



# Around the Neighborhood

*a quarterly newsletter by Neighborhood Ministries*

## Spring 2026 Edition

More neighbors are reaching out for assistance, and Neighborhood Ministries continues to respond. From food deliveries to housing stability to family support, Broad Street Presbyterian Church is part of a growing network of care across Columbus.



## Expanding Our Response



After a slower start to the year, the Pantry is now averaging **58 shoppers every day**, a nearly **20% increase** from last year. Rising food costs and changes to SNAP eligibility are placing growing pressure on families across our community.

So the Pantry is growing its response too. Each month, delivery ministries now reach nearly 600 families, including:

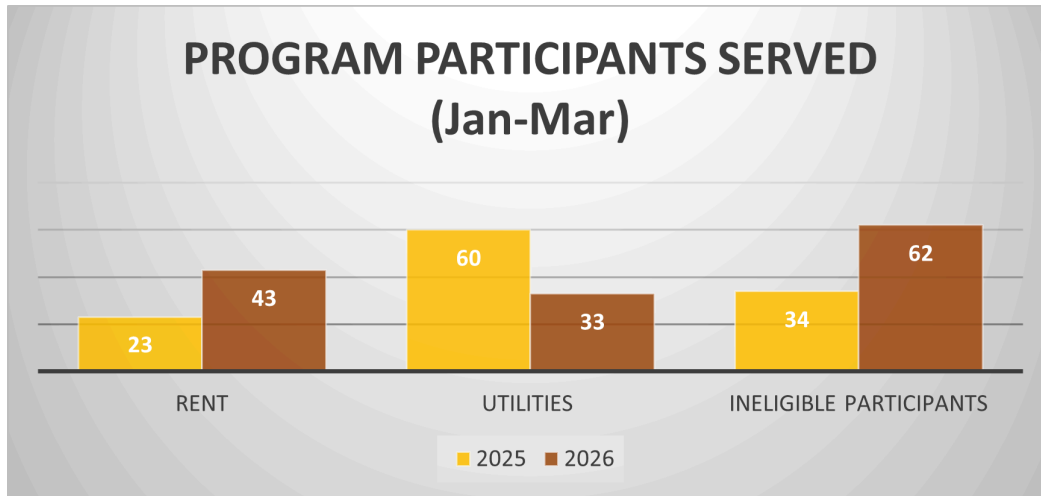
- 50 families through United Schools
- 23 families in the Strong Start program
- 40 seniors at Jenkins Terrace

Additional deliveries continue through Columbus Early Learning Center and UARC (Urban Aging Residents Coalition), helping seniors and working families access food when transportation, mobility, or work schedules make shopping difficult.

In Franklin County, nearly **70,000 children** experience food insecurity. And yet, every week, volunteers, donors, staff, and neighbors continue showing up for one another.



## Housing Stability Matters



Demand for COMPASS housing assistance has doubled since last year.

Rising rent and everyday expenses are forcing families to choose between housing, food, and healthcare — with older adults living alone among the most vulnerable.

In response, COMPASS is expanding its support. This year, the team welcomed a new Community Health Worker who will help connect residents with housing resources, healthcare support, and critical services that strengthen long-term stability.

Recent contributions from generous BSPC donors, community partners, and grants from the City of Columbus are also helping COMPASS expand emergency rental assistance, care coordination, and housing stability efforts for local residents.

**Behind every number** is a neighbor trying to remain safely housed, care for their family, and build a more stable future.



## Helping Children Thrive



StrongStart continues its work in the Bronzeville neighborhood, bringing together families, schools, neighborhood leaders, and community partners to support children as they learn and grow.

Broad Street Presbyterian Church is grateful for the partnerships and relationships formed through this work and remains committed to supporting ministries and organizations that invest in the well-being of our neighborhood's children and families.



## A Vision Taking Root



The Bronzeville Food Co-op began as a vision born right here at Broad Street, and it continues to grow.

For years, the Bronzeville neighborhood has faced limited access to healthy and affordable groceries. But the Co-op is about more than food. It is a community investing in itself, creating a model where neighbors are not only customers, but also owners, decision-makers, and stewards of the neighborhood's future.

Broad Street has supported this vision from the beginning through offering meeting space, staffing, financial support, and partnering to help move this vision to reality.



# Investing in Possibility



Students at East High School are asking big questions about their future. *Where could I go? What's possible for me? Can I really see myself there?*

Each spring, East High organizes college tours so students can walk campuses and imagine life beyond high school. The experience can be life-changing but at **\$600 per student**, it isn't accessible to everyone.

Since 2023, Neighborhood Ministries has helped change that. This year **we're proud to sponsor two students**, ensuring that finances don't determine who gets access to exposure, confidence, and possibility.

This is Neighborhood Ministries at work: standing alongside our neighbors, opening doors, and investing in young people who are already imagining more.

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Every day, neighbors walk through these doors looking for food, stability, support, and hope.

Your generosity keeps those doors open. → **Support Neighborhood Ministries' work at [bspc.org/donate](https://bspc.org/donate)**

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