

Franklin Food Pantry
43 West Central Street
P.O. Box 116
Franklin, MA 02038

(508) 528-3115

www.franklinfoodpantry.org

December 31, 2010

Franklin Rotary Club Jack McCarthy & Robert Acevedo
PO Box 148
Franklin, MA 02038

Dear Franklin Rotary Club,

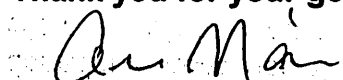
Do you know a friend or family member who is struggling in this economy? 771,886 Massachusetts residents received SNAP/Food Stamps in July 2010, a 14.4% increase compared to July 2009, a 96.9% increase since July 2005. Approximately one in eight Americans receives SNAP/Food Stamps. Our data shows more than 3,000 Franklin residents may be struggling with this hunger epidemic.

Thank you for your 10/28/2010 grant of \$1,500 for our food literacy program (office equipment - projector, dvd player, color laser printer, paper cutter, copy paper etc). Thanks to the generosity of our community, we distributed more than 10,000 bags to more than 700 neighbors in 2010. In November, we were able to provide more than 18,000 lbs of food and non-food resources to close to 600 clients, thanks to our generous community, who donated more than 15,000 lbs and more than 65 monetary donations. We believe our donations increased this year due to our new central location – Thank you Rockland Trust! We are grateful for the 300+ volunteers who joined us in 2010 to help us sort, check dates and stock our shelves with these community donations.

Good food nourishes the body and the spirit. With regular, nutritious meals, we are free to grow, to think, to smile, to live. In 2011, we will expand our capacity to provide our clients with a wide range of opportunities for gaining access to local, fresh, nutritious food. We will be partnering with the Franklin Community Gardens to launch a Giving Garden and look forward to beginning a Plant a Row program for backyard gardeners in the Franklin area to share fresh, healthy produce with our neighbors in need. We are celebrating a recent grant received from the MetroWest Community Health Care Foundation to launch our Produce Points program at the Franklin Farmers Market in June 2011. Stay tuned.

We hope to learn with you, our community, the many elements of nutrition, food systems, local resources and to explore the questions, "What is food?" and "Where does our food come from?". We believe everyone has the right to access healthy, affordable food choices. **Please visit our website at www.franklinfoodpantry.org to join our community newsletter email list.**

Thank you for your generosity. You are making a difference.



Anne Marie Bellavance
Executive Director

annemarie@franklinfoodpantry.org

Franklin Food Pantry
43 West Central St (Rockland Trust parking lot)
P.O. Box 116
Franklin, MA 02038

(508) 528-3115
hours: Tues – Fri 9am-1pm
www.franklinfoodpantry.org

Anne Marie Bellavance, Executive Director
annemarie@franklinfoodpantry.org

Linda Sottile, Pantry Manager
linda@franklinfoodpantry.org

About Us

The Franklin Food Pantry is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Federal Tax ID #04-3272663

| <u>Clients</u> | <u>Nov</u> |
|--------------------------|------------|
| # of Clients | 578 |
| # of seniors | 56 |
| # of children | 196 |
| Total weight distributed | 18,107 lbs |
| Total bags distributed | 1,504 |
| Total new clients | 59 |

Donors

food

| | |
|-----------------------------|------------|
| # of donors | 97 |
| Non Anonymous total weight | 14,256 lbs |
| Anonymous total weight | 1,254 lbs |
| Greater Boston Food Bank | 8,541 lbs |
| Grand Total weight received | 24,051 lbs |

- Our Vision
 - To be the community resource for food and more.
- Our Mission
 - Engaging our community to provide the resources needed to sustain a healthy life.
- Our Values
 - Integrity - Openness and honesty in all relationships
 - Collaboration - Build and foster strong community relationships
 - Stewardship - Mindful that our mission is accomplished by the generosity of others
 - Empowerment – Education and advocacy programs that lead to self sufficiency
 - Service - Commitment to excellent service for our clients, donors and community
 - Respect - Respect for the privacy and dignity of every person
- 2010 Highlights
 - Doors stay Open
 - New Board
 - Expand Community Relationships
 - Eagle Scout Project (Salesforce.com CRM setup)
 - Farmers Market (June-Oct) Distributed more than 5,879 lbs of fresh produce
 - 300+ volunteers (over 600 hours)
 - Donations from more than 185 community organizations
 - New shelves, donated refrigerators & freezers
 - Raised garden bed and edible container gardens on front porch

➤ **2011 Goals**

- Increase funding support from grants and fundraising events
- Strengthen ties with schools, churches, corporations, clients and donors
 - Community Council (January 11, 2011 7pm @ Pantry – 2nd Tues of month)
 - Corporate Council, Client Council, Student Council, Donor Council
- Shift food donations to more healthy choices
- Healthy resources education - Film Series, Speaker Series, Workshops
- Connect with local restaurants and food/non-food suppliers
- Increase percentage of non-food items via Coupon Clippers
- Increase percentage of fresh produce
 - Farmers Market
 - Giving Garden, Plant a Row
 - Produce Points
 - Pennies for Produce
- Free meal every Thursday

➤ **Current Needs**

- Cleaning Products – Laundry, Dish, Disinfecting, All Purpose etc.
- Paper Products – Toilet Paper, Kleenex, Paper Towels etc.
- Health & Beauty Care – Shampoo, Pump Soap, Razors, Deodorant, Feminine, Hand Sanitizer
- Beef Stew
- Broth
- Canned Pasta (chef boyardeeish)
- Canned Meat/Fish
- Chili
- Cereal
- Pasta Sauce
- Flavored rice and/or pasta mixes
- Baking mixes
- Spices
- Crackers
- Jelly
- Canvas grocery bags
- A \$20 donation can provide up to 100 meals

➤ **Volunteer Opportunities**

- Visit franklinfoodpantry.org to Join Community List
- Greater Boston Food Bank pickups
 - 1st Wednesday of the month (1:30pm – 2:30pm)
 - 3rd Wednesday of the month (11:30am – 12:30pm)
- 1st and 3rd Saturdays 9am – 11am (check website for dates)
- Food Drives
- Fundraisers
- Share your strengths

➤ **Everyone has a right to access healthy, affordable food choices**

- Learn (What is food?, Where does our food come from?)
- Shop (Grocery Store 101, Healthy Eating on a Budget, Local)
- Grow (Gardening 101 (Container, Backyard, Community))
- Prepare (Cooking, Storage, Preserving, Canning)
- Eat (Mindful, Sensory, Social)
- Share (Potlucks, Recipes, Coupons, Knowledge, Stories)