

Feed the Hungry is the first of the Corporal Works of Mercy. The Knights of Columbus is committed to ending hunger in local communities by asking local councils to participate in the Orderwide Food for Families Program. Since 2012, the Knights of Columbus has donated over \$8.5 million and 14.7 million pounds of food to local food pantries, community food banks and soup kitchens. In the last fraternal year, 43 Missouri Councils collected 46.6 tons of food, donated \$81,766, and volunteered 18,778 hours at food agencies.

To encourage local Knights of Columbus councils to participate in this worthwhile program, the Supreme Council offers financial rebates to councils or assemblies that donate food or money. For councils or assemblies, the Supreme Council will refund \$100 for every \$500 donated, or for every 1,000 pounds of food that a council contributes to a parish food pantry, community food bank or soup kitchen - up to a maximum of \$500 per council/assembly per fraternal year. Reported contributions of food and/or monetary donations are cumulative for the fraternal year. Units must submit the Food for Families Reimbursement Program form #10057 to receive the refund, and will also receive an attractive plaque recognizing their participation. Councils received \$14,200 from Supreme Council in 2016.

Food for Families is the Featured Program for Family Activities. A Council that donates a minimum of 1,000 pounds of food and volunteers a minimum of 100 man-hours to the food agency fulfills all four of the Family Activity requirements for the Columbian Award. In 2016, 13 Councils received credit for completing the Featured Program.

Questions about Food for Families? Contact Chairman Clancey Duttlinger.