program—people from 157 zip codes, far more than the 13 of a few years ago. We responded to Superstorm Sandy, bringing impacted communities meals, water, supplies and clothing.

Our decision to grow our programs was a response to the circumstances around us. Since 2007, 250 of the city’s emergency food providers have closed due to lack of money or food. That is the backdrop behind our changed name. People come to us from all over our city. To meet the growing need, we’ve expanded our food rescue, tripled our efforts to raise funds, modernized our Choice Pantry, and served more children in our Live Healthy! program.

While we may not be able to stamp out hunger in the short term, we continue to address these vexing social problems and make a difference for the growing numbers of struggling New Yorkers. Thank you for your help.

Stephen Grimaldi
Executive Director

Both of us welcome you to the rebirth of the Pantry, a changing of the guard.

This Annual Report marks the launch of a new era for us: the definitive expansion of the Yorkville Common Pantry into city-wide service, expressed in our new, proud name, New York Common Pantry.

Those great shifts in scope and name were propelled by several factors: the landmark strategic plan guided by a superb team from McKinsey and Company, the impact of Superstorm Sandy, leading us to respond with emergency service in the Rockaways and elsewhere, the explosive growth of clients from all boroughs served at our 109th Street home.

We mark these transitions as well with a change in our Board leadership as Wendy finishes her term and Mike takes up the reins. We were both introduced to the Pantry by volunteering, and both found it profoundly meaningful. We are thrilled to work together for the continued excellence of the New York Common Pantry and invite you to work with us.

Scientific studies have shown that philanthropy (whether volunteering or donating) will make you happier. We have both experienced the truth of that at the Pantry: come join us and see for yourself.

Wendy A. Stein
Outgoing Board Chair

Michael Fitzsimons
Incoming Board Chair
34% of New Yorkers were unable to pay for food at some point in the last 24 months because they had to pay for rent.
- Food Bank for New York City, 2012

In 2012 over one-half of unemployed New Yorkers reported difficulty affording food.
- Food Bank for New York City, 2012

One in four New York City children, nearly half a million, are food insecure, meaning they did not have an adequate food supply throughout the year.
- New York City Coalition Against Hunger, 2012

To cope with food affordability challenges, almost one in three New York City residents purchased less food to save money in the last year.
- Food Bank for New York City, 2012

Of all homeless families in shelters nationwide, one in six are homeless in New York City.
- Coalition for the Homeless, 2013

New York Common Pantry Annual Report 2013 1
Provided 2,485,054 total meals across all programs. Up 21% from previous year

Assisted 24% more people overall

Served 13% more children than last year

Secured $4,543,520 in new benefits for participants

Served people from 157 zip codes throughout New York City

After Superstorm Sandy hit, NY Common Pantry promptly responded. From the first week of November until the end of August, we made deliveries to the areas of the city affected by the Superstorm. In that time we:

Traveled over 12,000 miles

Served 16,469 people

Served 221,809 meals
REBRANDING & BENEFIT

With the help of McKinsey and Company, we completed a five-year strategic plan last summer. It showed that the impact of our work is felt beyond our East Harlem site and the name “Yorkville” no longer fit our scope. We began as a local response to neighborhood hunger but have grown to serve all five boroughs. Last year we served people from 157 of the entire city’s zip codes, our volunteers came from all over New York City, and we distributed more food than any other single pantry site in the state. Finally, in the aftermath of Superstorm Sandy, we directly served Brooklyn, Queens, and Staten Island with food and supplies. Our new identity as New York Common Pantry grows from our support of the neediest New Yorkers no matter where they live.

The announcement of our new name and logo was made on the evening of March 7th during our annual Fill the Bag Benefit, when almost 300 guests gathered at The University Club to celebrate the Pantry’s work and mark its new beginnings. We honored Dr. Karen C. Altfest with the Founders Award, and Fairway Market and Lauren Bush Lauren with Community Partner Awards. Maurice DuBois of WCBS-TV served as Master of Ceremonies and Karl Green of Bonhams in New York conducted the Live Auction.

It was the most successful Benefit in our history with over $500,000 raised to help further the work of our programs.
CHOICE PANTRY

New York City’s largest community-based food pantry allows its thousands of participants to select culturally appropriate, nutritionally balanced food packages. The Pantry program serves all five boroughs of New York City. Members can order their food in advance through the Pantry Direct page on New York Common Pantry’s website, or on-site by using wireless touch-screen tablets. Volunteers pack each bag with the Pantry member’s choice from selections in each of the major food groups. Each family member receives three meals for four days.

