OVERVIEW

In 2005, YWCA Columbus responded to a community call to take over emergency shelter and services for families without homes. Many are working poor and unable to meet high housing costs; many are women raising children alone. The 50-room center offers these families safety and support, a place where they can get three healthy meals a day, and a warm, secure place to sleep.

There is no higher priority for us than the health, safety, and physical well-being of our visitors, the population we serve, and YWCA Columbus employees. **In an effort to ensure the safety of volunteers, we have suspended all in-person volunteer opportunities until further notice.** We rely on volunteers and donors 365 days a year to provide meals to homeless families staying at our Family Center. This saves the organization over $200,000 annually, and when there’s a crisis, this need is even more crucial.

MEAL HOSTING OPTIONS DURING THIS TIME:

**PROVIDE & DROP OFF A MEAL**

Physically provide and drop off the meal for our kitchen staff to serve. Your group should expect to serve up to 185 people for breakfast/dinner and 50-120 for lunch. *(Contact Naomi prior to purchasing food)*

Drop off your meal at or before:
- **6 am for breakfast**
- **11 am for lunch**
- **5 pm for dinner**

See tips on next page for off-site food prep & ideas.

**FINANCIALLY PROVIDE A MEAL**

Financially sponsor a meal for our kitchen staff to prepare and serve for a donation of:
- **$300 for breakfast**
- **$500 for lunch or dinner**

To sponsor a meal visit: [ywcacolumbus.org/meal-sponsor](http://ywcacolumbus.org/meal-sponsor)

"With your support hosting a meal, you make sure we can do what is needed—serving three healthy meals to our Family Center residents every day."

-Naomi Merino
Volunteer & Donations Manager

**CONTACT**

Naomi Merino
Volunteer & Donations Manager
614.253.3955
nmerino@ywcacolumbus.org
MENU IDEAS TO GET YOU STARTED

BREAKFAST

MAIN
Sausage, Bacon, Ham, Steak, Pancakes, Omelets, Scrambled Eggs, Breakfast Sandwiches, French toast

SIDES & BREAD
Tater Tots, Hash Browns, Grits, Oatmeal, Cereal, Eggs, Bagels, Toast, Pastries, English Muffins, Pop-Tarts

FRUIT
Bananas, Strawberries, Pineapple, Apples, Oranges, Peaches, Grapes

DRINKS & CONDIMENTS
Milk, Orange Juice, Apple Juice, Coffee, Hot Chocolate, Hot Tea, Butter, Jelly, Sugar, Creamer, Syrup, Ketchup, Hot Sauce

LUNCH/DINNER

MAIN
Baked Chicken, Turkey, Pot Roast, Meatloaf, Cheeseburgers, Hotdogs, Chili, Lasagna, Chicken & Dumplings, Chicken Nuggets, Barbeque Chicken, Spaghetti with Meatballs, Hamburgers, Pizza, Chicken Patty Sandwiches, Lunch Meat Sandwiches, Tacos, Soup

VEGGIE & FRUIT
Green Beans, Corn, Salad, Greens, Peas, Fresh Vegetables and Dip, Bananas, Strawberries, Pineapple, Apples, Oranges, Canned Peaches

SIDES & BREAD
Macaroni & Cheese, Rice, Beans, French Fries, Tater Tots, Mashed Potatoes with Gravy, Baked Potatoes, Scalloped Potatoes, Dinner Rolls, Biscuits, Garlic Bread, French bread, Corn Bread

DESERT/DRINKS/CONDIMENTS:
Pudding, Jell-O with fruit, Applesauce, Iced Tea, Fruit Juice, Milk, Salad dressings of all kinds, Butter, Hot Sauce, Ketchup, Mustard, BBQSauce

HELPFUL TIPS FOR PREPARATION OF FOOD OFF-SITE

• Hot foods should be kept above 140 degrees and cold foods should be kept below 40 degrees.
• Cook food to the right temperature.
• Pack extra ice if you need to keep food cold or make sure you have a working Crockpot and extension cords if your product needs to be kept hot.
• Avoid using home canned products for the food you prepare.
• If you or your family members are sick, don’t prepare food.
• Keep work surfaces clean.
• Wash your hands and change your gloves often.

DIETARY CONSIDERATIONS

If you plan to serve a pork product, please provide an alternative. In addition, we ask that no nuts or nut products (including peanut butter and peanut oil) are used due to the potential for severe food allergies.

CONTACT
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