

CHARLESTON AREA CHURCHES
FOOD PANTRY NEWSLETTER

**“for I was hungry and You gave me food;
I was thirsty and You gave me drink; I
was a stranger and You took me in.”**

Matthew 25:35

Hours M-W-F 1:30-4:00 & Th 5:30-7:00



PANTRY NEWS

January was a busy month as usual at the pantry. There was one unusual happening though. Due to the polar vortex, the pantry was closed on Wednesday, Jan. 30th.

Volunteers thought they would be swamped on the 31st, and February 1st, but numbers were normal both days.

Statistics on hunger in the area continue to show that Coles County is an area of high food insecurity. The SNAP program only provides enough for approximately 2 ½ weeks of food each month. Many guest to the pantry state they do not receive enough to cover that many days. Many people find they need to go to more than one pantry a month.

One group struggling with food insecurity is the elderly population. The problem for them is that due to age alone, they tend to have health issues, and this can mean some folks may have to decide between money for food, or medication. The pantry does see many elderly guest, and hope the assistance provided to them helps in some way.

BLESSINGS AND THANKS

The pantry is always thankful to the churches in town for their financial support, as well as the food donations some make.

St. Charles Catholic Church is a regular donor of food, and in January they gave 61 pounds. Thank you!

The Villa of Holly Brook also donated 70 pounds, we appreciate it very much!

Mother Load again donated a generous amount which was collected at their Roc's Jam session. Thank you ladies!

Thank you to all the people who made donations after receiving the pantry's 2019 calendar, we raised over \$10,000.00!!!

JANUARY 2019 NUMBERS

Families – 404 Individuals – 1,372

Meals – 12,348 Children > 18 – 483

Donated food, in pounds:

EIL Foodbank - 5,841 + USDA 3,972

WalMart and Ruler through Feeding America donation – 8,048

FUN FACTS – ICE CREAM

Since it's that time of year full of ice and snow, lets talk ice cream!

- The first ice cream “like” food was eaten in China in 618-97 AD, it was made from buffalo milk, flour, and camphor.
- The first ice cream was invented in 200 BC when a milk and rice mixture was frozen by packing it in ice.
- The first flavor of ice cream was not vanilla (the most popular flavor), but it was a dessert made with snow mixed with honey, nuts, and fruit topping in the 4th century BC.
- Chocolate syrup is the most used ice cream topping.
- The first cone was made at the 1904 World Fair in St. Louis when ice cream vendors ran out of cups, and a waffle vendor made cone shaped waffles for patrons to eat from.

