

# FOCUS

NORTH + AMERICA

**How can you serve your neighbors in need?**

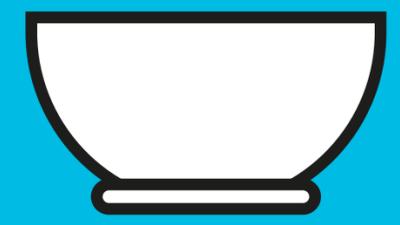




# Our Challenge

## Food Insecurity in Portland

“Today, 1 in 8 people and 1 in 6 kids in Oregon and Southwest Washington face food insecurity — from Ontario to Portland to Clark County. We are in an ongoing hunger crisis and it is not slowing down.”



Scale of  
Poverty

# 12.8%

According to census.gov, an estimated 12.8% of Portland residents are in poverty.

Sources:

- [Oregon Hunger Facts](#)
- [Oregon Census Data](#)



# The Consequences of Food Insecurity

“Food insecurity is associated with various chronic conditions including cardiovascular disease, developmental delays, asthma, depressed immune function and increased hospitalizations, etc.”

**- BMC Public Health volume 23, Article 1323 (2023)**



# Our Challenge

## Homelessness in Portland

“Portland State University’s Homelessness Research & Action Collaborative (HRAC) has released its 2025 statewide homelessness report... While Oregon has made historic gains in shelter capacity — increasing the number of people sheltered by nearly 50% — the total number of people experiencing homelessness continues to rise due to economic insecurity and a shortage of affordable housing.”



Scale of  
Homelessness

# 27,119

According to the 2025 PIT Count:

- 27,119: Total people experiencing homelessness counted in Oregon (Jan. 2025).
- 16,512: People experiencing unsheltered homelessness.

Source:

- [Portland State releases new 2025 statewide homelessness report](#)



