

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



June 2019

PANTRY NEWS

The Eastern Illinois Food Bank held their annual conference in May. Todd Foster, Director, and Crystal Brown from the EIU Civic Engagement and Volunteerism office attended. Both attendees said it was an informative conference, and they enjoyed meeting with people from other pantries.

One area discussed was how the new computer program is working, how "bugs" are still being worked out, but that it is becoming easier to use, and how helpful it is. Here at the local pantry the volunteers using it are becoming more familiar with it, and the process is quicker.

The pantry has been dealing with one problem since the new system has been implemented. This being that some guest are coming in a few days before the required 30 day interval between receiving services. It is hard to inform them that they will not be served that day, however, guest are always welcome to help themselves to any items that are available in the waiting room, and are referred to other agencies that may be able to assist them.

The pantry received a request from the U.S. Census Bureau to have an employee come to the pantry to recruit persons that may be interested in working for the 2020 census. We agreed, and someone has already been at the pantry with information.

THANKS

- One very generous donation made through a Fidelity Charitable fund.
- The Charleston United States Postal Service carriers for 2,700 pounds of food given through the Stamp Out Hunger food drive on May 10th.
- As always, a big thank you to all the monthly donors who faithfully give!

There were also donations given in memory of Ruby Shafer. May God comfort the family members and friends of this beloved lady.

May 2019 NUMBERS

Households - 426 Individuals - 1,404
Meals - 12,636 Donated food in pounds :
USDA - 3,702 EIF - 550 Other - 600

FUN FACTS – Natural Bug Repellents

Now that you have your garden going, how are you going to protect those beautiful plants? Many folks don't like chemical sprays, so here are a few natural insect repellents.

1. Dish soap – mix 5 T. with 4 cups of water. This spray dehydrates spider mites and aphids.
2. Pepper spray – mix 2 T. red pepper and 6 drops dish soap with 1 gallon of water. Can also use black or chili pepper, dill, ginger, or paprika as they all contain capsaicin which repels insects.
3. Garlic – bugs don't like the smell.
4. Beer – a saucer full will trap snails and slugs.

Finally, get rid of those pesky mosquitoes so you can enjoy your yard and garden work. Here are 6 plants that help repel them: Marigolds, Citronella, Catnip, Lavender, Basil, and Lemon Balm.

HAPPY GARDENING!!!

