Thanks to a partnership with Children’s Hunger Alliance, West Mound Elementary School students take home food boxes every Friday. These boxes include meals for them to eat and enjoy throughout the weekend. Thank you for supporting our students!

Columbus City Schools
2023 has been a year of many accomplishments for Children’s Hunger Alliance, allowing us to serve more children in need. I want to express my sincere appreciation to you for supporting the important work we do at CHA. This past year you helped us provide millions of meals to children across the state. We weathered the pandemic, but these are still challenging times as the pandemic-era programs created to help those facing poverty are now expiring. For many children, too often there is no breakfast on their table when they get up in the morning and they go to bed hungry at night.

A lot of the work we do at Children’s Hunger Alliance is focused on Federal Nutrition Programs – childcare centers, in-home childcare providers, afterschool programs and summer meals. We all know children are hungry seven days a week, and there aren’t Federal Nutrition Programs to feed children on the weekend. That is why we launched our Weekend Meal Program, and I am happy to say that during the past year we were able to help more places around the state.

I came to CHA in 2016 and could not have imagined what the following years would bring, both from increased demand for our services and CHA’s ability to respond. I am immensely proud of the work that CHA, along with partners and supporters, have done to provide our youngest and most vulnerable citizens with one of their most basic needs – food.

This is an exciting time for CHA, as Michelle Moskowitz Brown takes over as its next leader. Like you, I cannot wait to see how the organization will thrive under her leadership.

It has been an honor to be a steward of this great organization. I appreciate your continued support of Children’s Hunger Alliance, which makes a difference in the lives of food-insecure children in Ohio.

Judy Mobley, Former President and CEO (2017-2023)

At the end of last year, I joined Children’s Hunger Alliance as the eighth President and CEO. For the past 27 years I have served in not-for-profit leadership and management positions in food and arts-based organizations, and I believe in the power of our sector to affect meaningful change with government, business, and community partners.

My personal experience with childhood food insecurity and my family’s experience with diet-related disease fuel my work. Like each of our staff, board, supporters and partners, I have a commitment to serving children and families, and a belief that everyone should have the skills and resources to eat well. For the past 12 years, I served as the Executive Director at Local Matters (located in Columbus, OH) where I focused on growing organizational impact, increasing education and access to nutritious and affordable foods, and advocating for policies aligned with their mission of creating healthier communities.

In addition to my previous work, I am the immediate past chair of the Ohio Food Policy Network (OFPN), which I helped build as a statewide coalition dedicated to a food system that supports and serves all Ohioans. From 2014-2016, I co-led the creation of the first ever Columbus & Franklin County Local Food Plan, and served on its board for 7 years. These experiences have helped shape my understanding of barriers and opportunities to food access, and the critical importance of hands-on education from the youngest age possible, to support children’s needs now and in the future.

Thank you to everyone for the warm welcome and stay tuned for how we will continue to strengthen Children’s Hunger Alliance in service to children across the state of Ohio!

Michelle M. Brown, President and CEO
Our Impact

In 2023, Children’s Hunger Alliance helped to provide 6.9 million meals to approximately 136,600 children at nearly 1,300 partner sites.

- Over 4,600 children received meals through our Childcare Center partners.
- 6.9 million meals were provided with food in our Afterschool Meals Program.
- 19,800 children were provided with food in our Afterschool Meals Program.

We partnered with over 120 sites throughout Ohio to help provide food to nearly 4,900 children as part of the Summer Meals Program.

Our In-Home Childcare Providers served over 2 million meals to the children in their care.

Our Nutrition Education team worked with over 55 sites to help children make and enjoy healthier choices.

The Weekend Meal Program served nearly 1.2 million meals to over 69,000 children throughout the state.
Our Mission

is to ensure that children without access receive healthy food, nutrition education and physical activity.

We were able to add to the appeal of our weekly summer reading meet-ups by offering lunch in addition to the program that was scheduled for the day. This helped us spread the word about the lunch program offerings on other days of the week as well. I know that some of these families commented about the cost of feeding kids during the summer and how much they appreciated the library offering the lunch program. I anticipate people asking about it in the future if it is still available.

