

Saint Francis of Assisi Food Pantry  
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## Saint Francis of Assisi Food Pantry Newsletter July, 2017

*"We are our brothers' and sisters' keepers"*

### Check Out Our New Truck!

Thanks to a generous donation from Complete Millwork Services, we were able to purchase a used 16' panel truck for the pantry. We use it to pick up our weekly food order from the Food Bank of Northern Nevada, along with collecting our weekly bread donation and other donations that become available. A big thank you to Complete Millwork Services!



Cindy Becher with our new truck



Volunteer Don Eberlein stocking the freezer with  
10 lb. packages of frozen chicken received  
through the Commodities program



We hope to see you at the **Atlantis Casino Resort Spa** in October!  
See the back page for more information.

### Commodities Come to the Pantry

We are happy to report that we have been selected as one of only a few pantries in our area to participate in bulk receipt of items from The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP), also known as Commodities, sponsored by the US Dept. of Agriculture. This federal program helps supplement the diets of low-income Americans by providing them with emergency food and nutrition assistance at no cost to them or to the pantry. Foods provided vary each time, but generally include a mix of canned fruits and vegetables, fresh eggs, meat, poultry, fish, milk, cheese, pasta products, and cereal. Our clients couldn't be more thrilled to have this extra bounty of food and we are thrilled to be able to offer it to them!

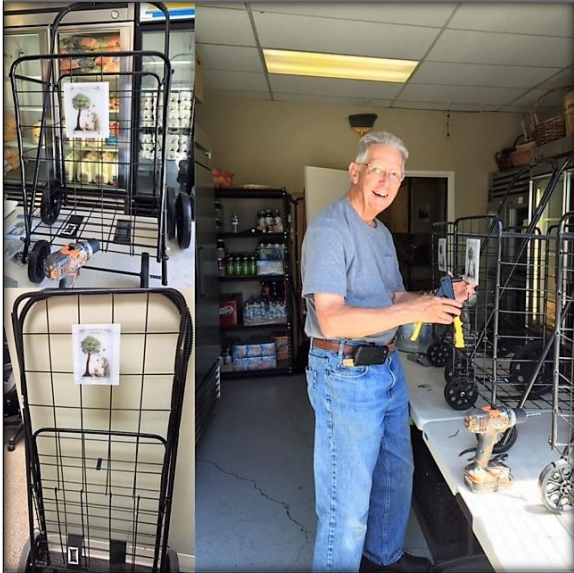


Just some of the non-perishable commodities we receive



## Cart Mania!

Thanks to a generous grant from the Food Bank of Northern Nevada, we were able to purchase a supply of folding metal carts to distribute to our clients who do not have cars and must walk to the pantry for their monthly food assistance. Many struggled to get their food home, on foot or via the bus, and this cart will certainly make it easier. With assistance from Complete Millwork Services, we created a special metal plate to attach to the carts with our logo on it.



*Volunteer Don Eberlein attaches our name plate to new carts for clients who walk to the pantry*

Our client Debra Fox Cranne is one of the first recipients of the new pantry carts. Debra was formerly homeless, living in her storage unit, but now has obtained a place of her own. She was very happy to find the pantry open on July 3<sup>rd</sup> when most pantries were closed due to the July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday, and even more excited to be given her own new cart. Way to go, Debra!



## 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), toiletries and cleaning products, 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	Kids' clothes and shoes

## Our Volunteers are Exceptional!

We held our first Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon on April 28 at Miguel's Mexican Restaurant at Summit Sierra Mall. A good time was had by all and 14 remarkable volunteers were honored for donating over 100 hours each to the pantry since our opening in April, 2016. Altogether, volunteers donated 4,445 hours to the pantry in our first year of operation.



