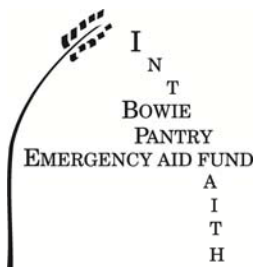


March/April
2015



Pantry Patter

Pantry Statistics

	February 2015	January 2015	February 2014	January 2014
<i>Households Served</i>	287	277	243	248
<i>Client Visits</i>	340	364	288	307
<i>New Client Households</i>	26	22	28	22
<i>Children Under Age of 18</i>	272	271	259	278
<i>Totes</i>	817	833	694	754
<i>Value of Food Distributed</i>	\$31,220	\$33,793	\$28,040	\$28,635
<i>Percent to City of Bowie Residents</i>	43%	44%	42%	44%
<i>Percent to "Bowie Area" Residents</i>	192	227	17%	20%

Upcoming Events:

- Mar 24 Evening Hours
6:00-7:00 p.m.
- Mar 28 Bowie 5K Run/
2-Mile Walk
8:00 a.m.
Bowie Town Ctr.
- April 14 Evening Hours
6:00-7:00 p.m.
- April 28 Evening Hours
6:00-7:00 p.m.

- Households Served*
- Client Visits*
- New Client Households*
- Children Under Age of 18*
- Totes*
- Value of Food Distributed*
- Percent to City of Bowie Residents*
- Percent to "Bowie Area" Residents*

Greatest Needs

Our inventory is low, and there is very little in our storage room. Please see page 2 of this newsletter for a complete listing of all items we distribute. All donations are appreciated.

Inside this Issue:

- What We Pack
- New Program: Shop-a-Shelf
- Expired Food
- Thank You

Bowie 5K Run/2-Mile Walk Benefits Pantry

The Bowie 5K Run/2 Mile Walk will be held at the Bowie Town Center on Saturday, March 28 at 8:00 a.m. Visit www.active.com to register for the event. Early Bird Registration is \$25.00 (plus a \$3.50 processing fee). Day of Registration is \$30 (or \$25 if you bring a non-perishable food item for the Bowie Food Pantry) and will take place at the Bowie Town Center from 7:00 a.m. to 7:45 a.m. All proceeds come to the pantry. Awards will be presented to Overall Female and Overall Male winners and the first female and first male for each age group. There will also be door prizes!

What We Pack

Each client household receives the following items each visit. Larger families receive double this amount each visit:

- 5 cans of Soup (a variety)
- 3 cans/bags of Beans (a variety)
- 4 cans of Vegetables (a variety)
- 1 canned Pasta (spaghettios, ravioli, beefaroni)
- 1 Pasta/Spaghetti Sauce
- 1 Tomato product (sauce, diced, paste, stewed)
- 2 cans Fruit or applesauce (a variety)
- 1 Peanut Butter or Jelly
- 1 Condiment (ketchup, mustard, olives, salad dressing, gravy, relish, pickles, etc.)
- 2 cans Tuna fish
- 1 can Salmon or other fish (clams, sardines, etc.)
- 3 cans Main Meat (beef stew, chicken and dumplings, chili, ham, turkey breast meat, chicken breast meat)
- 1 can Other Meat (vienna sausage, corned beef hash, spam)
- 1 box macaroni and cheese
- 1 box spaghetti/pasta
- 2 other dry goods (rice, potatoes, stuffing, pasta/ rice sides, helper)
- 1 Dessert (cake and frosting, brownie mix, pudding, cookies)
- 1 box Cereal or Oatmeal
- 2 rolls of toilet paper
- 4 granola/fruit bars (a variety)

In addition each household receives coffee, tea, or juice. We also distribute fresh fruit, cheese, eggs, and fresh vegetables.

The pantry also accepts donations of personal care products (regular and travel size), paper products, cleaning supplies, diapers, wipes, and baby food. Individual size food items (complete meals, peanut

butter, soups, fruit cups, crackers, tuna pouches) are needed for our homeless clients.

Donations of the above items are greatly appreciated. We encourage donors to purchase low sodium and whole grain items when possible.

New Program: Shop-a-Shelf Volunteers Needed!

In order to include more volunteers into our program but mostly to help us keep our shelves stocked, we are introducing a new program called Shop-a-Shelf. Groups, families, individuals are welcome to participate. Here's how it works:

1. Pick an item that we pack (see list at left)
2. Shop for that item once or twice a month
3. Drop it off at the pantry during our regular morning or evening hours

The pantry staff will work with you on what stores have the best prices and how payment will be handled. We don't expect you to pay; we are asking you to shop and drop off!

For example, if you choose canned fruit, we would suggest you go to Aldi's every two weeks and purchase 12 trays of canned fruit. You would bring us the receipt, and we would reimburse you. If you choose juice bottles/boxes, you could go to Giant, Safeway, BJ's or Wegman's—whoever currently has the best price!

For more details, please call or e-mail the Pantry. We look forward to having more volunteers shopping for us!

Non-Profit Status

The Bowie Interfaith Pantry and Emergency Aid Fund is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. 95% of pantry donations go directly to assist clients. Tax receipts are available for all donations.

Thank You to Our Donation Drop Off Sites

Special thanks to all those who serve as drop off sites for the pantry. The pantry can only accept donations during its regular hours (or by special arrangement) so the drop off sites serve a vital need.

