

# BREADCRUMBS

May 2014

The Newsletter of the Irving Park Community Food Pantry  
Celebrating Thirty Years of Service to the Community



*Walkers prepare to step off in the Greater Chicago Food Depository's 2013 Hunger Walk at Soldier Field.*

## Walk with the Pantry on the 21st!

The Irving Park Community Food Pantry is signing up walkers and taking donations for the 29<sup>th</sup> annual Hunger Walk to be held on Saturday, June 21<sup>st</sup> at Soldier Field. Registration begins at 7 a.m. and walkers step off at 8:30 a.m.

Best of all, participants don't need to actually walk the 5K (3.1-mile) route along the lakefront—they just need to be present that morning to encourage the others. That includes kids! And IPCFP receives a bonus credit to our account from the sponsor, the Greater Chicago Food Depository, for each walker. We also receive bonus funding up to \$5,000 to supplement what we raise in our own account.

To participate in the Walk to benefit the Pantry, click on the Hunger Walk link on the Pantry's website ([www.irvingparkfoodpantry.org](http://www.irvingparkfoodpantry.org)) You can participate in three ways:

**1. Donate to the Pantry's Team.** Click on the Hunger Walk logo on the Pantry's webpage to make a donation to our team or an individual walker. You also can sign a walker's pledge sheet, donate at our website through our secure link, or bring a donation to the Pantry office. Please designate that your donation is for the Hunger Walk, as every

donation we receive for it increases the bonus funds we receive from GCFD.

**2. Join the Team.** Individuals can join the Pantry's walkers and raise funds. Each walker gives us a bonus payment from GCFD. To join, go to our Team Page and click on the Join Team link. Or, from the main Hunger Walk page at [www.chicagosfoodbank.org](http://www.chicagosfoodbank.org), search for "Irving" in the Team Search.

**3. Organize a Hunger Walk Team** of at least 10 walkers. Each walker signs up pledges to sponsor their walk. Go to the Hunger Walk page at [www.chicagosfoodbank.org](http://www.chicagosfoodbank.org) to sign up your team.

When signing up or donating, please use the Pantry's agency number (#A00113) when requested to ensure your donations are distributed to IPCFP and we receive credit toward our total.



*Hunger Walk participants hike the trail along the lakefront near Soldier Field in the 2013 Hunger Walk.*

## Pantry Celebrates on July 20<sup>th</sup>

Save the date! The Pantry is planning to hold a 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration (we opened in April 1984) on Sunday, July 20<sup>th</sup> at the Irving Park United Methodist Church at 3801 N. Keeler Ave., our home base. The event will be held in the afternoon and will be open to all in the community. More details will be announced as the plans shape up.

## Pantry Thanks Donators

Thank you to everyone who donated to our Easter basket program in April, especially to the volunteers who organized and distributed the baskets each Wednesday: Diana Powers, Audra Nelson and her children, and Serena Beltz.

We'd also like to thank Vicci Rodgers for organizing the event and the volunteers at Irving Park United Methodist Church and Irving Park Lutheran Church for their continued support of this tradition through donations and time to create the baskets for children. We appreciate all your help in giving our clients' children a happy Easter!



*Volunteers Diana Powers and Audra Nelson prepare Easter baskets for distribution to clients in April.*

Co-owners Mike Barrett and Mike McNichols of Liberty Tax Service stopped at the Pantry in April to deliver the proceeds from their promotion in March, in which clients received discounted tax preparation in exchange for a donation to the Pantry. The two delivered a check for \$1,345! We appreciate their efforts on our behalf and thank everyone who donated to the total.

Thank you to Clover Hill Bakery, which has provided us with several large deliveries of baked goods and snack items. We'd also like to thank Whole Foods and Jewel Foods at Six Corners for their regular donations of perishable food of all types that we distribute to our clients each week. Special thanks to the FDC Foundation, which has provided us with grants to ensure we can provide each person in each household we serve with a fresh selection of fruits and vegetables.



*Lisa at her desk in the far corner of the office.*

## Volunteer Spotlight: Lisa Albrecht

Lisa has the unenviable job of keeping track of all of the Pantry's financial accounts—although she also gets to see all the checks that arrive for donations and see how generous our neighbors can be.

Raised in Grosse Pointe, Mich., Lisa moved to Chicago to become an assistant professor at the University of Illinois at Chicago. A resident of Berteau Ave., she's been married for 16 years to Steve, a Pantry board member, and has two children, Adam and Lauren.

She became involved with the Pantry to help her neighbors and to teach her children the importance of being active in the community. "They see us doing volunteer work at their school and in their neighborhood, and they understand how much a little bit of time can help so many others."

Lisa especially enjoys talking with all the volunteers she sees on Wednesday. "Since the Pantry hides me in the corner of the office, I enjoy talking with anyone who comes by to say hi!"

## Pantry Open Evening of May 13<sup>th</sup>

The Pantry will be open from 6 to 8 p.m. on May 13<sup>th</sup>. In April, we served 121 people in 41 households, which included four new households this month.

## Pantry Served 1,696 in April

In April, the Pantry served 1,696 people in 617 households, including 36 new households with 109 people. The Pet Food Corner also supplied pet food to 152 clients. Thank you for all of your help in continuing to be Neighbors Helping Neighbors!