

Saint Francis of Assisi Food Pantry
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Saint Francis of Assisi Food Pantry Newsletter February, 2017

Spaghetti Night Fundraiser a Big Success!

Our second annual Spaghetti Night fundraiser was held on Saturday, November 5 at Dolan Lexus in Reno. 180 attendees gathered to bid on an enticing assortment of Silent Auction items and raffle prizes, enjoy a superb meal expertly prepared by an anonymous donor and hear inspiring words from our keynote speaker Sharon Chamberlain, CEO of Northern Nevada HOPES.



Together we raised over \$27,000 at Spaghetti Night and these funds will allow us to continue on our mission of providing healthy fresh food to our clients at no cost to them. The need continues to grow in our community and is reflected in the increasing number of clients we serve from month to month.



Some of the Silent Auction items, including a colorful, custom pasta bowl made just for us!



*Guests from our partner, the Food Bank of Northern Nevada.
From left: Angie Medina; Marina Aguilar*



Our Giving Tree is growing thanks to our generous supporters!

Mark Your Calendars – Upcoming Events

- ♥ 2nd Annual Open House & Luncheon – **Sat., April 8** at the pantry. Details to follow in a separate mailing.
- ♥ Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon – **Friday, April 28** at Miguel's Mexican Restaurant at Summit Sierra Mall.

Thank you for your support!



Halloween Fun at the Pantry!

Pantry volunteers had fun dressing up for Halloween at the pantry. In addition to providing our clients with healthy food, we aim to lift the spirits of all who come through our doors!



In costume! From left: Cindy Becher; Dick Johnson; Cathy Johnson; Corazon Hand; Becca Castro



The good witches! From left: Renee Stone; Lynette Prina Duclos

Holidays at the Pantry

More merriment continued at the pantry during the holiday season and into the cold snowy month of January. We remained open in January while most other agencies in our area were closed due to excessive rain and local flooding.



Santa's helpers! From left: Volunteers Dick Johnson; Becca Castro; Terri Smith; Lynette Prina Duclos; Cathy Johnson



Just a few of the healthy fresh foods available at the pantry!



Our client Glenda is grateful for her new bed donated by volunteer Cara Meidell. From left: Glenda; volunteer Chuck Cecil

Food Drive at Dolan Lexus Starts in February

Dolan Lexus will be hosting a food drive for the pantry for 3 months, starting in February and ending in April. We are hoping to fill a large SUV with donated items including food, diapers, toiletries, and so on. They are located at 7175 S. Virginia in Reno and hosted our Spaghetti Dinner fundraiser in November. Dolan Auto Group has been one of our most loyal champions and we are very grateful for their ongoing support!



A Special Thank You to Our LDS Volunteers!

A huge thank you to The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints! We have been blessed with enthusiastic dedicated volunteers from LDS churches in our area, as well as church missionaries who have cheerfully given their time to help at the pantry. We have also received many generous donations of food from the Edmonton Chapel of the South Meadows Ward and the Reno storehouse for local LDS churches. This steadfast support has made a tremendous impact on the pantry and on the many needy families we serve in this area.

Help the Pantry as You Shop

You can help Saint Francis of Assisi Food Pantry earn money when you shop online at Amazon.com or at our local Smith's Food and Drug Stores. Here's how:

- **Amazon:** go to <https://smile.amazon.com>, sign in and select Saint Francis of Assisi Food Pantry from the list of charities. When shopping at Amazon, always start on this web page for the pantry to receive a contribution. The Amazon Smile Foundation will donate .5% of your eligible purchases to the pantry.
- **Smith's Food and Drug Stores:** create an account at <https://www.smithsfoodanddrug.com/account/create> then enroll in Smith's Community Rewards program and select Saint Francis of Assisi Food Pantry. When you shop at Smith's using your Rewards card, the pantry receives a contribution. Our Non-Profit Organization (NPO) number is **33032**.

Donations are Always Appreciated

In addition to healthy food, we offer our clients clothing, shoes and socks, household goods, baby diapers and food, pet food (cats and dogs) and toiletries, all donated by volunteers, local area agencies and companies.

We are always in need of food, clothing, hygiene products and pet food for the pantry, especially the following items:

Peanut butter & jam or jelly	Laundry soap
Low-sodium spam & chicken	Baby diapers – all sizes
Canned beans such as chili beans, baked beans, etc.	Toiletries (shampoo, soap, toothpaste, razors, etc.)
Chunky soups and stews	Warm socks, hats and gloves



Our Food Barrels Are Everywhere!

A big thank you to these local organizations who allowed us to place our food barrels at their locations before, over and after the holidays:

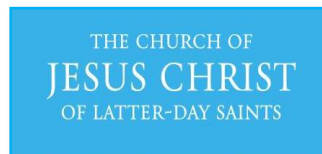
- Air National Guard in Reno
- Complete Millwork Services, who placed a barrel at the Atlantis Casino Resort Spa in Reno
- Fitness Connection Gym & Health Club in Reno
- Great Western Marketplace in Reno
- Sola Salon Studios in Reno
- Spavia Day Spa at the Summit Sierra Mall
- St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church in Incline Village

Our barrels are still in place at the Great Western Marketplace, Fitness Connection and St. Francis of Assisi Church, so feel free to stop by and make a donation!



Together We're Making a Difference

Our heartfelt appreciation to our generous individual donors, corporate sponsors, community supporters, and our partner, the Food Bank of Northern Nevada. We couldn't do it without you!



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