Christine Mills, Branch Manager, Greenwich Branch Library

Parents shared how thankful they were for this assistance to provide meals for their children as it lessened the burden to provide a nutritional meal. The kids were very thankful and excited to get a meal. The children were very polite and shared the program with many of their friends in the community and they came back weekly for meals.

Sir. Carrington Melton, Illustrious Potentate, Alla Baba Temple No. 53 Prince Hall Shriners, A.E.A.O.N.M.S. / Shriners Helping Hands

Our students have the opportunity to attend summer school, all summer long. Many are food insecure and rely on the school for food resources. These meals are so helpful to support the students and families once they leave the building!

Winner Brewer, Nutrition Service Director, Buckeye Community School
Everyone at CHA sincerely appreciates Governor DeWine and the members of the Ohio Legislature for including a generous investment of $7.5 million in the 2024-2025 state biennial budget for the important work of providing meals to children.

CHA will use the increased state operating funds to sustain and expand the ongoing work to feed food insecure children across Ohio. Over the last two years, CHA has increased its partnerships to meet the growing need for their services and has provided over 19 million meals to Ohio’s children through our various programs. State funding will be especially helpful to address the growing need for weekend meals, which is not supported by any federal nutrition program.

“On behalf of Children’s Hunger Alliance and the children that depend on the meals we provide, I sincerely thank Governor DeWine and members of the Ohio Legislature for prioritizing the food insecure children of Ohio with this funding,” said Judy Mobley, Former President and CEO of Children’s Hunger Alliance. “While we are one of the largest and most geographically diverse sponsors of the federal nutrition programs in Ohio, there are many more children that need our help and this funding will allow us to reach them.”

Thank you for the work you do for kids and families in our community!

Allison Russo, Minority Leader of the Ohio House of Representatives
Honoring the
2022 Programs of the Year

Rodriguez Childcare Center (Columbus)
Childcare Center Program of the Year

Rodriguez Childcare Center has been a CHA partner for three years. They serve “home style” meals and encourage the children to try different foods. The resident cook serves well-balanced nutritious meals and snacks, including lots of fresh fruits and vegetables. The staff is very friendly and maintains a loving and nurturing environment for the children.

Sherri Congrove (Circleville)
In-Home Childcare Provider of the Year

Sherri Congrove goes above and beyond for the children in her care. She shows love for children like no other, as displayed in the way her home has been set up to educate the kids. Many of the meals she makes are from scratch, which many of the children do not get at home. Ms. Congrove exhibits the characteristics and practices that CHA looks for in their partners.

Columbus Metropolitan Library (Columbus)
Afterschool Program of the Year

Columbus Metropolitan Library has been a CHA partner since 2015. The library system provides meals each day at 15 branch libraries in conjunction with their Homework Help Centers. Last school year, they provided nearly 80,000 meals. In 2022, they began providing year-round food service with CHA as part of the Summer Food Service Sponsorship.

Perry County District Library (New Lexington)
Summer Program of the Year

Perry County District Library has been an afterschool and summer CHA partner since 2019. There are six branches in their system, but only four branches qualify for the USDA Summer Food Service Program, so they began purchasing food on their own to meet the need of all children. The library administration has a commitment to providing food access to Perry County children.

Northwood Local Schools (Northwood)
School Breakfast Program of the Year

Northwood Local Schools wants to make sure that no student begins their day hungry. With a No Kid Hungry grant, facilitated by CHA, they started a breakfast in the classroom program allowing all students to start their day ready to learn. Approximately 600 students in Kindergarten to 12th grade eat breakfast at school where they have a choice of a variety of items. They operate a grab-and-go model for breakfast, which has helped to increase participation.

Mansfield City Schools (Mansfield)
Weekend Meals Program of the Year

As part of the Adopt-A-School expansion, Mansfield City Schools is able to provide weekend meal boxes to all students at Sherman Elementary. The boxes are provided weekly, and contain elements to sustain children through the weekend. These are a great supplement for those living in food insecure households.
The 28th annual Menu of Hope luncheon returned to in-person on March 1, 2023, and raised nearly $500,000 to help provide meals to Ohio's hungry children. The theme of the event was how the power of one person can make a difference in the lives of many children in our communities.

