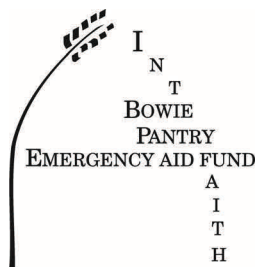


November/
December 2014



Pantry Patter



Pantry Statistics

Upcoming Events:

- Nov 8 Scouting for Food Drive
- Nov 11 Evening Hours 6-7 pm
- Nov 25 Evening Hours 6-7 pm
- Nov 26, 27, 28 Pantry CLOSED
- Dec 9 Evening Hours 6-7 pm
- Dec 23 Evening Hours 6-7 pm
- Dec 24, 25, 26 Pantry CLOSED

	September 2014	August 2014	July 2014	September 2013
<i>Households Served</i>	279	276	261	259
<i>Client Visits</i>	350	359	329	309
<i>New Client Households</i>	15	32	33	37
<i>Children Under Age of 18</i>	287	313	272	290
<i>Bags of Groceries</i>	852	875	780	732
<i>Value of Food Distributed</i>	\$33,980	\$34,676	\$31,494	\$31,510
<i>Percent to City of Bowie Residents</i>	45%	46%	41%	42%
<i>Percent to "Bowie Area" Residents</i>	20%	19%	21%	14.5%

A Note About Donations

We are *not* permitted to distribute EXPIRED food items.

Please check all dates before donating items; we have to throw away all expired items and any food items without a date.

Special Monthly Distributions

November/December Specials: Holiday Baskets

The Pantry will be putting together dinner baskets for Thanksgiving and Christmas. Donations of holiday basket food items would be appreciated—see the list on page 3.

Inside this Issue:

- Scouting for Food
- Online Donations
- Cloth Totes Needed
- Holiday Food Baskets
- Toy Collection

Our Greatest Needs

- Soup
- Beans
- Tuna Fish
- Fruit
- Cereal
- Applesauce

Annual Scouting for Food Drive

The Annual Scouting for Food Drive will be held on November 8. The Boy Scouts distributed plastic bags to area homes on November 1; bags will be picked up on November 8. The Scouts will bring the food to the Bowie Food Pantry where it will be checked for dates, sorted, and shelved.

This is a major food drive for the Pantry, and we are grateful to the Scouts for all their hard work. A special thank you to all who will be donating dry/canned goods in support of the Scouts and the Pantry.

Cloth Totes Needed

Pantry volunteers prepack plastic containers with dry/canned good for our clients. Clients then transfer food into their own cloth totes/paper bags. We are running low on reusable cloth totes to distribute to our new clients. Donations of clean, sturdy cloth totes would be appreciated.

Online Donations

It is now possible to donate online! Please visit our website www.bowiefoodpantry.org. You will find information on how to donate using your credit card. Both Paypal for Nonprofits and Network for Good will process donations to the Pantry.

Recent Food Drives

A special thank you to all those who donated food and/or money to the Pantry in September and October:

Apostolic Breakthrough Int'l Ministries
 Blue Skys Stable
 Bowie Center for the Performing Arts
 Celestial Manna
 Christ Community Church
 Clearfield Estate HOA
 Emmaus Group
 First Community Church UCC
 General Mills
 Kaiser Permanente
 Kenilworth Elementary School
 KLM Consulting, LLC
 M-NCPPC, Dept. of Parks and Recreation
 South Bowie MOM's Club
 Peapod
 Reformed Presbyterian Church of Bowie
 Scout Troop 1688
 Southern Comforters Quilt Guild
 St. Matthews UMC Knitwits
 Toll Brothers
 Tulip Grove ES—Mrs. Holt's 2nd Grade Class

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.

Suggested Items for Holiday Food Baskets

- 1 can cranberry sauce
- 2 cans/jars gravy
- 1 box stuffing
- 2 cans corn
- 2 cans green beans
- 1 can mushroom soup
- 1 box crispy onion pieces
- 1 box instant mashed potatoes
- 1 can yams/sweet potatoes
- 1 box hot chocolate packets or
1 box apple cider packets
- 1 bag marshmallows
- 1 dessert
- snack item
- holiday paper products - napkins, cups,
and/or plates
- *Perishable Items:* turkey, chicken, ham,
eggs, butter



Please Note: These are only suggestions - all donations are greatly appreciated.

Groups/Individuals are welcome to donate entire basket(s) or selected items. Please let the Pantry know if you plan to donate one or more complete baskets so we can plan ahead.

Toy Collection

Preparations are under way for our annual “toy room.” Some of our families are adopted by groups/individuals, but there are many more children who need our help. Moms and dads pick out a toy/gift for each of their children as well as stocking stuffers. Donations of new toys/gifts are now being accepted.

We also need wrapping paper, tags, bows, gift bags, etc. Items should be brought to the Pantry no later than December 17. Our children range in age from infant to 18; we especially need items for middle and high school students.



Our garden volunteers gathered for a Harvest Celebration in October. The volunteers spent hours and hours planting, weeding, and harvesting vegetables this summer. Pictured l to r: John Teasdale, Verna Teasdale, Martha Schmidt, Pam Fleming, Peggy Brow, Madonna Chernesky, Mike Chernesky, Walter Schmidt

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



Special thanks to all those who participated in the Second Saturday Serve for St. Matthew's UMC. Pictured l to r: (front row) Lee Ann Flinter, Cheryl Peckenpaugh, Margie Pekala, Helen Hirzel, Linda Brizzie; (back row) JoEllen Thompson, Lorri Meadows, Nancy Perry, Carolyn Menne, Galen Menne



South Bowie MOM's Club brought donations to the Pantry. The children enjoyed touring the facility and identifying fresh vegetables!



The Pantry Crop Walk Team completed another successful walk in support of the Pantry. Pictured l to r: Lorri Meadows, Liz Herrera, Pantry Director Debbie Langdon, Margie Pekala, Lee Ann Flinter

A Heartfelt Thanks to All Our Donors



In October 2014, the Pantry distributed a record number of groceries—over 1,000 bags! We could not have done this without your help. Your generosity and compassion is greatly appreciated. Our pantry counts you among the many blessings for which we are grateful. We wish you and your families a Happy Thanksgiving!

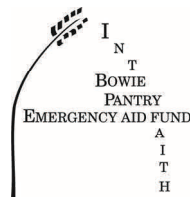
Bowie Interfaith Pantry and Emergency Aid Fund

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 & 4th Tuesday each month 6:00–7:00 p.m.

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