



## Thirty Thousand

Something happened in the first half of the year that's never happened before.

We served 30,796 meals over the first six months of 2025. It's the first time we eclipsed 30,000 meals in that amount of time.

This year's first-half number is up 30% over last year when we served 23,689 meals during the same period.

Volunteer support is up this year, too. Volunteers have logged 2,945 service hours, up 17% vs. the same period in 2024.

To support our work, you can give online at [www.fillingthevoid.com](http://www.fillingthevoid.com), send a check to PO Box 1134 in Broken Arrow, OK, 74013, or scan the QR code below. Thanks!



Summer 2025  
We Feed. The Soul.®

## Trash or Treasure

At some point or another any of our volunteers are going to grapple with the scenario you see in the image with this story, wondering if it's a pile of rubbish or something very precious.

Longtime Tulsa leader Mollie Myers (seen in the masthead above) refers to it as the "trash or treasure" conundrum. She's seen a lot on the streets with us over the past 20 years.

"You can't always trust your eyes. You have to engage through a gentle voice or some polite poking and prodding to determine if a human soul is shrouded in despair."

Often – like in the image – it is indeed just a collection of someone's belongings. But make no mistake, we can't overlook the possibility of what's underneath because we do find folks.

"The first time I saw something like that it wrecked me because I couldn't tell the difference. As we've learned, sometimes it's indistinguishable," Mollie said.

"It breaks my heart to think of their sadness, their silence, and their isolation – for someone who's reached the point where they're basically hiding on a sidewalk in plain sight.

"I ask myself, when's the last time they were hugged or embraced? They need our human touch. They need to know they aren't forgotten.

**We see them, and so does God."**



*Photo Credit: Tulsa World. Used with permission.*

So far this year, our volunteers have been out on the streets to serve 274 times, putting us on pace for 550 outreaches. Last year we went out 458 times.

We've prayed with at least 5,000 people this year and welcomed more than 400 first-time volunteers. In April, we had our biggest volunteer turnout ever (134 people) for one outreach.

Mollie adds, "I've found my purpose in serving and generosity. We all have something we can give, even if it's just a smile. We all have gifts that can be expressed to those in need."

Other volunteers like Aurora Musser have witnessed Mollie literally give the shoes off her feet to a woman. Says Aurora, "That impacted me. It made me want to serve like she does."