In FY 13, Choice Pantry provided food assistance to 8,499 households, a total of 21,763 individuals.
Now affiliated with Single Stop USA, this program is open 365 days a year to help Pantry members acquire benefits like Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and Social Security Supplemental Income. Its case managers also help to access other appropriate resources to prevent families from being evicted from their homes and with employment referrals. Through unique collaborations with our partner agencies, staff directly process SNAP and Medicaid applications on-site. In addition, Help 365 provides ready-to-eat brown bag meals on days when there is no hot dinner service.

In FY 13, Help 365 and on-site providers accessed $3,701,270 in new benefits and acquisitions for Pantry members.

Antonia came to NY Common Pantry to meet with a case manager for benefits acquisition. No longer living with her husband, Antonia, a 51 year-old woman, was not working and could not afford to pay rent nor did she have food. A Help 365 case manager screened her for benefits, provided her with a grocery bag, and signed her up to be a Pantry member. Antonia was able to receive cash assistance, rental assistance, SNAP, and Medicaid. Now that she is able to pay her rent, Antonia says her next goal is to find a job and become self-sufficient.
LIVE HEALTHY!

This program educates adults, children, and their families about healthy eating, nutrition and active living. Classes are held at our 109th Street building and at community organizations around New York City. They feature recipes using items distributed in the Pantry program and encourage members to use our staples for nutritious, satisfying meals. Children and their families take trips to local farmers’ markets and to a farm in New York’s Columbia County, and children’s classes now include an active living component. Live Healthy! encourages participants to embrace healthy eating, active living, resiliency skills, and social support to improve overall quality of life.

In FY 13, Live Healthy! provided 216 classes and workshops, 6 trips to Katchkie Farm, and visited the Global Kitchen exhibit at the American Museum of Natural History.
PROJECT DIGNITY

Project Dignity’s case managers offer homeless individuals counseling and referral services, access to benefits and entitlements, substance abuse treatment, and other medical and social services. Project Dignity’s array of services is designed to meet the most basic needs of our visitors—food, haircuts, mail service, laundry—as well as the larger, more challenging issues they face—long-term housing, health care, and benefits. The program serves as a bridge back to health, well-being, and self-sufficiency for our homeless visitors.

In FY 13, Project Dignity provided assistance to 235 distinct individuals, including over $800,000 in benefits.
HOT MEAL PROGRAM

This program serves breakfast Monday through Friday and hot dinner on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. All meals are cooked on premises and our staff cooks prepare hearty balanced meals with wholesome ingredients. Beyond providing nutritious food, the program offers participants a chance to sit, eat, and socialize in a relaxing, safe, friendly atmosphere that offers a retreat from the stressors of being homeless or living in poverty.

In FY 13, a total of 75,147 meals were provided through the Hot Meal Program.

Mateo is a 41-year-old homeless man with an extensive history of mental illness and substance abuse disorders. Mateo has been homeless since 2009 and has been working with Project Dignity since 2012. After utilizing the shower and laundry facilities, Mateo met with a case manager who referred him to psychiatric services and began assisting him with the paperwork to apply for supportive housing. In June 2013, Mateo was approved for Supplemental Security Income monthly benefits and permanent supportive housing. He moved in August.
HOW STAFF SERVES THOSE IN NEED

We are constantly working to provide our program participants with the best experiences and service. In order to do so we ensure that our staff has a wide variety of specialized skills—in food safety, nutrition, social work, and other areas. Staff members expand their knowledge of emergency food provision and community health issues by sharing best practices with other agencies and consortiums.

Our constant effort to improve service has brought new attention to our work.

FY13 saw the following:
• We received the Invest in Others Charitable Foundation award

• We received the first ever Kathy Goldman Community Innovation Award from the Food Bank for New York City

• Our outgoing Board Chair, Wendy A. Stein, was profiled in the Wall Street Journal

• The French Food Ministry visited to learn how we fight hunger
HOW VOLUNTEERS MAKE A DIFFERENCE

This year 23% more volunteers provided over 39,000 hours of service.

Volunteers:
- prepared and served hot meals
- unpacked and stored food deliveries
- helped Pantry members order food
- assembled Choice Pantry orders, and more

We are able to provide our services thanks to the dedication and tireless enthusiasm of our volunteers. For more ways to help visit http://www.nycommonpantry.org/volunteer.html or contact Jen Winter, Volunteer Coordinator, at 917-720-9719 or jwinter@nycommonpantry.org
Volunteer Honor Roll- groups that volunteered 50 hours or more in FY 13
Thank you!

