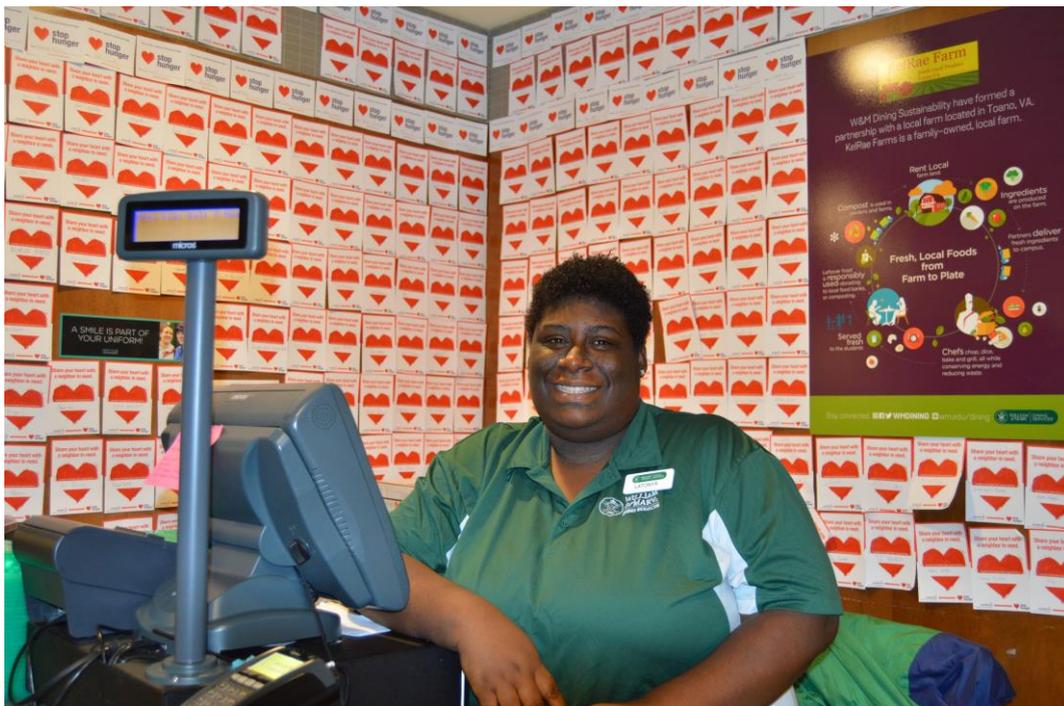


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## W&M Students Donate Food and Funds to Stop Hunger



W&M Dining employee Latonya Chamberbliss-Borden was instrumental in educating the students on Stop Hunger



Left to Right: W&M Dining Marketing Manager, Melissa Strain, Cashier Latonya, Jim Crouse PGO President & Food Pantry Coordinator, Melanie King PGO Executive Director  
Presentation of monetary donations amounting \$2,585.31 to Proclaiming Grace Outreach

WILLIAMSBURG, VA, DECEMBER 6, 2016 – Students at the College of William & Mary joined Dining Services to collect donations, during the month of November, as part of the Sodexo Stop Hunger Food Drive. The students of W&M surpassed all the donation goals set within the first week, showing the unbelievable generous spirit of the W&M Tribe. Proclaiming Grace Outreach, a local non-profit agency was the chosen community group to receive the donations for this event.

In 2008, Proclaiming Grace Outreach was founded after the death of a youth in the community named Jenna Grace King. Jenna was passionate about life and making a difference in the lives of others, and so the community used her tragedy to form this wonderful non-profit organization to give benefits to those in need. The food pantry is just one of the initiatives that PGO does for the community. They also help with home repairs and sell items at discounted prices at the 'Thrift Spot'. Learn more about PGO initiatives at <http://proclaiminggraceoutreach.com/> and view their story at <https://youtu.be/diWL8LYicEA>.

Overall, 162 pounds of food, along with over \$2,500 in monetary donations were collected. These donations were supplied to Proclaiming Grace Outreach. On Monday, December 5<sup>th</sup> W&M Dining Marketing Manager Melissa Strain presented PGO Executive Director Melanie King and PGO President and Food Pantry Coordinator Jim Crouse with the generous donations at Sadler Center Dining Hall. "We are so blessed to be able to help so many people in the community with these donations, and we really appreciate the opportunity to work with William & Mary" said Jim Crouse. With these donations, PGO will be able to provide three times more food for the community. In 2015, the PGO Food Pantry gave away over 80,000 pounds of food! This doesn't even include paper and cleaning products their clients receive. An average of 77 families is served at each twice-a-month opening.

The W&M Dining Staff were essential in communicating the message to students that there are so many others that are less fortunate than we are. Latonya Chamberbliss-Borden, the always smiling cashier at Sadler Center Dining Hall, is one of the staff members that really helped push the student involvement. Brining awareness to childhood hunger and that it is happening in local communities is a big step to help stop hunger. Sodexo's Stop Hunger movement has been alleviating hunger in communities across America for twenty years, and the Stop Hunger Food Drive is one activity that Sodexo employees mobilize around each year. Learn more at [www.HelpStopHunger.org](http://www.HelpStopHunger.org).

W&M Dining Services is honored to have been able to help coordinate the Stop Hunger Food Drive for the community. The generosity of the Students of William & Mary has been tremendous. We strive to provide our students with resources to continue to give back to the local community and place their mark on the world.

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