

Cleveland Food Bank recognizes Bellville Neighborhood Outreach Center as “Food Pantry of the Year”

March 9, 2010

Each year, the Cleveland Food Bank recognizes the 450 food pantry agencies that offer their services. They recently conducted the 2009-2010 Agency Recognition Luncheon, at which time they recognized the Bellville Neighborhood Outreach Center for their outstanding support services, as the “2010 Food Pantry of the Year.”

“We are honored that the Cleveland Food Bank included us on their prestigious list of outstanding food pantries. The BNOC is very blessed to have many volunteers and financial supporters throughout the Clear Fork Valley. This special recognition is a wonderful testament to the love and compassion of everyone in The Valley, proving that when a community works together wonderful things can happen. However, we should not rest on our laurels. Most of us are very fortunate to have jobs and good health. This is not the case with many people and we need to do more to reach out and help those that are in need,” said Jeff Wright, President of the Bellville Neighborhood Outreach Center.

The BNOC operates at two locations (Bellville and Butler), encompassing the entire 110 sq. miles of the Clear Fork School District, serving approximately 350 people each month. The food pantry distributes food at both locations on a monthly basis. The BNOC also operates “The Clothesline”, offering gently used clothing for a nominal donation. Revenue generated by The Clothesline is then used to purchase food for the pantry. The BNOC has extraordinary buying power, thanks to the support of the Cleveland Food Bank. When the BNOC makes food purchases for food pantry distribution, grocery items that would normally cost \$100 at retail can be purchased by the BNOC for approximately \$10.