

BREADCRUMBS

September 2016

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

Winter Coat Collection Underway

The Pantry will be distributing winter coats to our clients (one per family) in October, so please check your closets for any gently used coats that you can do without and bring them to the Pantry. All sizes and shapes of heavier coats for winter, for children and adults, are needed.



Pantry volunteers prepare donated coats for distribution to clients during the 2015 program.

They can be left with food donations at the bottom of the stairs at the Grace Street Entrance at the Irving Park United Methodist Church (3801 N. Keeler). To ensure the church is open when you want to drop them off, call 773/283-6262. They also can be delivered on Wednesday mornings during the Pantry's operating hours (9 a.m. to noon).

Pantry Needs Toiletries

The Pantry is once again in need of toiletries, especially shampoo. We also are running low on deodorant, toothpaste and razors for both men and women. All toiletries are gratefully accepted! The Pantry also has need of women's white crew socks, and we always appreciate receiving men's white crew socks, especially with winter coming.



School Supplies Program a Hit

Thank you to Erika Teijeiro-Ficht and Vanessa Velez and all their many minions (bottom photo) and to Renee Linnemeyer and her minions for running our school-supply distribution for clients during our distributions in September.

We gave out supplies to more than 300 children, helping them start the school year well. Thank you to everyone who donated time, materials and money to make the program a success.

MB Bank Makes a Deposit



The folks from MB Bank stopped by to drop off a \$2,000 donation recently. Joni McCarty (center left), branch manager at the Lawrence and Western branch, and assistant manager Andrew Briel (center right) brought in the donation from the MB Bank Charitable Foundation. Pantry Finance Manager Lisa Albrecht and Executive Director John Psiharis accepted the check during their visit.



Magic Mushrooms Help Pantry

Thank you to the staff and kids in the Magic Mushroom Summer Program at Irving Park Lutheran Church! They helped out at the Pantry on Wednesday, weeding our herb garden, helping on the line and creating many, many double bags for our clients' groceries and school supplies. It was a big help and we appreciate all the energy they provided on a hot day!

Pantry Serves 1,241 in June

In July, the Pantry served 1,240 people in 426 households. Pet food was supplied to 201 households for dogs, cats, hamsters, parakeets, parrots and a guinea pig! Thank you to everyone who helps us meet our mission of being "Neighbors Helping Neighbors."



Volunteers Craig O'Connor, Carol Schultz and Gina Hubberts are among the Pantry people who are staffing our booth at the GIPNA Farmers Market this summer.

Visit Pantry at Farmers Market On September 11th and 25th

Stop by to see the Pantry at the GIPNA Farmers Markets on September 11th and 25th.

Volunteers from the Pantry will be on hand to answer questions, accept donations, and sell branded lunch bags and water bottles for a donation. You also can sign up to receive our Breadcrumbs newsletter, which you clearly already have done. Thank you!