



CHOICES DIGNITY SELF-SUFFICIENCY

Yorkville Common Pantry Annual Report 2012

OUR CLIENTS ARE YOUR NEIGHBORS, and they deserve the right to make their own choices. They get to choose among varied farm-fresh produce for their pantry bag, and choose new recipes learned in nutritional cooking classes. They are treated with **dignity**: given a clean, comfortable environment to eat their hot meal, or take a shower and do their laundry. We give them a step up toward **self-sufficiency** by connecting them with benefits and helping them move beyond needing our help.



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LETTERS FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND CHAIR

Almost 3 million New Yorkers experienced food hardship last year. YCP experienced a 23% rise in the number of children and a 10% rise in the number of seniors served in our pantry program, and our overall meal count grew by 86,000.

Despite these challenging times, YCP remains committed to providing holistic services. In the past year we converted to a Choice Pantry, allowing members to select from a range of healthy foods, including the option to order through our website. We increased the dollars accessed for its members by 43%, and now four out of every five people who walk through our doors receive not only food, but other services.

Volunteers continue to be the driving force behind our ability to serve more people. Volunteer hours grew 37% last year, and those savings allowed us to both lower our cost per pantry meal to .92 and purchase almost \$200,000 worth of fruit and vegetables directly from New York State farmers.

While the economic forecast remains uncertain, the list of what we do with your help does not. On behalf of the 29,000 people we served last year, thank you.

Stephen Grimaldi Executive Director When I began volunteering at the Pantry over 20 years ago, Thursday was the only pantry day at YCP, and now we distribute groceries four days a week. That growth came slowly, but in FY 12, YCP went into hyperdrive, and never lost its intimate and caring culture. Stephen has outlined the big positive changes we've achieved, and now we are poised for future steps, having completed a strategic plan with the guidance of McKinsey & Co. That process was deeply satisfying for me personally, and I believe it will enable YCP to be even better at serving our city.

As we go to press, we are marshaling hundreds of volunteers making thousands of brown bag meals to take to the outer boroughs for victims of Hurricane Sandy. (See the pictures below)

I still volunteer on Thursdays, and I do so to restore my soul: to remind myself that I can meet and work with a stranger and find a common bond, to handle the bounty of fresh produce that I can be proud to give to a neighbor, to say hello to some of the thousands of people we serve. Come join me or volunteer at another one of our days and programs: I promise you will be happier for it.

Wendy A. Stein Chair









TOTAL INDIVIDUALS SERVED FY 2012: 29,414 individuals

FY 2011: 25,054 individuals

Increase over FY 2011

BENEFITS

\$4,929,889 in new benefits and tax assistance generated for YCP visitors year to date

365 YCP Benefits: 43% increase over FY 2011





Total Households receiving benefits through 365 YCP and Project Dignity: 803

INCREASE OVER FY 2011: 218 +27%



NUTRITION INITIATIVE

Adult cooking classes:	48
Adults participating:	1,274

Children and Families sessions: 223

Children:	3,891*
Parents:	471



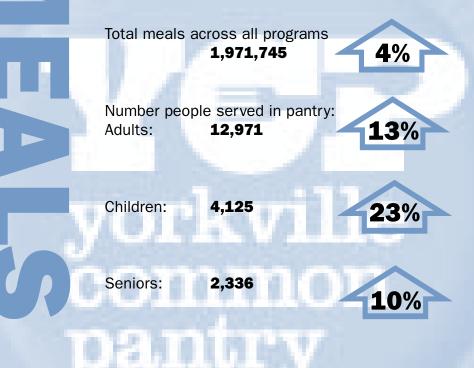
PROJECT DIGNITY

Case Managed:	278
Housing applications completed:	41
Referred to Psychiatrist:	55
Mail services:	175
Laundry:	1,956
Haircuts:	1,498
Showers:	6,715

SERVICES OTHER THAN FOOD

In Fiscal Year 2012, **83%** of pantry members received services in addition to food.

