



There’s a reason The Cleveland Foundation is proudly displayed at the center of the Food Bank’s Capital Campaign Donor Wall. Their gift of \$1 million was the largest community commitment to our capital campaign to build a new food distribution center more than 15 years ago. And their generosity continues to have impact on our work.

Dale Anglin is the Program Director for Youth and Social Services at the Cleveland Foundation.

“We try to help the social service sector respond to the needs of the people,” Dale explained. “And, unfortunately, their needs are growing.” Dale and her team at the Foundation work hard to address the needs of the Greater Cleveland community, including food insecurity.

“Food is a basic need” Dale explained. “If you want people to get to work or school, you have to solve that need. The Foundation, in general, from



The Cleveland Foundation at the center of the Food Bank’s Capital Campaign Donor



the day it was birthed, wanted to deal with the issues of poverty, including food insecurity.” As Dale explained, Frederick Goff, their founder, started the Foundation, the first community foundation ever, to “find the causes of poverty and help point out the cures.” The Cleveland Foundation has been working to do this for over 100 years.

Dale’s understanding of and passion for serving people in need is evident. To her, collaboration between organizations is extremely important. “One organization usually can’t solve everything,” she explained. “We spend a lot of time convening organizations. Learning to collaborate and share with others is not the easiest thing to do, but the organizations that last, figure out how to do it.”

At the Greater Cleveland Food Bank, collaboration is at the heart of what we do. From the Food Bank’s founding in 1979, we’ve worked with a network of partners to provide food and



The aptly named Cleveland Foundation Warehouse at the Greater Cleveland Food Bank

support to people in need in Northeast Ohio and the Cleveland Foundation has recognized the collaborative nature of food banking.

Since 1979, the Food Bank has been the recipient of generous financial support from the Cleveland Foundation. Steve Minter, the Foundation’s longtime executive director, was integral to this support. And, over the last 40 years, the Cleveland Foundation has continued

to be a valuable partner to the Greater Cleveland Food Bank. The Food Bank’s endowment fund is invested with the Cleveland Foundation as well.

To Dale, the fight against food insecurity is extremely important. “I think most community foundations should be supporting their food banks,” she said. Dale’s background is in public policy. “I was never actually a food policy person,” she said with a smile, “but you can’t **not** be. Let’s be honest, the research is there. You cannot learn if you are hungry. My area in policy has been children, families, and social services. If you’re in those areas, food insecurity is something that happens a lot. You can see how it ripples out. I didn’t start out thinking about hunger, but because of the issues I deal with, you quickly get there.”

From her work in public policy, Dale gained a greater understanding of poverty issues. “This issue is so inter-related,” she explained. “You have to recognize poverty’s connection to other issues. At one point, I wanted to work on education issues for the government, and they put me in the department that worked with foster care, child abuse, and welfare. And I kept thinking, ‘no! I want education.’ And when I got back to education, I realized it was really important that I learn those things and bring that back to education. Children bring those issues to schools. Schools are social service petri dishes.”



And personally, Dale believes in the mission of the Food Bank. “Food is just something everyone should have access to,” she said. “It’s a basic need.” She’s happy to have the Greater Cleveland Food Bank available to people in need. “What I love about food banks is that you have become almost a third space that people can trust. People need places like you guys, like libraries. Places that are really there to help them with basic information and basic needs. It’s a place people know they can get help without being judged.”

As for the next 40 years of the fight against hunger, Dale calls back to her public policy issues. “You need to do two things,” she said matter-of-factly. “The boots on the ground – getting food and resources to those in need. And then the advocacy work. We need some policy changes. We need people to understand that it’s not always people’s fault that they are poor or hungry.” She’s proud to see the Food Bank already engaging in advocacy work to help ensure that people in need have important safety nets.

Dale Anglin just gets it. She understands the need for the Food Bank – and the importance of the Food Bank collaborating to address the root causes of poverty and hunger. And she cares. You can feel her giving spirit when she walks into the room.



Dale stands with Kristin Warzocha, President & CEO of the Greater Cleveland Food Bank

“We like supporting the Food Bank because you’re easy to support,” she explained with a smile. “The Cleveland Foundation is happy to support organizations like yours that are meeting an incredible need, being innovative, using technology, and being well-managed. It’s a pleasure to work with organizations that are constantly improving.”

The Food Bank is privileged to do our work in Greater Cleveland for many reasons. A big one is the Cleveland Foundation. Their support

during our early years and throughout the last 40 has transformed our work and improved the lives of hundreds of thousands of people in need.