*From L: Willie Caputo; Cathy Johnson; Corazon Hand; Cindy Becher; Dick Johnson*



*From L: Lynette Prina Duclos; Cynthia Crone; Steve Corder; Anna Corder; Don Eberlein, MJ Rader; Tom & Joanne McHugh*

## Our Food Barrels Get Around!

A big thank you to these local organizations who allowed us to place our food barrels at their locations including:

- Fitness Connection Gym & Health Club in Reno
- St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church in Incline Village
- Umpqua Bank at 3490 S. Virginia St. in Reno
- 24 Hour Fitness at 6155 Neil Road in Reno

## Jacksons Food Stores Pitch In

We have established an exciting new partnership with four locations of Jacksons Food Stores in Reno. They will be donating perishable and non-perishable food as it nears its expiration date, including bread, milk, fruit, sandwiches and many other items except alcohol or tobacco products. Our grateful thanks for their generosity!



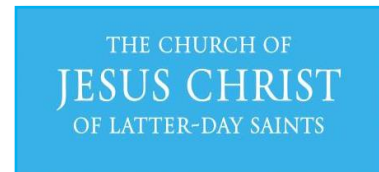
## Together We're Making a Difference

We are thrilled to report that in the past 6 months we have received generous grants from the following foundations which will allow us to continue with our mission of providing the less fortunate in our community with healthy food at no cost to them.

- ♥ **Alliance with the Washoe County Medical Society**, a non-profit volunteer run organization whose members include Washoe County physicians and their spouses, along with the spouses of residents and interns in Washoe County. Their mission is to advance the health of the community through education and philanthropic works, health advocacy programs, and support of the Washoe County Medical Society.
- ♥ **Food Bank of Northern Nevada**, our partner who provides emergency food services to families through a network of more than 140 partner agencies in a 90,000 square mile service area throughout northern Nevada and the eastern slope of the Sierra in California. They serve more than 95,000 people each month, half of whom are children and seniors. Last fiscal year, they provided more than 13.3 million meals to neighbors who were hungry.



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





## The Knights of Columbus Lend a Hand

Two Knights of Columbus groups in Reno made generous donations to the pantry in May:

- ♥ Nevada Council 978 of St. Thomas Aquinas Cathedral
- ♥ Saint John Vianney Council #13842 of St. Rose of Lima Church

To our great surprise and delight, each group presented the pantry with a check for \$500. Several of the Knights from St. Rose of Lima gathered at the pantry on Monday, May 15 to personally present their check to Cindy Becher. We are most humbled, grateful and appreciative of their support.



*Don Eberlein (center right) surprises Cindy Becher with a donation from the St. Rose of Lima Knights of Columbus*



*The St. Rose of Lima Knights of Columbus with Cindy Becher*



*Cindy and David Becher after check presentation*

## We're Cooler than Ever!

We recently purchased a used triple-door commercial refrigerator to increase our cooling capacity in the pantry. It was filled in no time! This purchase was made possible thanks to the Capacity Building Grant from the Food Bank of Northern Nevada and Compete Millwork Services, who delivered the fridge to us. Thank you!



*Rodolfo and Bart from Complete Millwork Services after delivering our new triple-door refrigerator*

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Spaghetti Dinner

We've begun to organize our 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser, coming on October 20. Save the date and stay tuned for more details in our upcoming mailing.

### SPAGHETTI NIGHT

To benefit

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI FOOD PANTRY

Friday, October 20<sup>th</sup>  
5:00-8:30 PM  
At the

ATLANTIS CASINO RESORT SPA     3800 S. Virginia Street, Reno, NV 89502

Come and win some great  
RAFFLE PRIZES, DOOR PRIZES and SILENT AUCTION ITEMS  
Enjoy Live Music  
Keynote Speaker to be announced soon

For Tickets: Call Cindy Becher 775-322-5853 or  
Email: [cdbecher@aol.com](mailto:cdbecher@aol.com) or purchase tickets online at  
[www.Eventbrite.com/SpaghettiNight-to-benefit-Saint-Francis-of-Assisi-Food-Pantry-tickets](http://www.Eventbrite.com/SpaghettiNight-to-benefit-Saint-Francis-of-Assisi-Food-Pantry-tickets)

**MENU:**

Spaghetti & Meatballs  
Mushroom Raviolis  
Salad  
Garlic Bread  
Tiramisu

**COST:**

\$45 per Person  
\$80 for Couples  
\$350 for a Corporate Table  
that seats 8