
Advacacy for Patrons of Our Daily Bread Soup Kitchen

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Our Daily Bread (ODB)

- Our Daily Bread is the largest soup kitchen in Greater Cincinnati serving warm, free meals to 400+ guests a day, 5 days a week
- When other services closed during the pandemic, more than 450 guests visited ODB per day
- 100% of the food served is either donated or rescued
- Located just across from Findlay Market, in Over-the-Rhine (OTR), a predominantly Black neighborhood facing constant gentrification
- Age range of guests are 19-72 and 58.4% are Black/African American
- OTR lost 73% of affordable housing units in the period between 2002 to 2015



Service Learning Project

Investigating the needs of ODB patrons and assessing COVID-19 vaccinations in OTR

- Surveyed 77 ODB patrons
- Distributed over 240 hand warmers over the period of 3 survey days
- Held COVID vaccination event at ODB

Increased vaccinations of ODB's guests will allow ODB to welcome more people indoors to restore indoor dining, events, and social services





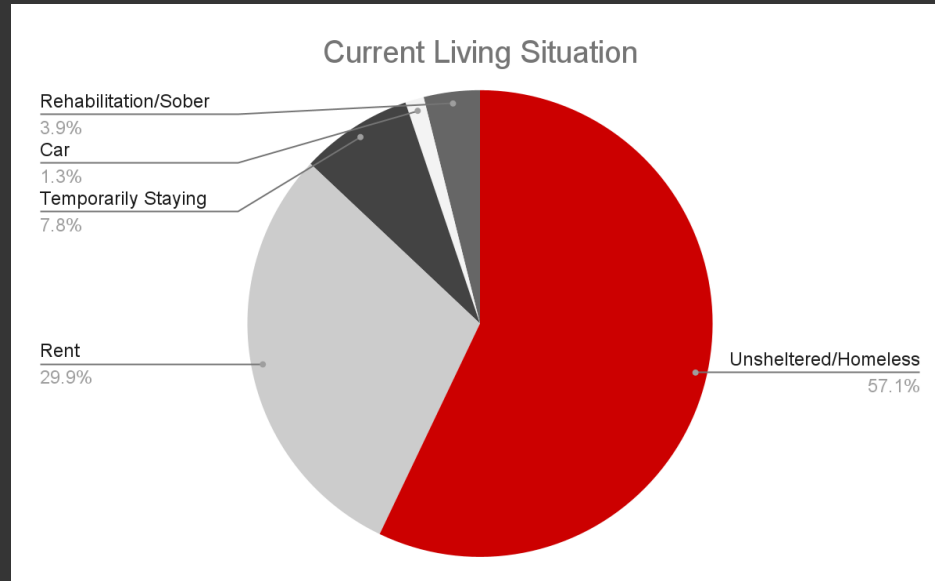
Volunteers: The Heart of ODB

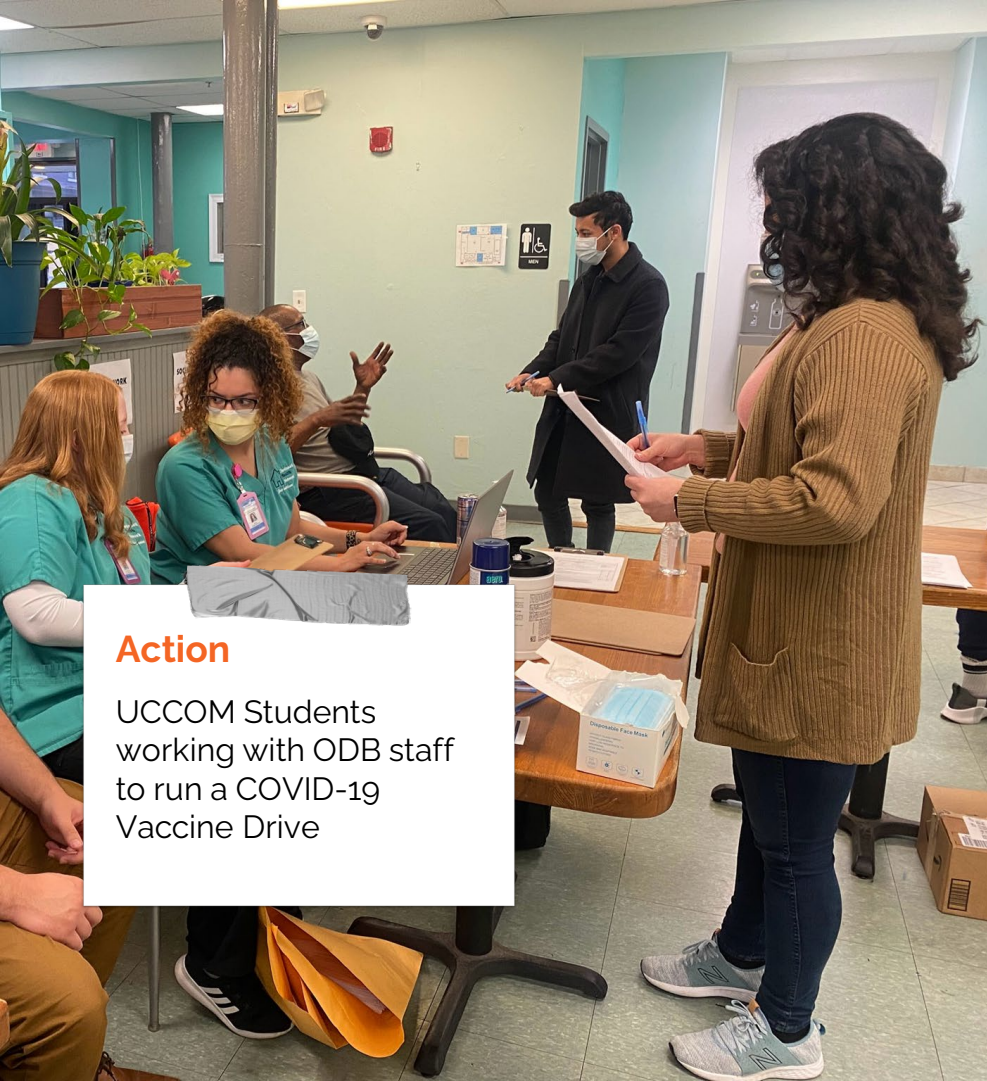
A regular volunteer who prepared food in the kitchen, served meals for guests, boxed up to-go meals, and cleaned tables in the dining room



Challenges

- COVID-19 forced ODB to close their building to indoor dining and use a pick-up window, which kept visitors from having a warm place to eat and socialize
- Limited hours of availability during the pandemic
- Fewer volunteers were able to come in and help with food prep & distribution





Action

UCCOM Students working with ODB staff to run a COVID-19 Vaccine Drive

Impact

- Our Daily Bread (ODB) provides meals, social support, and community engagement within the underserved community of Over-The-Rhine (OTR)
- While serving over 300 meals per day, ODB works to reduce the burden of food insecurity on the homeless population of OTR
- Simultaneously, ODB works arduously to enhance the opportunities for upward mobility available to the homeless in OTR and surrounding communities

Advocacy

Key Points for Council Members



Expand affordable housing & public transportation

→ Support creation of affordable housing

Tax breaks offered to developers incentivize creation of affordable housing, but only for 15-30 years. This can incentivize a developer to transition to market-rate housing.

→ Extend impact of tax incentives

Legislation can be used to extend incentives for affordable housing beyond the 15-30 years to make a lasting impact on the housing stability—and health—of Cincinnati's residents.

→ Transportation infrastructure

Collaborate with the Better Bus Coalition to improve metro routes and expand accessibility to the greater Cincinnati area.





Thank You!

- Dr. Kiesler
- Georgine Getty
- Our Daily Bread