Hot meals:**78,578**Brown Bags:**6,573**Pantry meals:**1,877,136**NICF meals:**9,458**



NYC and National statistics

1	More than two in five New York City households with children have difficulty affording needed food. (Food Bank for New York City, 2011)
2	15% of people living in the United States live below the federal poverty level. (United States Census, 2011)
3	The cost of living in New York City is three times the federal poverty level. (New York Times, 2011)
4	Over 40% of elementary school students in YCP's immediate neighborhood are overweight or obese – a rate that is 3 times that of American children as a whole, and may put them at risk for type II diabetes, early onset of puberty and childhood asthma. (City University of New York, 2010)
5	There are 2.9 million people in New York City experiencing food hardship. (Food Bank for New York City, 2011)
6	Nearly 1.7 million people or 21% of New Yorkers live in poverty. (American Community Survey, 2011)
7	Nearly 113,000 New Yorkers experienced homelessness last year, a remarkable 36% increase from ten years ago. (Coalition for the Homeless, 2012)
8	750,000 New Yorkers live on less than half the income that would put them at poverty level. (New York Times, 2012)

MAKING A DIFFERENCE: YCP PROGRAMS

CHOICE PANTRY PROGRAM

YCP's Choice Pantry Program, New York City's largest community-based food pantry, allows its thousands of participants to choose culturally appropriate, nutritionally balanced food packages. YCP's Pantry program serves all five boroughs of New York City. In 2011, we became a 'Choice Pantry,' meaning Pantry members now have the option of choosing the food items they would like to receive in their Pantry package. Members can order their food in advance via YCP's website or on-site by using wireless touch-screen tablets. Volunteers pack each bag according to each Pantry member's choice from selections in each of the major



food groups. Food packages include items like sugar-free cereal, shelf-stable milk, pasta, rice, a diverse variety of fresh produce, bread, and diverse protein sources. Each family member receives three meals for four days. In FY 12, YCP's Pantry programs provided food assistance to 7,997 distinct families, a total of 19,380 individuals.

CLIENT STORY - LUCY*

Ever since Lucy came to the United States from China, she has worked as a Home Attendant. Now 52 years old and parenting a teenage son, she and her husband find it difficult to afford her son's monthly college tuition. Despite her two-income household, Lucy's family still has difficulty making ends meet. With the combined support of YCP's food packages and assistance applying for supplemental nutrition assistance, Lucy can maintain her housing and ensure her son completes his college education.



*Name has been changed to ensure privacy

365 YCP



Now affiliated with Single Stop USA, this program is open 365 days a year to assist Pantry members with acquiring benefits and entitlements, such as Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and Social Security Supplemental Income. Its case managers also provide assistance with accessing the other appropriate resources to prevent families from being evicted from their homes and with employment referrals. Through unique collaborations with New York Human Resources Administration, 365 YCP staff directly process SNAP and Medicaid applications on-site. In addition, 365 YCP provides ready-to-eat brown bag meals on days that there is no hot dinner.

In FY 12, 365 YCP and its on-site providers accessed \$4,308,276 in new benefits for Pantry members, nearly 30% more than in FY 11.





In FY 12, Project Dignity provided assistance to 278 distinct individuals, including over \$600,000 in benefits.

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 YCP's clients food, haircuts, mail service, laundry—as well as the larger, more challenging issues they face—long-term housing, health care, and benefits. The goal of the program is to serve as a bridge back to health, well-being, and selfsufficiency for our homeless and hungry clients.

CLIENT STORY - SAMUEL*

Samuel recently lost his job of thirty years and was unable to support his family solely on his unemployment benefits. At the suggestion of a friend, he came to YCP to receive food and case management assistance. YCP helped him apply for supplemental food assistance and Medicaid. Receiving supplemental assistance was difficult for Samuel as he has always provided for his family on his own. Determined to gain employment, Samuel is actively pursuing work as a restaurant chef. Samuel still receives food packages from YCP and stays in touch with his case manager to update him about his job search. *Name has been changed to ensure privacy





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 12, a total of 78,578 meals were provided through the Hot Meal Program, a 4% increase from FY 11.



NUTRITION INITIATIVE

for Children and Families



This program educates adults, children, and their families about healthy eating and nutrition. Adult workshops are held on-site at YCP, and children's classes are held both on-site and at community organizations around Harlem. Recipes used in cooking segments feature items distributed in the Pantry program and encourage clients to use Pantry staples to create nutritious, satisfying meals. Emphasis is placed on the nutritional value of fruits and vegetables to ensure that participants learn about vitamins and minerals and their impact on

healthy living. In addition, the children's classes take field trips to local farmers' markets and to a farm in New York's Columbia County to enhance their learning experience.

In FY 12, 5,636 people participated in 271 nutrition classes and workshops. YCP offered 6 trips to Katchkie Farm, twice the number provided in FY11.

