

# Mercy Day of Service

## *Highlights*



---

PART I  
Highlights from the Day

PART II  
Words of Thanks

PART III  
Looking Ahead

---

## Being the Mercy Difference

Mercy College of Ohio spent Tuesday, Oct. 22, 2019 in service to the wider community for the Mercy Day of Service. Over 100 faculty, staff & students served at 18 different community agencies located in Toledo and Youngstown. They engaged in a variety of activities including assisting with arts & crafts projects for youth & adults with developmental disabilities, preparing food at several soup kitchens and pantries, sorting & organizing clothes and food pantry items, packing food boxes, completing yard work, and working in community gardens. We were also able to do some much needed work around the Toledo campus and prepare the Mercy College Food Pantry for its opening day.

A special thank you to all who shared pictures of their service projects as well as to our Community Partners who hosted us.

## PART I: HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE DAY - YOUNGSTOWN

### Service in Youngstown

The Youngstown Faculty & Staff served at several different organizations for the Mercy Day of Service:

**Our Community Kitchen** provides breakfast and hot lunches on site, as well as meals to take home); community programs; and medical services. The **St. Vincent de Paul Society** has a Kitchen where hot meals are served and a Food Pantry which provides grocery supplements for more than 30 families every day.

Our faculty & staff helped prep food for the day's meals, set up and clean up for the meal, serve clients, and organized the pantry and packed boxes of food for families.





---

## PART I: HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE DAY - TOLEDO



**Josina Lott**



**Mercy College Crew  
and Food Pantry**



---

## PART I: HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE DAY - TOLEDO



**Metroparks Toledo**



**Nightingale's Pantry**





---

**PART I: HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE DAY - TOLEDO**



**Next to New Thrift Shop**



**Mom's House**





---

**PART I: HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE DAY - TOLEDO**



**Rosary Cathedral School**



**La Posada Family Shelter**





---

## PART I: HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE DAY - TOLEDO



**Seagate Food Bank**

---

## Sunshine Communities





---

PART I: HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE DAY - TOLEDO



**Traumatic Brain Injury Resource Center**



**Helping Hands  
of Saint Louis**





---

## PART II: WORDS OF THANKS



### Toledo GROWs

"Thanks for including us in the day. Our volunteers accomplished so much! It is always great to get a group this time of year to help with some garden clean up, and your group was especially hard working."

- Yvonne Dubielak,  
Executive Director



### Cherry Street Mission Ministries

"We LOVED the team that came to help yesterday! Your group asked so many GREAT questions—I absolutely loved meeting them all and getting to engage with them."

- Susan Graalman,  
Community Relations Manager



---

## PART II: WORDS OF THANKS



### Mobile Meals

"Thank you doesn't even begin to express how grateful we are to everyone who helped clean up around Earl's house today. Earl cried yesterday when we called to tell him that we were moving forward with the project and again today when we called to describe all that had been done by the Mercy volunteers. Earl is working with a physical therapist right now and hopes to be out of his bed by the end of November and back into a wheelchair. He was ecstatic to hear that the ramp in the back of the home was once again accessible and that he may be able to get outside again if therapy goes well. He thanks you for helping him avoid a fine from the city, allowing his home to appear lived in and taken care of again, and giving him hope."

- Paige Strancar, Volunteer Coordinator





---

## PART III: LOOKING AHEAD



### **What do we do with this Experience?**

I snapped this picture of a rainbow as we ended our Day of Service and found it to be a beautiful reminder of what we can witness when we take a moment to look around us. As we move through the rest of fall and into the holiday season, I invite you to continue to take time to reflect on this experience of service and how we are being called to be in relationship with our wider community. The questions from the end of our Day of Service may continue to be good food for thought:

- How is your heart moving you to respond to the needs you witnessed or were made aware of?
- How is this experience inviting you to change the way you act/think in the future?
- How are we being invited as a Mercy College community to live out our values and mission in a deeper way?

Thank you all for your service and your willingness to engage with the community and each other! May it be an experience that continues to bear fruit.

Blessings,

Annie Devine, Director of Campus Ministry & Service Learning