



40 and Flourishing, Because of You

This year marks an important one for NourishPHX, as we celebrate 40 years as an established nonprofit! Our roots run deeper though — being born in the 1960's from people like you who saw families facing tough times in our community and wanted to help.

We started as a fully volunteer operation, supported by caring local churches and synagogues. Incorporating in 1983, our interfaith coalition still lives on with you today.

It is amazing that we still work with the same places of worship that established our organization. And their example has inspired so many other community partners — generous individuals, businesses, and nonprofits — to care for our customers.

NourishPHX exists for one simple reason — to help our neighbors stand on their own. You not only put in the hours to feed and clothe people, but you listen. You connect folks to the

community and you help them create the independent lives they want.

I could be having the worst day. But when I come downstairs in the morning to see our volunteers and customers, it feeds my soul. And I know you feel the same.

Over the years, you have provided so much more than your time and treasure. Your talents, your voice, and your networks have helped us grow, so we can continue to meet the evolving needs of the community.

Because of your generosity, NourishPHX has served more than 1 million people over the past 40 years. But what matters most is the one person that you helped today by welcoming them with open arms — no matter their personal situation.

Thank you! We couldn't change so many people's lives without you!



With deep gratitude,

Beth Fiorenza
Executive Director

40 Years of Serving Phoenix Families

From the start, NourishPHX was a grassroots organization that helped local families and individuals defeat poverty. Volunteers were and continue to be the powerhouse that keeps our daily operations going. These founders also gave our nonprofit a special culture that listens to and deeply respects the people we serve.

Thanks to your generosity, NourishPHX today serves over 17,000 individuals (unduplicated) annually.

The timeline below celebrates some of the milestones in our journey together.

1960s

John van Hengel, the "Father of Food Banking," works with his community to establish St. Mary's Food & Clothing Bank. The food & clothing operations soon split to become St. Mary's Food Bank and the Community Clothing Bank.

1970s

Volunteers are vital to the Community Clothing Bank's success, especially during the troubled economy of the late 1970s. Other ministries form as churches and synagogues unite to meet people's needs.

1980s

The Community Clothing Bank combines with a ministry centered at Trinity Episcopal Cathedral. Operations move to a new building on 3rd Avenue, thanks to Beatitudes: United Church of Christ, Beth El Congregation, Congregation Beth Israel, and the Salt River Project. The nonprofit incorporates as Interfaith Cooperative Ministries or ICM.



1990s

By 1993, ICM outgrows its 3rd Avenue location. With the help of SRP and supporting congregations, ICM opens its doors at the present 9th Avenue location, including a new play space for kids.



2000s

The Great Recession creates a spike in need. From 2008 to 2010, ICM's service increases from 67,000 to 103,000 individuals (duplicated). The nonprofit hires case managers to connect clients to jobs, housing, medical care, and other resources.



2010s

In 2012, the agency officially changes its name to ICM Food and Clothing Bank. St. Mary's Food Bank asks ICM to be one of four major partners to more effectively serve families across the Valley.

Over 140 weekly volunteers and groups from local corporations, schools, and congregations serve the community via ICM. Beth Fiorenza joins as Executive Director. Staff and programs expand including SNAP/EBT sign-up assistance and a new Job & Resource Center.



2020 and Beyond

ICM rebrands as NourishPHX to better represent its mission. NourishPHX is one of the few food pantries that stays open for the entirety of the COVID-19 Pandemic. The Arizona National Guard & Arizona Food Bank Network play a critical role in helping us serve thousands of families in need.

Going forward, we're testing a "client choice" model to let families select their own food like a grocery store. We'll also open a new Pathways Out of Poverty Center to attend to the social, emotional, and physical needs of clients.





PO Box 2225, Phoenix, AZ 85002

Summer 2023 Newsletter Inside!

About NourishPHX

NourishPHX is the trusted community hub serving vulnerable individuals and families by offering resources to satisfy immediate needs and providing pathways to self-sufficiency. With your help, we're giving hope and dignity back to the working poor in Phoenix.

Contact Us

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