The featured speaker Lauren Bush Lauren, Founder and Chairman of FEED, discussed how seeing hunger first-hand led her to create a social enterprise business dedicated to feeding hungry children. Her life experiences influenced her decision to get involved and make a difference to help those in need. She also touched on how supporting and advocating for meal programs have such a major impact on improving the lives of children.

American Electric Power and The American Electric Power Foundation have been strong supporters of Children’s Hunger Alliance for several decades, and were honored with the inaugural Community Impact Award. They have not only been the presenting sponsor of the Menu of Hope luncheon for many years, but also the first funder in 2020, to make a multi-year gift to support CHA’s programmatic work. They are a great example of how one organization’s commitment to helping those in need can make a major impact on so many children.


Event emcees were ABC6/FOX28 Columbus’ Stacia Naquin and Bob Kendrick.

Funds raised through events like Menu of Hope, support the programs that provide access to food for children and help them live a healthy life.
Regional Events

Return of Taste to Remember

We were thrilled to bring back Taste to Remember, a fundraiser benefiting Central Ohio children held on August 24, 2023, at The Exchange at Bridge Park in Dublin, Ohio. This fan favorite event was last hosted in May 2019, prior to the onset of the pandemic.

Taste to Remember featured great food from local chefs and restaurants, live and silent auctions, a bar cart raffle, along with a wine and bourbon pull. The event raised over $128,000 to help CHA provide meals to more area children.

The event featured remarks from Former CHA President and CEO, Judy Mobley, along with Carrie Maun-Smith, AVP – Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Community Relations at Grange Insurance, our presenting sponsor. There was also a special interview with Dr. Jessie Flowers, a former pediatric resident from Nationwide Children’s Hospital, who reached out to CHA a few years ago about creating a partnership to provide meals to children at their Primary Care Clinic.

Thank you to our sponsors Grange Insurance, Hexion, The Champion Companies, Columbia Gas / NiSource Charitable Foundation, BMI Federal Credit Union, First Merchants Bank, G&J Pepsi, Premier ProduceOne, Sean P. Dunn and Associates, US Bank, Wasserstrom, BBO USA LLP, Crowe LLP, Crown Packaging Corp., GBQ Partners LLC, Tracy and Stewart James, Kontogiannis Companies, KPMG LLP, Liberty Mutual Insurance/State Auto Insurance, Ockerman Consulting, and Paul Werth Associates. We are also very grateful to our event emcee Amelia Jeffers.

Lima Reception

CHA held a reception for business leaders and supporters in the Lima area on October 12, 2022, at the Veterans Memorial Civic and Convention Center of Lima/Allen County. Judy Mobley, Former President and CEO of Children’s Hunger Alliance, discussed the growing needs to feed children in the Lima/Allen County area, and how increased partnerships with area businesses are helping to meet those needs. Veronica McLaurine from Soldiers of Honor, an afterschool and summer program partner, spoke about how the partnership with CHA has benefited the children they serve.

Sponsors for the event include the Mercy Health, SSEO and Lima Pallet.
2023 Financial Overview

**Revenues**

- USDA/ODE Reimbursements: $8,753,000
- Individual Giving: $1,436,000
- Corporate & Foundation Giving: $750,000
- Other Government Grants: $1,981,000
- Events: $560,000
- Other Income: $928,000
- **Totals**: $14,408,000

**Expenses**

- Programs & Services: $12,547,000
- Administration: $1,096,000
- Development: $995,000
- **Totals**: $14,638,000

Year-End Net loss: $230,000
Children's Hunger Alliance wants to thank Melissa McHenry for her service to the organization, first serving on the Central Regional Advisory Board and most recently as the past chair of the Governing Board. Hailing from West Virginia, Ms. McHenry has spent over 25 years with American Electric Power as an integral member of their corporate communications and marketing department.

