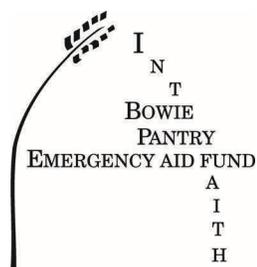


November/
December 2015



Pantry Patter

Pantry Statistics

	September 2015	August 2015	July 2015	September 2014
<i>Households Served</i>	340	340	309	279
<i>Client Visits</i>	430	427	401	350
<i>New Client Households</i>	31	41	30	15
<i>Children Under Age of 18</i>	282	303	262	287
<i>Bags of Groceries</i>	964	974	908	852
<i>Value of Food Distributed</i>	\$38,555	\$38,130	\$38,920	\$33,980
<i>Percent to City of Bowie Residents</i>	46%	43%	49%	45%
<i>Percent to "Bowie Area" Residents</i>	17%	19%	17%	20%

Upcoming Events:

- Oct 27 Evening Hours 6-7 pm
- Nov 10 Evening Hours 6-7 pm
- Nov 14 Scouting for Food Drive
- Nov 24 Evening Hours 6-7 pm
- Nov 25, 26, 27 Pantry CLOSED
- Dec 8 Evening Hours 6-7 pm
- Dec 22 Evening Hours 6-7 pm
- Dec 23, 24, 25 Pantry CLOSED
- Jan 1 Pantry CLOSED

NEW Hours Begin in November

Beginning Monday, November 2, the Pantry will be open Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings 9:00 am-12:00 noon. In the last five years, we have grown from serving an average of 10 client households per opening to serving 30 or more households. We will continue to be open the 2nd and 4th Tuesday evenings from 6:00-7:00 pm.

Donation Drop Off Times

We will continue to accept donations during our regular hours of operation (see article above). If possible LARGE donations should be dropped off M,W,F from 8:00-9:00 am or 12:00 noon-1:00 pm or during our evening hours. If these hours are not convenient, just e-mail or call, and we will meet you at the Pantry at your convenience.

Inside this Issue:

- Scouting for Food
- Online Donations
- Holiday Food Baskets
- Toy Collection



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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.

Online Donations

Both Paypal for Nonprofits and Network for Good will process donations to the Pantry. Links to both sites can be found on our website—www.bowiefoodpantry.org.

Recent Food Drives

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

All Saints Lutheran Church

Ascension Catholic Church - St. Vincent dePaul

Apostolic Breakthrough Int'l Ministries

Belair Engineering

Bowie Center for the Performing Arts

Bowie High School PTSO

Bowie Lions Club

C&S Wholesale Grocers

Charlie Hochman Fund

Cresthill Baptist Church

Curves of Glenn Dale

Emmaus Group

Girl Scout Troop 2432

Girl Scout Troop 2997

Goodloe Memorial UUC

Grace Lutheran Church

Greater Mt. Nebo Church

Greater Suburban Maryland (GSM) Group

Annual Scouting for Food Drive is November 14

The Annual Scouting for Food Drive will be held on Saturday, November 14. The Boy Scouts will distribute plastic bags to area homes on November 7; bags will be picked up on November 14. 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.

Holy Trinity Episcopal Church

Jack and Jill of America - Prince George's Cty Chptr

Joy of Worship Ministries

Kaiser Permanente

M-NCPPC, Dept. of Parks and Recreation

Microsoft Matching Funds

Mount Oak United Methodist Church

Northridge Community

Partnership for Animal Welfare

Reformed Presbyterian Church of Bowie

Somerset Park

Southern Comforters Quilt Guild of Bowie

St. Barnabas Episcopal Church

Temple Solel

Temple Solel Religious School

Trinity Lutheran Church

Unity Center of Light

Village Baptist Church

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 16. Our children range in age from infant to 18; we especially need items for middle and high school students.

A Heartfelt Thanks to All Our Donors



As you can see by our monthly pantry statistics, the Pantry continues to register new families each month and the need has increased over the years. Fortunately, we have not turned anyone away due to empty shelves. 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!

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

Gold Award Project—Healthy Helpings

For her Gold Award project, Megan Snider put together a cookbook entitled *Healthy Helpings*. She based the recipes on what the Pantry distributes to its clients on a regular basis. These items include canned beans, dry pasta, tuna fish, canned meats, and fresh vegetables. The recipes she came up with sound quite appetizing and are easy to make.

Megan presented the Pantry with several copies of the cookbook to distribute to our clients as well as

several copies of individual recipes. Megan also created a website for the cookbook. The Pantry website contains a link to the cookbook or go to <http://healthyhelpingsrecipes.weebly.com/>

New Drop Off Site

Donations can now be dropped off at the Bowie Center for the Performing Arts from 10:00 am–7:00 pm. Hours may vary.



About 85 walkers raised funds for the Pantry and to fight worldwide hunger at the 2015 CROP Walk on Sunday, October 4

The Greater Suburban Maryland (GSM) Group recently adopted the cereal shelf. Their first donation was a huge help as we only had a few boxes left on the shelf!



The Southern Comforters Quilt Guild of Bowie collected food at their recent Quilt Bingo. We appreciate your efforts to feed the hungry.



Girl Scout Troop 2997 recently toured the Pantry and dropped off 17 birthday bags for our children. Bags were decorated and contained cake mix, icing, and decorations. Thank you for making our children's birthdays even more special.

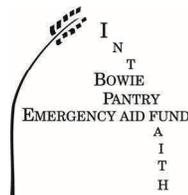
Bowie Interfaith Pantry and Emergency Aid Fund

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 am–**12:00 noon**

2nd & 4th Tuesday each month 6:00–7:00 pm

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.