TO RESPECTFULLY SERVE AREA RESIDENTS IN NEED WHILE EMPOWERING THEM TOWARD FOOD SECURITY AND INDEPENDENCE.

Pantry News from the Board Chairman

The Honey Brook Food Pantry is expanding operations for the fourth year in the local community, often serving nearly 800 people per month. So far this year we have seen increases over the first half of 2017 in virtually every statistical category including 75 new families, which in an area of this size, is quite surprising and does continue to demonstrate the need that exists.

Many of the clients have serious disabilities and many are elderly, driving a dramatic increase in the need for home deliveries, now nearly 30/month. It is also important to note that 48% of the households served by the pantry are families with children and YTD 2017, we served the most ever families larger than five members....258.....21% more than last year's comparable period.

The first half of 2017 results yielded a 27% increase in individuals seeking help. This is particularly noteworthy since the number of families increased by 12% confirming the trend that more and more large families are in need of help.

In addition to the regular food provided monthly, supplemental food boxes will again be distributed to over 350 children in need during the summer months. The Children's Back Pack Program was successful again this year with over 80 kids regularly receiving weekend food assistance

We have expanded a local growing program involving 16 families in 3 of the local housing communities who began growing their own vegetables for their families and some of their neighbors. The "Garden for Life" program is expanding further this spring/summer. The early harvests have been truly overwhelming with much to share among neighbors. Cooking demonstrations for healthy meals are now conducted during each distribution at the pantry site by local volunteers.

With the recent reductions in retail support, we encourage donations that will assist with the purchase of larger quantities of more nutritious food now more than ever before. Summer is the time when donations are down and with so many kids to feed.....demand is up.

Please contact me with any questions or further needs and many thanks for your support!!

Kenneth R. Ross, Board Chairman 610-291-0067 www.honeybrookfoodpantry.org

Honey Brook Food Pantry where donated food and financial support are always needed.

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