



# FREEDOM/FROM/HUNGER/WEEK

## At McAuley House

July 2013

Dear Friends of McAuley House,  
Summer days are ripening and many of us are eager to pluck them: restful afternoons in the yard, splashing at the beach, and evening barbecues.

For Rhode Islanders living in poverty, though, this is the season of heat and worry rather than eager anticipation.

Since 1975 Sr. Joan Rokicki has ministered to the poor at McAuley House in Providence, and she has watched summer arrive with a certain kind of dread.

“Summer is so hard for those who are very poor,” Sr. Joan said. “Even for the Fourth of July, where do they go? In the backyard? They don’t have a backyard. To the beach? They can’t get to the beach. To the ice cream stand? They can’t afford ice cream cones.”

**And so, those in need come to McAuley House.**

McAuley House meets the basic needs of hungry Rhode Islanders: food, relief from the heat, t-shirts, shoes, baseball caps to ward off sun. We also offer a taste of summer joy.

And we are able to do this because of the compassion and generosity of people like you.

**Because of you,** we can provide ice cream cones in our yard for mothers and fathers and children who savor them.

**Because of you,** we will hold cookouts in our parking lot for those living in the shelters and on the street.

**Because of you,** we will continue to provide hearty, nutritious meals for up to 300 people daily in July and August.

“A good meal always makes you feel good,” Sr. Joan said.

**Hunger is year-round,** and we must purchase food and other necessities in every season.  
**We urgently need your support to feed those who stream in our doors each day.**

We are turning to you this summer to financially support the McAuley House meals program. **Will you please give a gift to ensure we can sustain struggling men, women and children through this summer?**



There are mothers like Debbie, who is raising two daughters while she searches for work. Daily, she visits Network RI to look for a job, then comes to McAuley House for a hot meal.

“I come here almost every day,” she said. She figures she would spend \$3 on a lunch. “\$3 a day, 5 days a week is \$15. That’s \$60 a month that I can use to spend on my kids instead of me.”

There are single men like Sam who worked for the post office before leaving to care for his sick father. Now, he picks up jobs at temporary agencies while he hopes for full time work.

And they are troubled individuals like the man whose name we don’t know, who is mentally ill and won’t talk to us, but who comes in so hungry he cleans his plate in seconds.

**We welcome all of them – because of you. You make this possible in every season.**

This summer, please help the poor find “Freedom from Hunger” at McAuley House.

**Will you send in a donation to feed Debbie, Sam, and all those who stream in daily in search of food, kindness and respect? Will you provide comfort from the heat and struggle of living in poor city neighborhoods?**

We remain ever grateful to donors and supporters like you, who sustain our ministry.

Through every season, you enable us to touch the lives of Rhode Island’s neediest.

Thank you for considering a donation today.

Sincerely,

Don Wolfe,  
Executive Director

PS: Your gift now will ensure many will be “Free from Hunger” in the weeks ahead! Thank you for helping!