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Wells Fargo Foundation  
World Wings International, Inc./Manhattan Chapter  
Y.A. Istel Foundation  
Y.H. Mizroff & Sons Foundation

**GOVERNMENT AGENCIES/ PARTNERS**  
New York State Department of Health: Hunger Prevention and Nutrition Assistance Prevention (HPNAP)  
New York City Department of Youth and Community Development  
New York City Emergency Food Assistance Program (EFAP)  
United Way Emergency Food and Shelter Program (EFSP)  
United States Department of Housing and Urban Development

**ELECTED OFFICIALS**  
We give special thanks for the support and encouragement of our friends in elected office.  
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*United States Senator*  
Kirsten Gillibrand  
*United States Senator*  
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Scott M. Stringer  
*Manhattan Borough President*

**PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS AND CONSORTIUMS**  
Animal Relief Fund  
City Harvest  
East Side Homeless Network  
FEED  
Feeding America  
Food Bank for New York City  
Go Green East Harlem!  
Grow NYC  
Human Services Consortium of East Harlem  
Katchkie Farms/Great Performances/Sylvia Center Kids in Sports  
Mt. Sinai Medical Center  
New York Cares  
New York City Coalition Against Hunger  
NYC Financial Action Consortium  
Project for Psychiatric Outreach to the Homeless  
Single Stop, USA  
United Way of New York City  
Urban Justice Center  
WhyHunger
Net Assets for fiscal year ended June 30, 2013: $5,348,406

This information was abstracted from unaudited financial statements for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2013. Audited financial statements are on file at New York Common Pantry, 8 East 109th Street, New York, NY 10029. A copy of the annual report filed with the New York State Office of Charities Registration may be obtained on request from New York Common Pantry.
MISSION STATEMENT
New York Common Pantry is dedicated to reducing hunger throughout New York City while promoting dignity and self-sufficiency.

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SPONSORING ORGANIZATIONS
The Brick Presbyterian Church
The Church of the Heavenly Rest
The Church of the Holy Trinity
Church of St. Thomas More
Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church
Park Avenue Christian Church
Park Avenue Synagogue
Park Avenue United Methodist Church
St. Edward the Martyr
St. James’ Church
St. Jean Baptiste Church
St. Joseph’s Church Yorkville
St. Stephen of Hungary
St. Vincent Ferrer Church
Temple Emanu-El
Temple Israel of the City of New York
Temple Shaaray Tefila
The Unitarian Church of All Souls

NYCP STAFF
Muhammad Al-Amin, Project Dignity Coordinator
Michael Auerbach, Van Driver
Mario Arrendell, Help 365 Case Manager II
Kelly A. Barkley, Development Associate: Events & Communications
Sara Bartels, Live Healthy! Program Manager
Renata Bermudez-Velasquez, Live Healthy! Program Aide
Neill Bogan, Director of Development and Communications
Allan Brown, Operations Associate
Ralph Davis, Staff Accountant
Keith Felder, Operations Associate
Wendel Franks, Cook
Charlene Gonzalez, Help 365 Case Manager
Stephen Grimaldi, Executive Director
Akeem Hamilton, Finance Assistant
Ivan Jackson, Kitchen Aide
Jasmine Jackson, Live Healthy! Program Aide
Jasmine Jeffers, Development Associate: Grants
Jessica Koscheka, Food Programs Manager
Juan Mendez, Facilities Coordinator
Michael Montanez, Live Healthy! Instructor
Jesse Regis, Development & Administrative Coordinator
Daniel Reyes, Director of Programs and Operations
Noby Rivera, Operations Associate
Tommy Robinson, Van Driver
Clara Russo, Data Entry Associate
Gabriella Sosa-Vasquez, POS Benefits Enroller
James Stephens, Project Dignity Program Aide
Diane Wang, Help 365 Case Manager
Marion Williams, Help 365 Program Manager
Jennifer Winter, Development Associate: Volunteer Services

HOW TO SUPPORT NYCP
Make a gift to NYCP. It’s quick and easy at our website! www.nycommonpantry.org

NYCP is designated as a tax-exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and is a publicly-supported charity under Section 509(a)(1) and qualifies for the maximum charitable contribution deduction allowed to individual donors. If you would like to discuss will bequests or other planned giving techniques that provide NYCP with a more stable long-term financial base, please contact Neill Bogan, Director of Development and Communications at (917) 720-9707 or nbogan@nycommonpantry.org.