

Food Pantry News

Happy 2018 from the Jayne Brooks Food Pantry!

The final months of the year are usually our busiest and this was certainly the case for 2017. We had over 700 household visits in September through December, bringing our total to over 1800 visits for the year. By the end of 2017 we had 280 registered households - similar numbers to the prior year. We served 35 - 40 households most weeks, providing over 37,000 meals – that's about 90,000 pounds of food! Nearly half of the food we distribute goes to seniors and children. We focus on nutritional food, especially to meet the needs of children, and local fruits and vegetables when available.

The holiday season is always festive, with both volunteers and clients sharing their holiday cookies and good cheer. For both Thanksgiving and the December holidays we offered grocery gift cards, chickens and turkeys and a variety of holiday food items. Our school children also decorated and filled special Thanksgiving food bags for our clients.

Our annual coat giveaway began in November. We gave away about 150 coats provided by Dutchess Outreach, and another 40 donated by members of the community.

Other highlights of 2017 include the distribution of dozens of school supply kits funded by a generous donor, and the provision of "backpack" food for school children who may not have enough to eat over weekends and holidays. We have also continued to make children's books available throughout the year.

We cannot thank the community and our faithful volunteers enough for their continued and cheerful support of our pantry. They enable us to meet the ongoing needs of our friends and neighbors, in an atmosphere of comfort and hospitality. Many thanks to you all!

If you would like more information about the Food Pantry please email or call:

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