

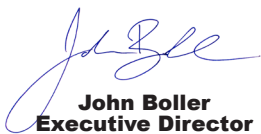


FROM THE DIRECTOR

In late August I celebrated my 9-year anniversary with the food pantry. And by celebrate, I mean I saw the notification on my Google calendar and thought to myself, "wow, has it really been 9 years?" and then moved on.

What has kept me here for so long, you ask? Well, first and foremost, it's the people. I am continuously astounded by all of the incredible human beings that I have encountered in this role. Colleagues, volunteers, members, and community supporters have become dear friends and trusted partners. And second, I am committed to this work. I don't want to stop advocating for a future where everyone has the food they need and deserve, in addition to everything else that makes life not just bearable, but good.

Finally, reaching this new milestone of kicking off our building campaign (which has been a long time coming!), is yet another motivator that keeps me moving forward. I am so excited at the prospect of finally having a facility that will allow us to optimally engage in meaningful anti-hunger work. Thank you for helping make that possible--I am hopeful that we will meet our goal in record time. And a year from now, as I'm waxing poetic about my 10 year anniversary, it'll be from a brand new food pantry building.


John Boller
Executive Director

OCT 2021 STATISTICS

Total Visits/Deliveries: 721
Families Served: 330
Individuals Served: 1,490
Food Distributed: 47,500 LBS

This organization is an equal opportunity provider.



Have you heard? The future home of our dreams is within reach! If you did not catch our special "More Than A Pantry" Building Campaign mailing last month, please visit the link below.

Since relocating to the old Coralville Post Office in 2016, we have seen tremendous growth both in the number of community members we serve and the amount of food coming in and out of our doors. For a frame of reference, in 2016 we provided 220,025 pounds of food to 2,623 people. In 2020, our services reached 3,422 people through 658,750 pounds of food. While this facility has been good to us (thank you, City of Coralville, for this free space!), we have outgrown it in many facets.

We are so grateful to our longtime partners at Coralville United Methodist Church for generously giving us free land that will be home to our new facility. That is a big deal! We spent years deliberating options for future growth, and they came to the rescue. Our new building will measure 5,000 square feet, which is more than double the size of our existing space.

With your help, one year from now, we will be opening our doors at the new site! We are already halfway towards our goal of raising \$1.2 million.

Can you help us build more than a pantry?



Learn more at:

coralvillefoodpantry.org/morethanapantry

MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Every \$1 donated to the Coralville Community Food Pantry becomes 5+ pounds of food. Help transform Coralville into a hunger-free community by making a financial gift today. Thank you for your support!

DONATIONS CAN BE SENT TO OUR MAILING ADDRESS AT:

CORALVILLE COMMUNITY FOOD PANTRY
PO Box 5523
CORALVILLE, IA 52241

Secure donations can also be made online at
www.coralvillefoodpantry.org

We are a 501(c)(3) organization (Tax ID #: 47-3509757)



Volunteer Spotlight | Annette Winkler

Annette Winkler is the idyllic school teacher that everyone wishes they had in 4th grade. She radiates with kindness, compassion, enthusiasm, and that special magic (which only the best teachers possess) that makes even the most anxious or bashful person feel genuinely welcomed, seen, and free to be themselves. Annette has graced the food pantry with her presence since retiring from a long career at Coralville Central Elementary nearly a year ago. She is a fixture at the pantry and we truly do not know how we could function without her. Read more about Annette, in her own words, below. For the full interview, visit www.coralvillefoodpantry.org/spotlight.



Tell us a little bit about Annette!

I grew up in a small town in Pennsylvania, in a large family of five brothers and sisters. Looking back, among my happiest memories are when we were able to sit down together for dinner as one very loud but happy clan. The tradition, of no matter how busy we were, we would get together as a family around dinner, carried onward to my own family. Food and love connect in my mind; it's a big part of why I value the Pantry's work.

This community has given me so much. My children benefited from the excellent schools and friendships formed growing up. Although our home was in Iowa City, phase two of my teaching career began at Coralville Central. I fell in love with the school, the families, and the community of Coralville many years ago!

How did you get involved with the food pantry?

I became aware of the food pantry when Hai Huynh, a parent, and colleague, left the school for a position with the Pantry. Soon after, the pandemic closed schools in March 2020. I was very hopeful that I would be able to volunteer at the Pantry during the school closure. Unfortunately, due to age restrictions, this was not possible.

I retired in December of 2020, still amid the pandemic. My daughter, who was living in Denver at the time, returned for a visit during a work furlough. She was looking for opportunities to fill her time, and I immediately thought of the Pantry! The staff graciously allowed her to become a volunteer. She returned home with such enthusiasm and fulfillment from this opportunity. I joined her a few days later, and the rest is history!

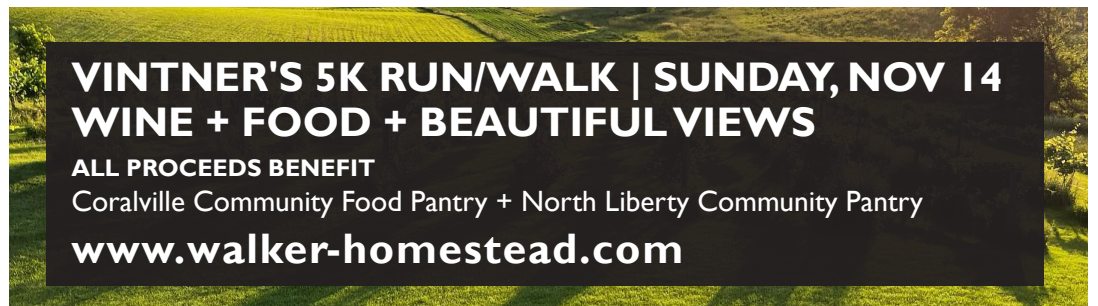
What has been your favorite part about volunteering here?

Barring weather extremes, I honestly have enjoyed every single experience I have had at the Pantry. I love the variety of tasks and ways to stay engaged during every shift, whether stocking shelves, unloading deliveries, or helping members during their visit. In my short volunteer time, I have experienced the success of drive-through service and, more recently, in-person shopping. Members and volunteers alike have been flexible and understanding during this time of uncertainty and changes.

The opportunity to help with the COVID-19 vaccine clinic hosted by the Pantry was an experience that allowed me a greater insight into the many ways the food pantry assists its members well beyond putting food on the table. Connecting with and supporting community members who may have been less likely to receive the vaccine was genuinely uplifting.

Why should your fellow retirees join you in volunteering at the food pantry or elsewhere?

A word of caution for fellow retirees: This volunteer opportunity is only for people who like feeling welcome, appreciated, having fun, exciting work, camaraderie, helping others, and a sense of fulfillment. Enough said?



DONATION FORM

Every \$1 donated to the Coralville Community Food Pantry becomes 5+ pounds of food.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

YOUR CONTRIBUTION: \$5 \$10 \$25 \$50

\$100 \$250 \$500 Other Amount _____