

Affton Christian Food Pantry
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Affton Christian Food Pantry

AUTUMN 2016

Our Mission:

To live the Christian principles of our member churches by providing a continuous and reliable source of food and assistance to those in need in the Affton community.

Together, we can make a difference!

Fill the Van, Our Shelves, & Our Hearts

For the second year in a row, our “Fill the Van” program kept our shelves filled all summer long! Under the leadership of **Board Member, Dennis Eckert (New Apostolic Church)**, our van made stops at many of our Member Churches from late March through mid-September, which is, historically, the time of year when donations are lowest, and our shelves are most bare!

This year, our “mobile food drive” collected 14,023 food and personal care items and raised \$2,376! THANK YOU! We could not have fed so many people in need this summer without you!



Summer is over, but we can still bring our van to you. **Contact Dennis at (314) 843-8950 to schedule a food drive at your Church, school, or place of business!**



Together, We Are Making a Difference!



On a late summer day, as yet another thunderstorm pushed through the area, our Executive Director heard frantic knocking at the ACFP door. She found a young couple, wet and tired, waiting just outside. “I know you’re closed, but we’re hungry. Is there any way you can help us?” they asked.

Within minutes, she learned that a series of events – one job loss, followed quickly by another, the repossession of their sole car, and eventual eviction led to their staying in a tent in a nearby park.

Using the relationships we have with area organizations, Jennifer connected the couple with a chapter of the St. Vincent de Paul Society before filling an emergency box with food appropriate to their tenting situation. Within days, the volunteers with St. Vincent de Paul found the couple a safe place to live, and helped them begin a job search.

Over the following weeks, with an established address, they were able to become members of the food pantry, find work, and to see a new path forward where they had first seen only darkness. Partnerships like these make a real difference, for real people, every day here in the Affton area.

From Our Director’s Desk



What a busy few months we’ve had here at the ACFP! We’ve held cooking classes, our annual Trivia Night fundraiser, our Community Health & Safety Fair, and even joined a parade!

Through it all, we’ve continued to watch as the number of client visits rises once again. We are able to meet the need for food and assistance because of you. Your generous donations, your food drives, and your prayers help us welcome each new family with a confident smile.

As we prepare for the busy season of Thanksgiving food drives, I pause here and now, to give thanks for you, and for all you do for the families we feed throughout the year!

May God bless you and your family this autumn!

Warmly,

Jennifer Macken, Executive Director

MEMBER CHURCHES

- AFFTON CHRISTIAN
- AFFTON PRESBYTERIAN
- CHURCH OF THE REFORMATION-LUTHERAN
- CURE OF ARS
- EDEN U.C.C.
- NEW APOSTOLIC
- OUR LADY OF PROVIDENCE
- ROOFTOP
- SALEM LUTHERAN
- SEVEN HOLY FOUNDERS
- ST. DOMINIC SAVIO
- ST. GEORGE
- ST. MARK
- ST. SIMON THE APOSTLE
- ZION METHODIST

Together, we can make a difference!



MOST NEEDED ITEMS

As we move into cooler weather, we have a greater need for **Meal Supplements** (stuffing, hamburger helper, etc.) and **Canned Entrees** (chili with meat or chicken & dumplings, etc.)

SAVE THE DATE!

Bayless High School will again be hosting their **“SOUPER BOWL FOR HUNGER”** event on **Friday, February 3, 2017** in the brand-new Bayless Elementary School cafeteria!

Mark your calendars now... this fun and tasty evening benefits the ACFP!



Helmets, Flu Shots, and Mammos... Oh My!



Despite the unseasonable heat, our annual **Health & Safety Fair** on September 24 was our best-attended fair yet! As in years past, the Health Fair included free flu shots, blood glucose tests, and blood pressure checks. This year, we were pleased to offer free bike helmets/ fittings for kids and free mammograms on the Missouri Baptist Mammo-van.

More than 100 people attended the fair, and fifteen women took advantage of the free mammograms. We gave away helmets and flu shots, and the SLU Nutrition Department topped off the event with a healthy and tasty snack. Among the vendors present were ParaQuad, NCADA, Medicare Counseling, the Medicine Shoppe, a Diabetes Educator, Affton School District, and Safe Kids.



The Health & Safety Fair is sponsored by a grant from **St. Anthony's Charitable Foundation**, and included St. Anthony's nurses to help with the medical checks and flu shots.

A TASTY WAY TO RAISE SOME DOUGH



This summer, **Affton Christian Church** hosted a **Cooking Class** to raise awareness about healthy eating, teach some new recipes, and raise some money for the ACFP. A dozen people chopped, sliced, diced, and tasted a delicious & healthy 3-course meal, with all proceeds benefitting our Wellness Shelf!



A Parade of Thanks

This September, for the first time, the ACFP marched in the Affton Days Parade! A group of volunteers walked alongside our van, passing out information and treats, while spreading the word about the good work we do here in Affton.

We even picked up a few donations from people in the crowd!

Despite the unseasonable heat, the day was a lot of fun for all who attended! Thank you to **Pantry Manager, Anna Belveal**, for leading the charge, and for all who helped spread the word about the ACFP!



Will You Partner With Us?

Your on-going monthly gift allows us to allocate our resources effectively all year long. We are able to purchase food and personal care items as needed, ensuring a consistent and reliable inventory for all families who come to us for help.

Help us make sure there is **“A Place at the Table”** for every hungry person in Affton!

Join today! Please enclose a check and mail to:

ACFP, PO Box 6944, Affton, MO 63123

or sign up online: AfftonChristianFoodPantry.com

- Brown Bag Brigade: \$10 per month
- Breakfast Club: \$25 per month
- Lunch Bunch: \$50 per month
- Daily Diner: \$75 per month
- Monthly Meal Deal: \$100 per month
- Other gift: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____ City/State: _____

Zip: _____ Email: _____