



State College Area Food Bank News

276 West Hamilton Avenue, State College, PA 16801 • (814) 234-2310

Fall/Winter 2012

<http://foodbank.centreconnect.org>

Volume nineteen Issue 2

The mission of the State College Area Food Bank is to provide emergency food to people in the State College Area and assist the network of food pantries in Centre County.

Remarks from the Executive Director

By Carol Pioli

I begin my day by asking, “What am I thankful for today?” Before I began my position at the Food Bank, I took basic needs for granted. These past nine months have been an eye opener as I’ve met individuals in our community who are struggling to have their basic needs met. But, as we approach the busiest time of the year for the Food Bank, I’m filled with determination and gratitude for the chance to make a difference in people’s lives.

Over the past few weeks I’ve met a woman battling cancer whose sole source of food had been oatmeal; an elderly couple with limited financial resources trying to decide whether to buy food or medicine; a single working mom who exhausted all her sick days because of a catastrophic illness and had no way to feed her four teenage sons; and a middle-aged couple working minimum wage jobs trying to make ends meet. I was also pleased to meet two former Food Bank clients who now hold leadership positions in other nonprofit organizations. The Food Bank of State College continues to help the unemployed, the underemployed, seniors, and those with disabilities. And we’re helping more people every year, as the chart to the right shows.

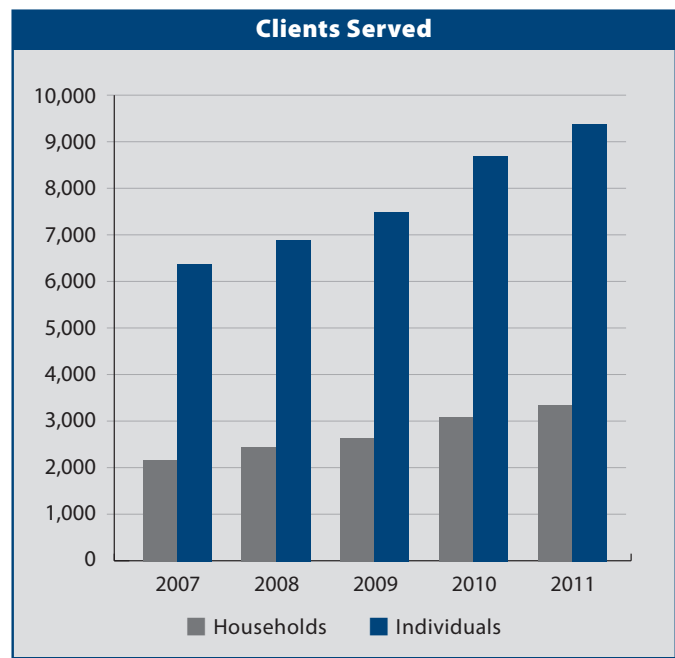
The Food Bank is very lucky to have a core of volunteers who give their time and talents to us on a weekly basis. They are our rock! In addition to our core group of volunteers, we receive many requests from the Penn State community, including students and student organizations who want to volunteer. While we try to fill every volunteer request, because of our space limitations we’re not always able to make it work. We are hoping to expand into a larger facility so that in the future we can not only welcome and have plenty of room for all of our volunteers, but also have everything under one roof and serve our clients more efficiently.

Once again, THANK YOU to all who have been so generous by volunteering your time and financially supporting The Food Bank of State College Area, Inc. Happy Holidays to all! ■

A Member Agency of:

Centre County United Way

The Centre County United Way, through its partner agencies, provides services to one in three people in Centre County. We are proud to be one of those partner agencies, and we thank the United Way for their financial support.



How to Give

Are you considering a donation to your favorite charity during this holiday season? Do you have an investment portfolio that holds securities with long-term capital gains? If your answer is yes to both, you might want to consider donating stock in combination with your cash donations this year.

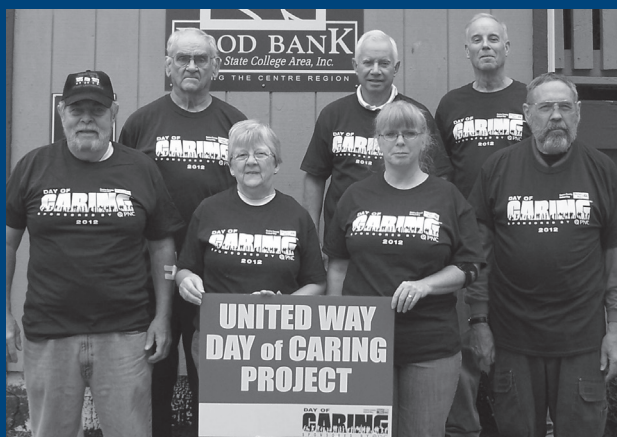
If you donate securities held long-term to a “public” charity, such as a church, educational institution, health care organization, or other cause, the amount you can claim as a charitable gift for federal income tax purposes is the securities’ fair market value on the date of the gift. Long-term means the security must have been held by the donor for longer than twelve months. In addition to receiving a charitable deduction equal to the fair market value of the asset, the donor is not taxed on the increase in value of the security.

Like our Food Bank, most organizations have established a policy to immediately sell the security and use the proceeds to further fund their mission. In this case the organization almost immediately benefits from the value of your stock donation.

