#### The Food Pantry, Inc.

#### **October 1, 2024**

#### Volume 1, Issue 4

# PANTRY.

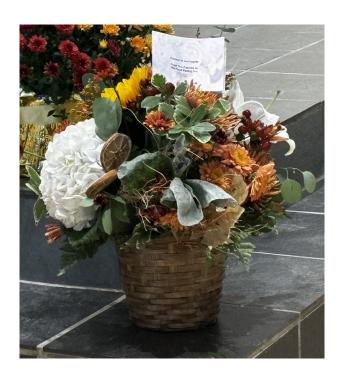
# Food for Thought A Newsletter for Volunteers

# **Remembering a Founder**

On September 9th, we lost a phenomenal soul who inspired the creation of our food pantry. Her tireless dedication and vision of kindness toward others helped set the foundation for what exists today.

We give tribute to Joy and her late husband Bob for their unwavering commitment to serve others in need, not only here at the pantry, but in so many other aspects of life.

Joy and Bob created a lasting impact in their work and certainly embodied lives well-lived!



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# Meeting with our County Leaders

On September 18th, we had



an opportunity for members of our board to meet with other Ozaukee

County agency directors and members of the Ozaukee

#### County Board.

This meeting was held at the Ozaukee Non-Profit Center in Grafton. Jim Langford and Tom Didier staffed our table and were able to distribute an informative handout that summarized the work we do here at the pantry.

This type of meeting gives

the pantry an opportunity for more exposure in the community.

Jim and Tom were met with great questions and curiosity from County Board members and other agency directors. They were also able to learn about agencies that we may be able to partner with in the future.

# **October Birthdays:**

Kristin Kobyinski, October 6th Clare Weidner, October 16th Ethlyn Blaubach, October 20th Melissa Senkbeil, October 20th

# **Building Update & Board Notes**

 This is an exciting time for the pantry, and we are very close to being able to share information about a building purchase. Thank you for your patience as we navigate this journey.



- The board's September brat fry fundraiser was cancelled due to inclement weather. Our apologies to any workers who may have been missed in that notification.
- Board members and supportive community groups have been staffing a tent at the weekly Port Washington Farmer's Market. This is to build awareness of our pantry in the community, and to take monetary donations.
- If you're planning any events for the pantry, please forward flyers or other outbound communications to Steve Hansen for approval prior to publication. This is part of an effort to ensure the pantry's brand identity is consistent to the public. Steve is the final approver for now, until a marketing person is in place.

# Food Drives, Fundraisers & Events

- <u>Moonlight Tavern</u> has partnered with Surly Brewing to bring a new house beer on tap: Anchor Point Lager. They will be donating \$1 from every beer sold to <u>The Food Pantry, Inc.</u> for the rest of the year!
- <u>The Steerage Dining Saloon</u> \$1 from featured gin specials will be donated to The Food Pantry, Inc.
- Target Circle Campaign
- The Wisconsin Singer/Songwriter Series <a href="http://www.facebook.com/pages/Mequon-Wl/Wisconsin-SingerSongwriter-Series/319175545297">http://www.facebook.com/pages/Mequon-Wl/Wisconsin-SingerSongwriter-Series/319175545297</a> is hosting a Food Pantry Benefit on Saturday, December 7th. Various artists will perform and there will be 'grab bag' gifts for those donating to The Food Pantry. This will be at the Unitarian Church—North, 13800 N. Port Washington Road, Mequon. Doors open at 7 p.m., music at 7:30 p.m. Advance tickets are \$20, day of \$24, and students \$12 always.



 Hunger is Not Up for Debate food drive on election day.
Ozaukee County food pantries are placing food collection barrels at polling sites. Locations have been split up between the 3 pantries.

# **Pantry Collaborations**

- Representatives of the League of Women Voters were at the pantry recently to offer voter registration services.
- We continue to collaborate with Feeding America to inform clients about signing up for FoodShare.
- Our pantry, Saukville Food Alliance and Family Sharing continue to



co-ordinate deliveries for the Lakeside Foods migrant workers. Our last distribution for this year is on October 30th.

 Working with Saukville Food Alliance and Family Sharing on the Hunger is Not Up for Debate food drive.
Thanks to Mark Gierach and his team at Saukville for leading this effort.

# **Volunteer Spotlight**

Ruth Ann Dibert, Carol Meinerz, Mary Schommer, Joan Schommer, and Janice Vrubley are the wonderful ladies who manage our clothing area.

When clothing is donated to the pantry, they meticulously inspect garments, shoes, bedding, pillows, and other items for flaws or stains.

Some items get laundered, some spot cleaned, some recycled and some are donated to other causes when we can't use them. Clothes are displayed by the current season, with 'off-season' items getting stored.

Clothing at the pantry is arranged by gender and size, which makes a pleasant and organized shopping experience for all.

When new clients are given a tour of the pantry for the first time, they often remark about how clean and organized the clothing area is.



# **Notes & Suggestions**

- We are in great need of plastic grocery bags at the pantry. If you have extras at home, please bring them in.
- Don't forget to update the calendar at the pantry if you will be gone from your normal volunteer slot. See Lorraine Halls if you have any questions.
- Our next migrant worker food delivery in Belgium is on Wednesday, 10/30.

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## In Appreciation

#### Thanks to:

- The volunteer crew who helped shop for, pack, and deliver 65 boxes of food the Lakeside Foods migrant worker camp on September 18th
- The crews who have been picking up and sorting food on Fridays.
- Jim Scarpaci, who will be leaving us after the 1st week in October.
- Melissa Senkbeil, who recently resolved some older fundraising discrepancies.
- Patti VanderHeiden for purchasing and delivering eggs each week
- Bublitz Produce and Witte Farms for their very generous donations throughout the growing season





# The Food Pantry, Inc.



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Phone: 262-284-1148 Email: thefoodpantryinc@gmail.com Web: thefoodpantryinc.com Facebook: The Food Pantry, Inc.

Working together to alleviate hunger in our community by acquiring and distributing food to those who seek aid.

### Our History

Serving all of Ozaukee County residents, as well as Random Lake in Southern Sheboygan County. We distribute to all faiths and are blessed for the donated space in the Saint John XXIII rectory basement since 1982.



#### **Board Members**

Phil Groothousen

Steve Hansen, President Jim Langford, Vice President Jennifer Binninger-Gomez, Secretary Liz Busateri, Treasurer John Vallier, Churches Tom Didier, Business/ Community Brian Boettcher, Food Resources **Board Members Emeritus** Pat Curtis Pat Kozak

#### Food Pantry Operations

Marcia Nosko, Executive Director Joyce Brost, Food Manager Lorraine Halls, Volunteer Manager