

## A NOTE FROM STEPHEN



The crisp weather and the sound of children heading back to school are reminders that fall is here. The sad reality is that in NYC, many of these school children go to bed hungry. According to the new US Census Bureau statistics, **12.4% of Americans live in poverty, and the number of children living in poverty has nearly doubled.** Our Choice Pantry membership has risen over the last year, creating longer lines of guests, and we have seen an increase in migrant families coming to NYCP for help. To meet this growing need and increase our capacity to serve more people across the city, we are purchasing food in bulk and have begun utilizing the New Hub for food storage, packing, and distribution. We also continue to rescue more produce from Hunts Point Market to ensure our guests receive healthy fruits and vegetables. NYCP only is able to help more people with your support. Please join us today in the fight against hunger with a donation to feed a family in need.

## PARTNERSHIP UPDATES

NYCP expanded our partnership with **CBS New York** and **Big Russ** barber shop to offer our guests' children free, back-to-school haircuts. The school season is often stressful for our program participants, as they incur the expenses of new supplies, haircuts and outfits to prepare their children for a new school year. Appointments were available during the two days before NYC public schools opened, enabling dozens of children to receive free school supplies and start the school year with a fresh haircut. [CBS New York](#) covered the two-day event, highlighting our partnership.

NYCP was featured in the **Amazin' Mets Foundation** [annual video](#), highlighting how they support the work we do in the community. The video incorporated photos and video footage from their Thanksgiving turkey distributions at our Manhattan Choice Pantry.

## MEET OUR GUEST: SHARON STONE



Sharon Stone greets everyone she meets with a warm smile and a compliment. She knows times are hard for everyone, especially for seniors, and she likes to bring a little joy into their lives. Sharon joined NYCP's Choice Pantry in East Harlem after getting injured at her job and becoming eligible for disability benefits. She's grateful to receive fresh fruits and vegetables from the Pantry on a regular basis. Sharon also participates in our monthly senior nutrition program, called Nourish. "Having the Pantry helps to take some stress off. We have something to eat to hold us over until our checks come or we get our (food) stamps. Even now with food stamps, they don't stretch like they used to," she says.

## THE HOLIDAYS ARE COMING



Before you know it, the holidays will be upon us. While it's a time of joy for many families, for those we serve, it is often a time of hardship. The Pantry is always busier during the holiday season. Please consider organizing a group of friends and family to come and **volunteer**. Keep an eye out for our annual **Thanksgiving appeal** to help provide more families with a holiday meal.



**13,000**  
**VOLUNTEERS**  
**CONTRIBUTED 31,000+**  
**HOURS LAST YEAR**

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