



INSIDE: Letter from the Executive Director



INSIDE: New class of VISTAs arrives at the Coalition

Beyond the Soup Kitchen

The Newsletter of the New York City Coalition Against Hunger

Fall 2005

The Results
are
IN

1.2 million

The number of New Yorkers who live in food insecure households

73%

The percentage of pantry and kitchen operators that reported increased need in 2005.

12.19%, 14.56%

Food insecure households in New York City in 2001-02 and 2003-04, respectively.

The Coalition's citywide annual survey shows increasing hunger in New York City. A look at the hunger squeeze.

By JC Dwyer

The number of New York City residents who live in households facing hunger or food insecurity is now an estimated 1.2 million people, according to a new report by the Coalition Against Hunger. In 2004, more than one in seven New Yorkers lived in households facing the threat of hunger.

The number of people served by the city's charitable food pantries and soup kitchens rose by an estimated 40 percent from 2001 to 2005. This year, because these agencies were unable to obtain enough food, money, staff

and volunteers to help meet their growing need, nearly half were forced to ration food by turning people away, reducing portion sizes and/or limiting hours of operations.

The report was released at events in all five boroughs Nov. 22 and Nov. 23. Among the guests in attendance were New York City Human Resources Commissioner Verna Eggleston, U.S. Congressman Joe Crowley, City Council members, state legislators, religious leaders, anti-hunger advocates and emergency food program staff members. Eggleston presented Coalition Executive Director Joel Berg with a letter of commendation from Mayor Michael Bloomberg.

This report was the first time that the Coalition Against Hunger's annual report of soup kitchens and food pantries—already the most comprehensive annual survey of local hunger—used data from the city and the federal government to corroborate its findings.

“Once again, our annual survey finds that the city's pantries and kitchens—most of

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Undeterred by hardship, Moore aids St. Bart's

By Andrew Collins

Community Ministry, a division of St. Bartholomew's Church, has one of the busiest emergency food programs in New York City. Its services include a food pantry, soup kitchen and homeless shelter, so not surprisingly, times are hectic. But grounding several of the ministry's numerous programs is a calm, indispensable volunteer: Gerry Moore.

Moore serves Community Ministry as a jack-of-all-trades, filling in when needed. For example, he runs the overnight shelter when a scheduled volunteer fails to report for duty.

“He saves our bacon,” said Sister Mary Lois, assistant director of Community Ministry. “For the shelter, he's absolutely invaluable.”

Moore comes by his interest in Community Ministry naturally. At various points in his life, Moore has been homeless and has periodically used the ministry's various services.

“The fact that I'm still alive... I feel that I'm blessed in my life,
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