Several years ago, Ms. McHenry was looking for a way to give back to the community and a colleague mentioned Children’s Hunger Alliance. It wasn’t until joining CHA’s Central Regional Board did she learn about how big of an issue food-insecurity was for Ohio’s children. There are many challenges for hungry children, including food deserts that are prevalent in many areas of Ohio, which was an unfamiliar concept for her. This was very eye-opening for Ms. McHenry, and she realized that CHA’s work is so important to the community.

Ms. McHenry was honored to be asked to serve on the Governing Board and enjoyed seeing how the organization evolved over the seven years she served. She found the organization’s response to the COVID pandemic, by addressing the needs of children with mobile meals, to be very impressive. The volunteer program is another element of the organization that Ms. McHenry admires. She believes this program is great for exposing others to CHA’s work, informing them about the issues surrounding childhood hunger, and how they can help tackle this problem. Being able to see firsthand the commitment of the staff at CHA is one of the rewarding aspects of serving on the board.

In Ms. McHenry’s opinion, non-profit boards need people who are passionate and willing to get to know the work. Her advice for those interested in getting more involved with a non-profit, is to choose one with a cause in which they are passionate. She also believes that non-profits need both time and treasure, so a person needs to be willing to make a commitment to the organization.

For Ms. McHenry her time at CHA has gone fast, but that is because she very much enjoyed being a part of such a great organization and she still plans to stay involved. She finds the team at CHA to be talented, professional, and very focused. Ms. McHenry believes children in our country shouldn’t be dealing with hunger, which is why CHA’s work is so critical.

It is with much gratitude that we thank Ms. McHenry for her service and dedication to the CHA and the important work we do providing meals to children in need across Ohio.
# 2023 Governing Board

## Executive Committee
- John Kompa (Chair)
  Hexion
- Melissa McHenry (Past Chair)
  American Electric Power
- Aaron Ockerman (Vice Chair)
  Ockerman Consulting
- Ryan Hecht (Treasurer)
  BDO USA, LLP
- Nikki Scarpitti (Secretary)
  The Columbus Foundation
- Kelli Berner (At-Large)
  The Champion Companies
- Steve Rigdon (At-Large)
  KPMG
- Laurie Starner (At-Large)
  JPMorgan Chase & Co.
- Dan Williamson (At-Large)
  Paul Werth Associates

## Board Members
- Masa Abdelhadi
  EY
- Sathu Alagappan
  Community Member
- Christine Arvay
  Junior League of Cleveland
- Ellen Berndt
  Community Member
- Heather Brockler
  Cleveland Cavaliers
- Jeff Burt
  Eclipse Creative
- Sheldon Clarke
  Northwestern Mutual
- Frank Combs
  Nationwide Children’s Hospital
- Lisa Dodge
  Sean P. Dunn & Associates
- Steve Forry
  BMW Financial Services
- Abby Goolsby
  UPS
- Jennifer Jarrell
  Ohio Department of Commerce
- Jon Jasper
  Fischer Homes
- Skyler Kalady
  Nationwide Children’s Hospital
- Meliss Klorer
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- Brenda Lemon
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  US Bank
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  Ohio State University
- Theresa Olson
  JPMorgan Chase & Co.
- Brett Radulovich
  NiSource Inc.
- John Singleton
  Government Advantage Group
- Gary Sorrell
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- Ryan Stewart
  Fifth Third Bank

## 2023 Regional Board Members

### Central
- Brett Radulovich (Chair)
- Ashley Allen
- Tracy James
- Stephanie Johnson
- Jason Roche
- Mike Walter
- Ann Whisler

### Northeast
- Chrissie Arvay (Chair)
- Jill McFarland
- Roopa Thakur

### Northwest
- Meliss Klorer (Chair)
- Julie Dolan
- Jeremy Hartle
- Bailey Koester
- David Kontur
- Jeff Little
- Mary Murray
- Amy Ricker
- Tyler Smith

### Southern
- Brenda Lemon (Chair)
- Steve Denny
- Paula Nyika-Makore
- Cathy Ponitz
For many years Children's Hunger Alliance has been working to provide meals to children in school, afterschool and childcare settings, but more recently we have been partnering with healthcare providers to distribute meals. Food insecurity is a social determinant of health, and can have a major impact on a child's ability to thrive.