- Bowie Gymnasium
- Bowie Library
- Bowie Senior Center
- CCPC Narthex
- Every Second Counts Boutique
- Kenhill Center (main entrance 9am - 5pm)
- Long and Foster (Crofton)
- Melvin Motors
- Parcel Express
- PNC Bank (Rt. 450 & Stonybrook Drive)

NOTE: Please do not leave items at the Pantry entrance/exit. These items will be thrown away. Give us a call/e-mail, and we will be happy to meet you at the Pantry to accept your donation.

Traveling this Spring/Summer?

Don't forget - the pantry accepts travel size shampoo, conditioner, soap, lotion, etc. in addition to regular size personal care items. Our supply of travel size items is dwindling so remember us and don't leave those items behind in the hotel room!

Expired Food

Each week, pantry volunteers sort and shelve all non-perishable items donated to the Pantry. When sorting items, volunteers first check dates. We do not shelve or bag items with expired or unknown dates. Our insurance company strictly prohibits us from distributing expired items. It would be helpful if groups/individuals could check dates *before* bringing items to the Pantry. While it is tempting to clean out your pantry and donate the food, it makes our job much harder. Anything you can do to make our job easier (and less back-breaking!) would be appreciated.



Members of Daisy/Brownie Troop 6089 spent a cold and snowy Valentine's Day outside Giant at Freestate Mall collecting donations for the food pantry. Their hard work helped us feed a lot of people during a very busy February.

Pantry Wins at Super Bowl

United Parish of Bowie's Pastor Chris Deacon challenged the congregation to contribute cans to the Seahawks or Patriots. The Deacon matched the number of cans given for a total of approximately 200 cans!

Our Mission

We are a community-based social services program providing emergency food and financial assistance* to those in Bowie and Prince George's County, who are experiencing need - without regard to race, creed or gender. If we are unable to meet the needs, we will make referrals to others who may be able to provide the needed assistance.

To serve with respect, dignity and without discrimination those in need in our community by providing food, financial assistance and other resource referrals.

*Financial assistance is available to residents of the City of Bowie

Adopt-a-Shelf Program

Special thanks to all those who participate in our Adopt-a-Shelf Program. We are grateful for your support, and it is a huge help knowing that a steady supply of each item can be counted on each month. Participation in the program has increased, but there is still room for more groups/individuals. All food items are available for adoption. The quantities we distribute are so high, we do not expect any one group to stock a shelf on your own. Please let us know what item you want to collect and bring to the pantry on a regular basis. We will put a small plaque on the shelf with your name and item adopted.

Beans- Bowie/Mitchellville (MD) Alumni Chapter - Kappa Alpha Psi	Pasta - Apostolic Breakthrough International Ministries
Cereal - Kenilworth Elementary School	Peanut Butter - Greater Bowie Chamber of Commerce
Chili beans - Elijah Hopson	Rice - United Parish of Bowie
Desserts - Bowie Lions Club	Boxed Rice - Jennifer Anthony
Canned fruit - Mount Oak United Methodist Church	Soup - EPI Institute, LLC
Granola bars - Alexander Davis	Soup - Restoration Temple Church of God in Christ
Meats - St. Barnabas Episcopal Church	Soup - St. Pius X Regional School—Grade 8
Meats - Bowie Lions Club	Spaghetti Sauce - Trinity Lutheran Church
Meats - Dr. Marcus Yarbrough	Tomato Products - Northridge Community
Pasta - Diane Polangin	Tuna - Darlene Bagby
	Vegetables - Les Gemmes, Inc. Wash. DC Chapter

Food Drives

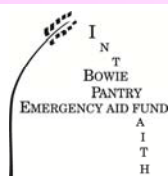
A special thank you to the following who donated food and/or money to the Pantry in January and February:

All Saints Lutheran Church	Daisy/Brownie Troop 6089	Metropolitan Baptist Church
Alpha Delta Kappa Maryland Rho	Ebenezer United Methodist Church	MOMs Club Bowie North
Ascension Catholic Church	Girl Scout Troop 2386	Prince Georgians for Fairness in Government
AuPair in America	Girl Scout Troop 3672	Prince George’s County Planning Department - M-NCPPC
Black History in Motion (M-NCPPC)	Goodloe Memorial Unitarian Universalist Congregation	Reformed Presbyterian Church of Bowie
Bowie Center for the Performing Arts	Grace Baptist Church	St. Edward the Confessor Catholic Church
Bowie City Church	Grace Lutheran Church	St. Matthew’s United Methodist Church
Bowie Florist	Greater Mt. Nebo	Somerset Park Condominiums
Boy Scout Troop 403	Heather Hills Elementary School	Team Illusion - First Robotic Team
Celestial Manna	Holy Trinity Episcopal Church	Temple Solel
Christian Community Presbyterian Church	Home Depot	TV One
Church of the Redeemer	It’s All About the Hair	Unity Center of Light
Collington Outreach	Jack and Jill - Prince George’s County Chapter	United Parish of Bowie
Cresthill Baptist Church	Kenilworth Elementary School	Wilson, Elser, Moskowitz, Edelman & Dicker, LLP
Curves of Glenn Dale	Knit Wits	

Bowie Interfaith Pantry and Emergency Aid Fund

2614 Kenhill Drive, Suite 134
Bowie, MD 20715

Phone: 301-262-6765
E-mail: bowiefoodpantry@gmail.com
Website: www.bowiefoodpantry.org



Hours:
Monday, Wednesday, Friday 9:00—11:00 a.m.
2nd and 4th Tuesday each month 6:00—7:00 p.m.

The Pantry is located in the blue building behind behind Kenhill Center. Park in the back parking lot and enter through the blue building.