Preparing for Autumn, and Looking Back on Summer

As summer 2022 is officially ending, AFFB would like to highlight some valuable statistics that show the importance of the work that you all do throughout the community.

With the gas price fluctuations and local double-digit inflation rate, the pantries saw a steady increase in visits, food requested, and overall demand.

Total number of pantry visits by month
- June 15,612 pantry visits
- July 15,424 pantry visits
- August 16,812 pantry visits

Total number of meals served by month
- June 17,065 meals served
- July 16,880 meals served
- August 14,054
Partner Agency Spotlight:
Janie’s Garden

**Location:** 2300 Central Ave., Sarasota, FL 34234

**Pantry Open Since:** August 2022

**Hours of Operation:** First Fridays (restricted site)

**Number of Households Served:** 25 for now!

All Faiths Food Bank would like to shine the spotlight on our newest agency at Janie’s Garden in the Newtown area. While the three-phased neighborhood itself has been around for many years, the addition of a free pantry is the newest component to the Better Tomorrows managed facility. The initiative was spearheaded by Janie Garden’s Social Service Coordinator, Brian Glick.

Brian is not a newbie to food pantries, in fact he used to volunteer at New Life Worship Center for the last three years. Upon starting his new position with Better Tomorrows at Janie’s Garden just 90 days ago, he was determined to open a working pantry for the 400+ residents of the community. Brian indicated that the residents, similar to everyone else in the community, are going to the grocery store and spending more but buying less. Today’s purchasing power is exceedingly low, while the average prices for goods keep on rising. To help combat food insecurity, Better Tomorrows was immediately on board with the pantry plan.

Better Tomorrows held their first pantry on the morning of Friday August 5th. With great surprise, the pantry actually ran out of food and the number of clients reached just above 25. The plan is to slowly grow the pantry on the first Friday of each month during which Better Tomorrows also provides additional wrap around services. Not only will the pantry target food insecurity, Brian hopes it will become a community bonding event. He indicated that, “the hope of the pantry is bringing the residents together while also working to destigmatize visits to a pantry, or requesting assistance in a time of need.”

The goal for Janie’s Garden pantry is to remain a choice pantry, while growing its popularity among the residence and potentially expanding to serve weekly. Janie’s Garden is home to around 450 residents, hopefully who will know they can depend on the pantry when they really need to.
Food Bank Updates

CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAM

All Faiths launched its call for Capacity Building in May this year. The program’s purpose was to encourage agencies to expand operations, build on their existing activities using technology, or replace/purchase new equipment for storage. For this round of calls, grant awards were up to $5,000. **While the current proposal period has passed, be on the lookout for the next call!**

SUMMARY OF GRANTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of applications</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total amount requested</td>
<td>$72,940.48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total amount granted</td>
<td>$34,795.98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amounted granted via Emergency funding</td>
<td>$4,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total amount to disperse</td>
<td>$38,795.98</td>
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LOCATION OF AGENCY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<tr>
<td>Sarasota</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Venice</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Englewood</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Port</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

FUNDING CATEGORIES

There are four primary funding categories:
- Service Insights Capacity Needs
- Food Storage/Food Safety Capacity Needs
- Facility and Other Equipment Needs
- Other Needs
Here are a few tips and tricks from AFFB’s Link2Feed expert, Rocio Melendez.

**Client card: How to issue and to whom to issue it?**

The client card allows you to search for clients by their name or ID number to make the registration process quicker during their visits to the food pantries.

**HOW?**

Once the client is registered, Link2Feed will automatically generate a client ID number. The client ID number is then used to issue a client card, which will have the name and client ID number. This client card can be used at any All Faiths pantry.

- **For TEFAP sites**, please also fill out the date on the client card when the TEFAP form has been first signed or updated. After updating, please collect the old card and discard it and issue a new one with the new TEFAP date.
- **For Non-TEFAP sites**, please leave the space for “TEFAP SIGNED” date blank.

*Do not* write the date of birth in this space. *Only use for signed TEFAP accounts!*
**TO WHOM?**

The client card should **only be issued to the primary household member**.
- There is no need to issue an extra card for household members.
- Additional household members can use that same card to collect the food.
- Do not set up additional household members as a proxy because they belong to the same household.

**Difference between Primary and Additional household members**

The **primary household member** is the main member of the household, or the person that we initially registered.

An **additional household member** is anyone else who belongs to the household, and who has a relationship with the primary household member (e.g., spouse, child, parent, roommate, etc).

**How to verify the setup of a primary household member in Link2feed?**

Please see in Link2Feed under the client’s name in the top area, if you don’t see a blue banner, it is a primary household member.

For additional household members, Link2Feed will appear with a blue banner asking you to click to switch to the primary household member.

**Please be aware, if you need any Link2Feed assistance or troubleshooting, feel free to contact Rocio!**

*September-December distribution schedules are out now!***
Spotlight Ingredient

Sweet Potatoes

Taco Ground Turkey Sweet Potato Skillet

Ingredients:
- 1 tbsp. olive oil
- 1 medium finely diced white onion
- 1 tbsp. tomato paste
- ½ tsp. chili powder
- ½ tsp. garlic powder
- ½ tsp. ground cumin
- ½ tsp. ground oregano
- 1 tsp. salt
- 1 lb. ground turkey
- 2 cups diced sweet potato
- 15 oz. can black beans
- 15 oz. jar salsa
- ½ cup shredded cheddar cheese, optional

Directions:
1. In a large skillet, heat the olive oil over medium-high heat.
2. Once oil is hot, add onions, salt, chili powder, garlic powder, cumin, oregano, and tomato paste. Cook until the onions start to turn translucent or approximately 2 minutes.
3. Add the ground turkey. Use a wooden spoon to break up the turkey as it cooks. Cook for 5-7 minutes or until the turkey is mostly browned.
4. Add diced sweet potatoes, black beans, and salsa to the skillet. Stir to combine.
5. Cover the skillet and cook until the sweet potatoes are tender, stirring occasionally, about 12-14 minutes.
6. Once the sweet potatoes are tender, sprinkle the cheese over the top (if using), and cover the skillet until the cheese is melted.
Serve and enjoy!
REMINDE RS

Just a few reminders to leave you all with!

WHEN SUBMITTING YOUR ORDERS, PLEASE DON’T FORGET TO CLICK CHECKOUT!

TURKEY SEASON

Be on the lookout for the Turkey Distribution form at the beginning of September via USPS. The form will indicate how many turkeys your agency is allocated, the pre-packaged sides, and for delivery dates and time windows. Please keep in mind this is a very busy time of year for us, so please allow for a 2-hour delivery time window—we appreciate your flexibility and understanding! Deadline for submission October 7th.

UPCOMING NETWORKING EVENT SEPTEMBER 21ST

Stay tuned for our invite to the ALL-NEW agency networking meeting! These meetings will be recurring quarterly and will be a great way to exchange best practices, engage with other agencies, and learn more about what is being done in the community. We will also have short training sessions conducted by guest speakers!