Consult with your tax professional to find out if a donation of securities makes sense for you. ■

Helping Neighbors

Can you lend some help to your neighbors by volunteering a few hours at the Food Bank? We are in the process of converting our current donor database, and we need volunteers to enter donations and keep donor information current. We also need regular volunteers on Wednesday afternoons and Saturday mornings for client services. Positions available are data entry, assisting with food choices, and runners/order fills. If you’re interested in volunteering, please contact operations coordinator Missy Garvin at 234-2310. ■

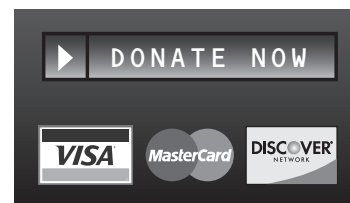


Once again this year, the Nittany Leathernecks provided leadership for the annual United Way Day of Caring.

On the Web

Connect With Us Online!

- 1 Donate online – it’s quick, easy, and secure! Just go to <http://foodbank.centreconnect.org/>, click on the “Donate Now” image, and enter your credit card information. It’s that easy!



Coming Soon: New and improved Food Bank website – watch for it!

- 2 Like us on Facebook! Just search for *State College Area Food Bank*.



A Few Notes

Effective January 1, 2013, the Food Bank of State College will no longer have a Post Office Box at the State College Post Office. Our mailing address is Food Bank of State College Area, Inc., 276 West Hamilton Avenue, State College, PA 16801. ■

Did You Know

We've been receiving phone calls from individuals thinking that The Food Bank of the State College Area and The Central Pennsylvania Food Bank are one and the same. Just to clarify: The Food Bank of the State College Area serves individuals within the State College School District and the former 692 telephone exchange. The Central Pennsylvania Food Bank partners with a network of more than 700 agencies that serve people who are hungry in our 27-county service area. The State College Food Bank is a partner agency of Central Pennsylvania Food Bank. As a partner agency we can purchase food at a lower cost and participate in the Feeding American Program.

We also want to give you an updated needs list, as well as some information about what donations we can't use. On a typical day at the Food Bank, we receive donated food from individuals, organizations, church groups, and businesses. While we appreciate this generosity, sometimes we receive items that we can't use because of food safety guidelines and governmental regulations, and we have to discard these items. Discarding products creates a financial expense to the Food Bank.

Here is a list of products we can't distribute to clients:

- Home canned goods
- Items that have been opened and partially used
- Items that contain alcohol
- Items that are severely dented or damaged
- Items that are past the expiration date
- Over-the-counter medicines

First quarter, 2013 needs list:

- Cereal/Oatmeal
- 100 % juice
- Canned fruit
- Raisins
- Cream of mushroom soup
- Boxed macaroni and cheese
- Hot chocolate mix
- Ketchup
- Mustard
- Syrup
- Mayonnaise
- Flour
- Sugar
- Toothpaste/Toothbrushes

We welcome Missy Garvin, who joined the Food Bank team in October as our new operations coordinator. Missy's background in nonprofit operations management and food handling made her an ideal choice. Her most recent experience was as the operations coordinator at Centre Volunteers in Medicine, and before that she co-owned a food retail store, Super Suppers. She's excited about working with clients and volunteers at the Food Bank. Missy and her husband, Terry, are proud parents of daughter Haley (and black lab, Charley)! ■

Board of Directors & Staff

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Kat Snowe, Recording Secretary
Alicia Wetmiller,
Corresponding Secretary

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Susan Bardo
Steve Bauer
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Pamela Livingston

Craig Millar
Meg Moose
Louwana Oliva
Maureen Riedel
Nancy Ring
Curt Sayers
Kit Stanton

Staff

Carol Pioli, Executive Director
Missy Garvin, Operations Manager
Barbara Dreese, Treasurer



Scouting for Food 2012

Thank You

November is the busiest month of the year at the State College Area Food Bank and other food pantries throughout Centre County. Thanks to our Food Bank donors and the various food drives during the past several months, hundreds of families enjoyed a traditional Thanksgiving feast. We also had another successful Centre County Toys for Tots campaign kickoff in November. Thanks to the Nittany Leathernecks, working closely with the Centre County Adult Services Office, Pennsylvania State Police, the State College Elks Club, the Food Bank of State College, and other Centre County food pantries,

many area children and their families will again enjoy special holiday foods and toys. Your contribution of time, talent, and treasure continues to ensure those in need can find help at Centre County Food Banks.


As 2012 comes to a close, we would like to recognize our outgoing board members—Tom Charles, Kristi Mattzella, and Heather Pleskonko—for their many years of board leadership. We also welcome our new board members—Linda Brown, Pamela Livingston, Craig Millar, Meg Moose, and Nancy Ring—as they begin their service. ■

A Few More Notes

As we head into the winter months, we want to let you know about our Inclement Weather Policy. The Food Bank will be closed if the State College Area schools are closed. We will remain open if the State College Area School District has a delay or early dismissal due to weather conditions. Tune into Cable TV Channel 4, 6, and 10 and 93.7 FM to check for inclement weather announcements related to the Food Bank. ■

Official registration and financial information of the Food Bank of the State College Area, Inc. may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll free at 800-712-0999. Registration does not mean endorsement.

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U.S. Postage
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The State College Area Food Bank
276 West Hamilton Avenue
State College, PA 16801

Return Service Requested

<http://foodbank.centrecountypa.org>

Phone: (814) 234-2310