In 2020, the staff at Nationwide Children's Hospital's Primary Care Clinic (located in Columbus, OH) reached out to CHA for assistance with addressing an issue they began noticing among children who came to the main campus for potential health issues – an increase in those presenting with symptoms of hunger in addition to the medical issue. As we now know, the COVID-19 pandemic caused the rate of childhood hunger to increase as many children lost access to the meals and snacks provided while receiving care at an in-home childcare provider, childcare center, a school's breakfast and lunch program, or from an afterschool program. Additionally, many families experienced an unexpected drop in household income affecting their ability to buy food. After receiving this request for assistance, CHA began providing ready-to-eat meals to Nationwide Children's Hospital at no cost to them. This allowed the hospital staff to provide one meal box per child, and to any siblings, when a child shows signs of food insecurity. The outcome for this program has been improved child nutrition in greater Columbus.

The meal boxes contain ready-to-eat meals that meet children's nutritional needs by providing a serving of protein, a whole-grain serving, a serving of fruit, and a serving of vegetables. The meals boxes can be taken home by the child without them needing to depend on an available adult for proper handling or refrigeration. Even more importantly, this food can be consumed by the child without relying on a responsible adult for cutting, peeling, or other preparation. Our agency had initially absorbed the costs of providing these meals, but in June 2021, a local foundation provided a $10,000 grant to help fund this project.

Since this point other foundation funders, corporate partners and donors, such as Worthington Industries and the Harry C. Moores Foundation, have invested in the program so that CHA can expand from just the main Nationwide Children's Hospital to several of their clinics throughout Columbus and Dayton. Also in stories shared to us from our partner clinics, families in at-risk areas are coming to clinics without an appointment just to request food, because this important nutrition is needed by their children.

Food insecurity is a healthcare crisis seen throughout the entire state of Ohio, and Children's Hunger Alliance would like to continue and grow our partnerships with healthcare agencies to address this issue. This program has been so successful there is now a waiting list of additional clinics that want to participate, but additional investors and partners are needed. CHA hopes that other partners will join with us in the fight against childhood food insecurity, while growing important healthcare opportunities.
Thank You to Our Donors

$100,000 +
- American Electric Power Foundation
- CareSource
- Fischer Family Foundation
- Ohio Mutual Insurance Group
- The Ronald and Paula Raymond Charitable Foundation
- The PNC Financial Services Group, Inc.

$50,000 +
- PNC Foundation
- Roach Family Foundation
- Rocky Community Improvement Fund
- The Spirit Airlines Charitable Foundation
- Synthomer Foundation
- T.J. Maxx
- Thatcher Family Fund
- United Way of Central Ohio
- US Bank
- The Robert Weiler Company
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InKind
- Else Nutrition GH LTD

$5,000 +
- American Electric Power
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- G&J Pepsi-Cola Bottlers

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- Liberty Mutual Insurance | State Auto Insurance
- The Robert Weiler Company
- US Bank
- United Way of Central Ohio
- Thatcher Family Fund
- T.J. Maxx
- Synthomer Foundation
- The Spirit Airlines Charitable Foundation
- Else Nutrition GH LTD
- The Wendy's Company
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- The Wendy's Company
- Whole Foods Market

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- Brooke E. Wagner
- Walmart
- Michael Walter
- Ann and Nick Whisler
- Gretchen J. Youkers

InKind
- Cameron Mitchell Premiere Events
- The Caravan
- Thomas Hunt
- North Country Charcuterie
Thank You to Our Volunteers

In 2023, over 1,400 volunteers packed over 616,500 meals for children throughout Ohio.

We thank our volunteers for their commitment to CHA to help feed Ohio’s kids. Volunteers package shelf-stable Weekend Meal components into convenient grab-and-go boxes or bags. Once completed, these meals are distributed around the state to feed hungry kids on the weekend. Children experiencing food insecurity are particularly vulnerable during non-school hours when they may not have access to nutritious meals. Poor nutrition is linked to health problems and may lead to delays in cognitive, emotional and physical development, making it difficult for children to grow, learn and thrive. Weekend Meals fill the gap with nutritious food for many children.