



141 East Lancaster Ave.
Downingtown, PA 19335

Phone: 610-873-1149
Shopping Phone Line: 484-237-8797
Fax: 610-873-4711

Email: info@lordspantrypa.org
Website: www.lordspantryofdowningtown.org

Serving the emergency food needs of
Downingtown, Exton and Lionville residents.

Hours of Operation:
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday
10:00 a.m. -12:30 p.m.
Thursday 6:00 p.m.-7:30 p.m.

NONPROFIT ORG.
US POSTAGE PAID
WEST CHESTER, PA
PERMIT, NO. 354

Fall 2023

On a Wing
And a Prayer



Volume 19, Issue 2

Inside this issue:

On a Wing and a Prayer	1
Most Needed Items	2
Board Corner	3
Donor Challenge	3
Christmas Adopt A Child	4

Turkeys Wanted

Anyone interested in pledging and bringing a frozen turkey the morning of our distribution on **Saturday, November 18th** can call us at **610-873-1149** and leave a message or email us at info@lordspantrypa.org

Note: Please do not mail or drop off your **Giant Turkey Certificate**, as Giant will not allow us to redeem them. You may donate your Certificate at the customer service desk. Thank you for feeding your neighbors!



From Jan's Desk

Our summer months were extremely busy as we continued our Summer Lunch Program that served 898 children in our registered families with extra kid-friendly food bags through the summer. In addition, each school age child received a brand new backpack, school supplies and a gift card to buy new sneakers to prepare for the new school year. We are currently in the process of distributing gift cards for new shoes to all of our Seniors and Veterans.

Inflation has affected all of us but has devastated many of our neighbors who were already struggling to make ends meet. After many government programs have been stopped or cut back, numerous families are returning after years of being self-sufficient. Some families have confided in us that without the assistance they get through the Lord's Pantry they would not be able to keep food on their tables.

There are no two days alike at the Pantry, and Linda and I have received a multitude of requests for assistance with anything from eviction notices, water and electric shut offs, gas money and clothing. We partner with many organizations, and by each of us contributing a small portion of what is needed, many families are assisted. We have had clients tell us they have enough gas to get to the Pantry but not enough to get them back home. Some of their specific needs are discovered through interaction with our volunteers when they shop. We had a client who passed on a certain food selection because he could only heat food on an electric burner. A special fund set up by a donor, enabled us to purchase a small microwave.

We have encountered many stressful and challenging situations, such as a mom with three children called hysterical because her water was shut off during the heat wave this summer. We have delivered food to a pop-up camper that a homeless disabled couple was living in, a wooded area where a 66 year old diabetic man was living, hotel rooms, a young couple living in their car parked in a box store parking lot and a furnished room attached to a barn that a family of four occupies. Needless to say, we have to modify our distribution to meet their capability of safely storing the food. I know it is difficult to believe that people are living like this in the richest county in Pennsylvania. We try our best to refer some of them to other resources but unfortunately, due to their emotional state, not all make wise choices.

The holiday season is fast approaching and we are preparing to provide a complete Thanksgiving dinner to all of our registered families. Christmas will be handled the same as last year – by providing parents with gift cards to shop for their children. Although I know this disappoints many of our donors who enjoy shopping for our children, but the up side is that these gift cards empower parents to do shopping they would otherwise not be able to afford.

None of this would be possible without your generous support or the unwavering dedication of all of our volunteers.

All of us at the Lord's Pantry would like to wish you and your families a very happy holiday and healthy new year!

Jan Leaf
Executive Director

"No One Should Suffer From Hunger"



ADOPT A CHILD OR FAMILY FOR CHRISTMAS



All qualifying families will receive one Gift Card per Child to do their own Christmas shopping. We have found it empowers the parents to shop for their own children.

Only Monetary Donations accepted for this Program.

If you would like to participate this year, please designate your monetary donation for "Christmas" and send to :

Lord's Pantry, 141 E. Lancaster Ave., Downingtown, PA 19335

To donate online visit our website at : lordspantryofdowningtown.org.

On "Donation Summary Page" designate "Christmas" in the message box.

Thank You for your participation in this Program!!!

MOST NEEDED ITEMS

Beverages
Coffee , Juice

Boxed Goods
Pasta, Rice, Mac & Cheese, Breakfast Cereal,
Peanut Butter & Jelly, Brownie Mix

Canned Goods
Fruit, Vegetables, Tuna, Ham,
Chicken, Beef Stew & Pasta meals

Soups
Progresso & Campbells Chunky,
Cream Soups-Chicken & Mushroom,
Broth- Chicken & Beef

Toiletries
Toothpaste, Toothbrushes, Deodorant,
Shaving Products, Soap, Shampoo

Paper Goods
Paper Towels, Toilet Paper

Pantry Services

- ◆ **Distributed over 600,000 lbs of Food**
- ◆ **Dollar value of Distributed Food \$1,152,000**
- ◆ **83% of Budget spent on Food and Special Programs**
- ◆ **Over 40,000 Volunteer Hours**

Board Members

Sandy D'Amico - *President*

Darla Dadey - *Secretary*

Linda McAssey- *Treasurer*

Jan Leaf

Randy Longo

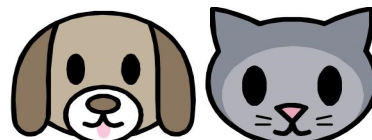
Lee Wallace

Kevin Zeeger

Thank you to all who participated in our Non-Event grocery shopping!

Your generous monetary donations provided 124 families (49% individuals) with 2 weeks of groceries!

PLEASE CONSIDER A DONATION OF PET FOOD & SUPPLIES TO OUR CLIENTS' FURRY FRIENDS



BOARD CORNER

Fall is the time of year when the pace slows down just a bit...kids are back in school, summer vacations are over, and we have time to take a breath before the hectic holiday season arrives. I am filled with gratitude, as I look forward to family gatherings, cooler winter weather, and the opportunity to spend time with friends and family over the holidays.

For many, this time of year does not bring joy, but rather a sense of foreboding. For families facing food insecurity, rising costs across the board will make this time of year even more difficult. The supplemental food that the Lord's Pantry provides to families is more important than ever.

In addition to monthly food allocations, this time of year brings Thanksgiving baskets with everything that families need to have a traditional turkey dinner. As soon as Thanksgiving ends, the Lord's Pantry kicks into high gear with holiday preparations. Eligible families receive gift cards to purchase gifts for their children, as well as all the supplies to make a special holiday meal.

At a time when too many families continue to experience hardship, it is our hope that the support from the Lord's Pantry will help to bring our clients and their families joy. This is all possible because of the wonderful Downingtown community and your generous contributions. Many, many thanks to all of our volunteers who donate their time and to everyone who provides financial support. None of this is possible without you.

Wishing you peace and a joyful holiday season!

Sandy D'Amico
Board President

\$10,000 Donor Challenge

A very generous donor will match every dollar donated to the Lord's Pantry up to \$10,000 during the months of November and December. Please consider participating in this challenge!!!

**Send donations to:
Lord's Pantry, 141 E. Lancaster Avenue, Downingtown, PA 19335
and please designate "Donor Challenge" in memo.**