

Woodstock Pantry ENews Brief

25 March 2023

This week we served 252 people. The numbers leveled a bit this week. We'll see how things evolve over the next weeks. We are sooooo fortunate that volunteers have stepped up as well! Thank you all!

WP VOLUNTEERS STEP UP

We didn't run out of food this week! For now, this seems to be our new 'normal'.

Our receiving team moved 5,280 lbs. of food. Actually, that's a low number as they also bring in hundreds of pounds from the pantry! We prepared 125 dry goods, 125 produce bags and 50 ready-to-eat bags. And our distribution teams moved all the bags to people's cars, carts, bikes and back-packs. Everyone is working harder and longer.

NEW VOLUNTEERS

Welcome to Mia and Melody! Thanks so much for your help and we look forward to working with you again!

MARCH/APRIL SIGN UP

Note that I have taken down the March Sign Up Sheet. Please sign up for next week's and April's shifts on the new sign up form.

[Woodstock Pantry April Sign Up](#)

REEDIES AT WOODSTOCK PANTRY

Next Saturday, a bunch of Reed students will join us for distribution. Thanks so much to Sophia and Vilma for organizing the students and to all the students for your help!

WP VOLUNTEER SURVEY

We're getting great responses to the survey! Please take five minutes to complete it. In the next few weeks, I'll do a content analysis of the responses and we'll put together an improvement plan. You can access the survey at [WP Volunteer Survey](#).

Thank you so very much, for all the time you contribute to feeding our neighbors and for the ideas you share today and in the future!

PANTRY BUILD PROJECT

For those of you new to this, the container that serves as our pantry is temporary and (obviously) insufficient to meet our needs. We need more storage space, electricity for lighting and temperature control, space for refrigeration and space to make produce bags. And we need to reduce the impact on the sanctuary from pallets, pallet jacks and produce.

These last ten months, Rev. Andria and I have been submitting grant proposals and raising funds to get a permanent structure. We are about halfway there. This week, we submitted two grant proposals. We're working on another which is due by month's end. And we are planning fundraising events. In the best of all possible worlds, we would break ground in spring and have our new pantry by summer's end.

If you'd like more details or know of a possible funding source, please let me know!

Remember...

It Takes a Community, And We Are It!