I was a stranger and  
you took me in.  
Matthew 25:35

# What We Can Do

A new FOCUS Center in Portland



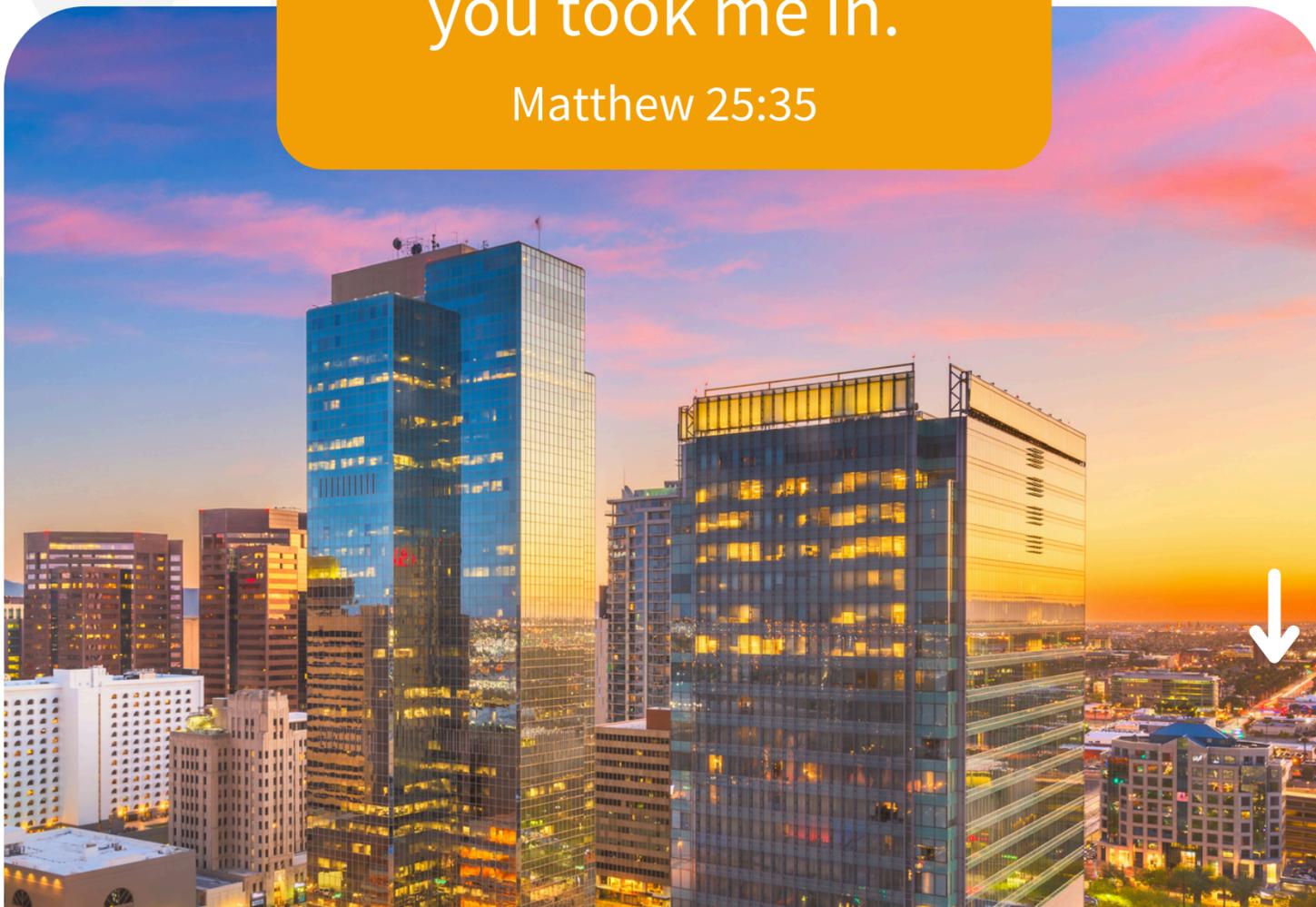
## Meals & Food Pantry

A place for our neighbors in need to receive a meal and food pantry items



## Community & Shelter

A place for our neighbors in need to be part of a loving and supportive community.



# FOCUS Gateway City

Inspiration for our work in Portland



## Sunday Supper

Hot meals served three Sundays a month averaging 60 guests per meal.



## Food Pantry

Over \$40,000 of food distributed in 2025.



## Clothing & Basic Needs

Over \$32,000 in clothing and hygiene items distributed in 2025.



## Haircuts

Free haircuts during Sunday Supper started in 2024.

# FOCUS Cleveland

Inspiration for our work in Portland



## Homeless Shelter & Transitional House

Shelter is 28 beds, hosting men for 11 months on average. Transitional House is 12 beds, hosting men for 19 months on average.



## Additional Property

Recently acquired a 3rd building on the same block with an additional 10 bed capacity.



## Meals & Basic Needs

About 56,000 hot meals served in 2025.  
Distribution of clothing, hygiene items, etc.



## Case Management

On-site support connecting men with counseling, health care, and other services. Plus job and life skills.

# FOCUS Philadelphia

Inspiration for our work in Portland



## Meal Service

130 meals per week served in Aviator Park in Philadelphia and The Upper Room in Norristown. Leftover food is donated to a local hospice in Philadelphia.



## Clothing & Basic Needs

From new and gently used coats, blankets and gloves to hand knit hats and scarves (produced by a local Parish Knitting Guild run primarily by grandmothers).



## Growth

Designated in 2024 with a part time Center Director, serving 30 hot meals per week in 1 location. Expanded to full time Center Director, 150 meals per week in 2 locations, and acquiring a bus for food delivery and mobile ministry. Goal of growing to 300 meals per week by the end of 2026.

# What is a FOCUS Center?

## Basic Overview

**Staff**

Director, etc.

**Team**

Advisory Committee

**Location**

Where we serve

**Donors**

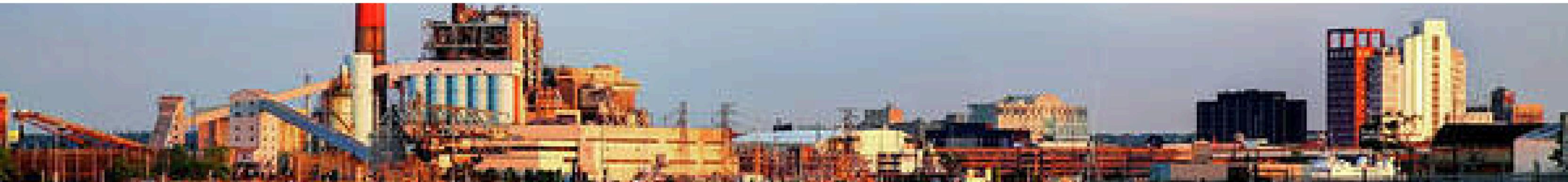
Wide range

**Partners**

Nonprofits, etc.

**Parishes**

Volunteers, etc.



# Why FOCUS?

The benefits of our team



01

## Assembly of Bishops

FOCUS is a ministry affiliated with the Assembly and blessed to do this work.

02

## Operational Support

Financial and auditing services, tech and communication support, etc.

03

## Growing Network

14 Centers and Programs across the country, with 3 new Centers in development this year.

04

## Risk Mitigation

A national office that steps in to keep operations afloat during difficult times.

# Why Now?

## God's Providence is at Work



01

### **Need**

Food insecurity and homelessness are major problems across Portland.



02

### **Team**

Faithful Orthodox Christians are ready to work together in service.



03

### **Funding**

\$45,000 in matching grants available to support our next steps.

# Next Steps

## Creating our Exploratory Committee



### Our Team

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- Twice monthly meetings
- Research and project development

### 3 Big Questions

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1. What are we doing?
2. Where will we do it?
3. How will we pay for it?

### Raising Funds

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- Small monthly donors
- Benefactors
- Institutional support
- Parishes

# Calendar Overview

## Key Dates and Deliverables



February

### Kickoff Meeting

Initial meeting with the community and establishment of Exploratory Committee

March-  
August

### Exploratory Committee

Committee meets every two weeks, fundraising begins, idea develops, etc.

August

### EC Phase Ends

Matching funds are raised, programs defined, etc. so FOCUS Board can declare a new Center

October

### Initial Staffing

First Center Director is hired and initial operations begin, Advisory Committee established

# Let's Get Going!

God's Providence is at Work



Make your contribution!



Email us to join the team!