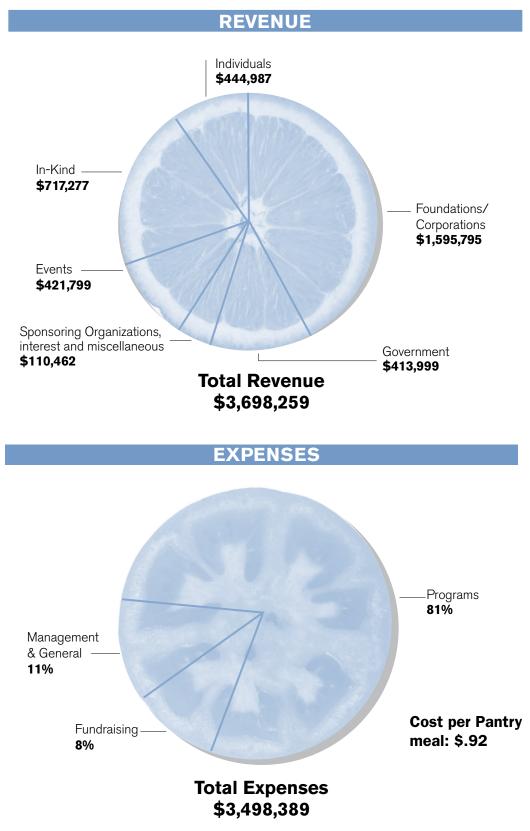
CLIENT STORY - EDIT CANO

Edit Cano is ten years old and already is taking a giant step towards a healthy future by participating in YCP's Nutrition Initiative for Children and Families, where she has learned about healthy vegetables, visited city Green Markets, and taken a field trip to a New York State farm. Edit uses the knowledge she has gained about nutritious eating and healthy food choices to help her mom prepare meals for their family of five. Edit and her sister attend nutrition classes on Saturdays with their mom when they come to YCP to pick up their family's pantry order. With her whole life ahead of her, Edit knows that what she learns from the Pantry will make a difference in her own health and the health of her family.



FINANCIAL REPORT

Fiscal Year July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012



for fiscal year ended June 30, 2012 are \$5,126,283 The information at left was abstracted from unaudited financial statements for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2012. Audited financial statements are on file at Yorkville 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 Yorkville Common Pantry.

Net Assets



YCP BENEFIT

YCP's Spring Benefit Dazzles





YCP's annual Spring Benefit celebrates the mission, programs, community partners and volunteers that make YCP successful. On the evening of March 14th. 2012, 248 friends of YCP enjoyed an evening at Guastavino's in midtown featuring dinner, a silent auction, and an uplifting live performance by Jonathan Batiste and the Stay Human Band. Guests learned about YCP's relationship with local farms and watched a video explaining the importance of our Pantry and NICF program in the lives of ten-year-old Edit Cano and her family.

Honorees included YCP Board member Anne P. MacKinnon, who received the Helene Abraham Award for Volunteer Community Service. Community Partner awards went to John Boyles, President and CEO of ING Financial Services and to the Church of St. Thomas More, the latter recognizing the contributions of church member and former YCP Board member **Delores Morrissey. Bruce** Beck, WNBC-TV Sports Anchor, was Master of Ceremonies. Thanks to our guests and other supporters, YCP netted \$265,484 from the evening.

VOLUNTEERS

Drive YCP's programs



More volunteers assisted YCP this

past year: 27% more volunteers provided 37% more hours of service at YCP. That means **11,809 volunteers** worked **42,234 hours** helping Pantry members order, helping YCP unpack food deliveries and pack Pantry orders, prepare and serve hot meals, and more. Volunteers performed **48**% of our labor hours and produced a savings estimated at **\$920,278!**

WONDERING HOW YOU CAN HELP?

- Host a food drive
- Pack and distribute nutritious groceries for our Choice Pantry
- Serve a Hot Meal
- Ask us to set up a presentation about YCP for your organization
- Help Pantry members choose healthy items for their grocery bags

YCP held its first ever Volunteer Appreciation Event on April 17th during National Volunteer Week. Light refreshments were served as we expressed our sincere thanks to our dedicated volunteers for the work they do. Attendees participated in a raffle, took pictures in our photo-booth with signs describing why they volunteer, and received a complementary YCP tote bag.

Without the dedication and tireless enthusiasm of our volunteers, YCP could not provide our services. To volunteer and learn more, please contact Jen Winter, Volunteer Coordinator at 917-720-9710 or jwinter@ ycp.org. We look forward to hearing from you!

Volunteer Honor Roll- groups that volunteered 50 hours or more in FY 12. Thank you!



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Yorkville Common Pantry is dedicated to reducing hunger while promoting dignity and self-sufficiency.



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