



## Food for Thought A Newsletter for Volunteers

### In This Issue:

Close to the Finish Line	1
Pantry Move Schedule	1
October Birthdays	1
Hunger Relief Federation Annual Summit	2
Notes	2
In Appreciation	2
Food Drives, Fundraisers and Events	3
2025 Pantry Statistics	3
Pantry Collaborations	3

### Close to the Finish Line

Final preparations are being made for our move. It's been a long time coming, but we can all look forward to working in a beautiful facility, courtesy of our many generous donors who believe in our mission and who want to make sure the underserved in our community are seen and helped.

There are so many people to thank for making this happen, but we would be remiss in not mentioning our board president, Steve Hansen, for the countless days, weeks, and months he's spent in execution of a well-formed vision for our pantry. Thanks also to his board of directors who've assisted along the way in various capacities, and who answered the call when needed.

Even though the finish line for the move is near, that doesn't mean the vision ends. There are so many ways we will be able to offer more services to our clients and to the community in the new facility after we've settled in.

On that first day of operation, Saturday, October 25th, this change for our clients may be quite impactful, and some may become overwhelmed. Please make sure to keep an eye out and offer assistance with a comforting smile and act with kindness as you've always done.

Even though we're all looking forward to this move, it will still be hard to say goodbye to a facility that has served us well since 1982, when the first pantry clients were served. We owe a debt of gratitude to the St. John XXIII parish for the decades-long use of their facility, and we wish them godspeed as they move forward with future plans for the space.

A dedication and blessing of the new building is planned for Saturday, November 15th, and an open house is planned for spring.

Thank you to all of our volunteers for the work you do in making us successful in our mission, and we look forward to experiencing this next chapter with you!

#### Pantry Move Schedule

**October 13th:** Move clothing, gifts, and school supplies; begin setup of new areas (clothing area closed until October 25th)

**October 22nd:** Move Food Pantry to new location

**October 23rd:** Complete inventory stocking

**October 24th:** Prepare for first day of operation

**October 25th:** Pantry opens at the new 1777 W. Grand Avenue location



### October Birthdays

**Kristin Kobylinski, 10/6**  
**Clare Weidner, 10/16**  
**Ethlyn Blaubach, 10/20**

## Hunger Relief Federation Annual Summit

On October 2nd and 3rd, our director attended the Hunger Relief Federation Annual Summit. This day and a half summit is free and sponsored by the Hunger Task Force. The Federation is coordinated through the Hunger Task Force, and represents 69 Wisconsin counties and pantry operators within those counties. The summit agenda covers topical presentations, and both structured and unstructured networking time with other pantries.

Some of the presentations covered state and federal nutrition policy updates, child nutrition programming, nutrition education, and donor stewardship. This was our 2nd year attending, and so far, has been worthwhile in the information brought back to our pantry. In addition to this summit, a monthly information-sharing call is also facilitated among pantries across Wisconsin.



### Notes



- T-Shirt forms will be available on Tuesday, October 7th. Order is being placed on October 11th.
- If you are interested in becoming the Salvation Army Red Kettle Coordinator for Ozaukee County please contact Mark Schowalter at 262-284-4416 for details.

### In Appreciation

- Moonlight Tavern for their September dine-to-donate event
- All who entered our summer grill raffle
- Gopher One for their recent food drive event
- Family Sharing for 170+ pounds of fresh strawberries
- All of the individuals and groups who have been helping with tasks at the new pantry facility
- Joyce Brost for her work with new pantry logistics, rack, and crate labeling
- Lorraine Halls for her extra work in leading the organization of the gift room, and ensuring birthday gifts are ready through October
- Kristen Kobylinski for volunteering to take over the birthday gift program
- Wal-Mart, Saukville store Gift-a-Child grant and a gift certificate to replenish socks, etc. in the birthday gift room
- Sandra Pessaro for help with graphic design for various projects
- St. John XXIII School for 173 pounds of produce from their gardening classes.

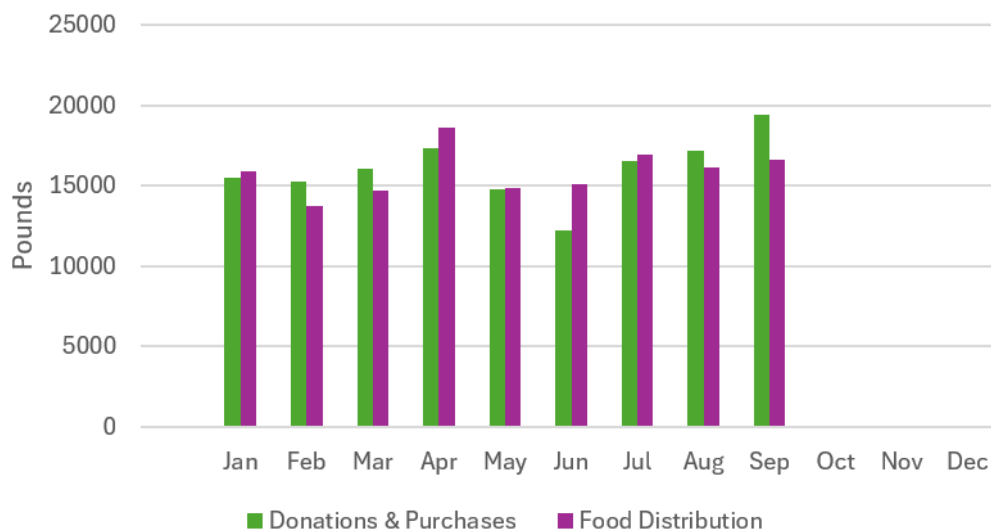


## Food Drives, Fundraisers & Events

- The Steerage Dining Saloon in downtown Port Washington continues to support our pantry with their special drink menu. One dollar from every drink sold is donated to the pantry. Stop in and try one and have a great meal too!
- Dedication and blessing of building, November 15th
- Food pantry at the Port Farmer's Market 10/11, and 10/18
- \$25,000 Matching Funds Drive, 10/13 through 1/9/2026
- Dine-to-donate at The Pasta Shoppe for Gift a Child, 10/15, 4:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m.
- Ozaukee Middle School Food Drive, 10/13 through 10/17



2025 Food Donations/Purchases vs. Food Distribution



## Pantry Collaborations

- Costco pickups at Ozaukee Food Alliance have been going well
- Regular collaboration meetings are being planned with Ozaukee Food Alliance and Family Sharing. Our first regularly scheduled meeting with all 3 pantries is planned for November.



## The Food Pantry, Inc.



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**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

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  
Sandra Pessaro, Schools  
Brian Amore, Endowment

### Board Members Emeritus

Pat Curtis  
Phil Groothousen

### Food Pantry Operations

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

### Marketing

Todd Korb

### Grant Writing & Foundation Liaison

Vacant