



133 W. Broadway Ave.
Meridian, ID 83642

2015 ANNUAL REPORT

Accomplishments:

- **Food Bank**

- 25,115 volunteer hours worked to provide food assistance to people in need and school backpacks to hungry children.
- Acquisition of a new cargo van to replace a cargo van that was taken out of service, a new pallet stacker to improve efficiencies in the warehouse, and a refrigerated truck to keep food at a safe temperature while being transported. Additionally, a new walk-in cooler and computer upgrades were purchased. These purchases were made possible by grants from the TLC Foundation, the Walmart Foundation and the Nagel Foundation.
- In 2015, the food bank received 108,000 lbs. of food from “food drives”.
- Introduced in 2014, the Teacher Snack Packs and the Family Emergency Food Packs have continued to satisfy the need brought by food insecurity.
 - The Teacher Snack Packs are a supply of snacks for school children. The packs are provided to the Title 1 Schools in the West Ada School District for use in the classroom.
 - The Family Emergency Food Packs are a 2-day emergency food supply. The packs are provided to schools within the West Ada School District, when requested. The schools can provide the packs to families facing an immediate food crisis.
 - The Family Emergency Food Packs are also provided to homeless families placed in housing by CATCH, Inc.
- Availability of infant and toddler products. Partial funding from The Scentsy Rock-a-Thon grant remained available through 2015. We were able to continue supplying an on-going supply of baby food, formula, milk, cereal, eggs, diapers, and wipes for families with infants and toddlers.
- Shopping area and warehouse configurations.
 - We are continuing our efforts to maximize the patron shopping experience by expanding what was started last year when the new shelving and counters were constructed to provide a “shopper-friendly” atmosphere. A “Choice Pantry” model is in place to allow the patrons to select from available food and not have to take something they don’t want or won’t use.
 - During an inspection of our furnaces, it was determined that four of our six furnaces were not safe to operate and were shut down. We continued working, using space heaters until the furnaces could be replaced. The Nagel Foundation approved a grant allowing us the opportunity to purchase the furnaces.
- The food bank was approved as an allowed charity under the Combined Federal Campaign, the Federal employees giving program.

- **Food Pantry**
 - 20,065 food baskets distributed in 2015
 - 54,529 individuals served in 2015
 - 1,048,751 pounds of food distributed in 2015
 - 2,106 Holiday baskets distributed in 2015

 - 21,275 food baskets distributed in 2014
 - 59,115 individuals served in 2014
 - 937,115 pounds of food distributed in 2014
 - 1,701 Holiday baskets distributed in 2014

- **Backpack Program**
 - 17,554 food packs serving nearly 600 children weekly provided in the 2014-2015 school year.
 - 15,368 food packs serving nearly 500 children weekly provided in the 2013-2014 school year.
 - Funding for BP food purchases is made possible by grants from the Walmart Foundation, the Union Pacific Railroad and private donors.

Demographics:

- **Food Pantry**
 - Currently serving 19 communities throughout the Treasure Valley area with 99% of the clients residing in Ada and Canyon counties.
 - 88% of clients fall into very low to low income brackets.
 - 37% of those benefiting from the food pantry services are under the age of 18, 47% between the ages of 18 and 59, and 16% are 60 or older.
 - 25% of clients are Hispanic.

- **Backpack Program**
 - Currently serving 45 schools out of the 54 schools within the West Ada School District and the Meridian Head Start Program.
 - Less than 1% of children receiving food packs are pre-school age (Head Start), 72% elementary school age, 19% middle school age, 9% high school age.
 - 45% of the food packs provided go to 9 schools in the West Ada School District identified as Title 1 schools.

Budget:

- 2016 Budget \$300,000 (Forecast):
 - Food Pantry - \$90,000
 - Backpack Program - \$90,000
 - Building Infrastructure Upgrade - \$50,000
 - Additional food bank expenses - \$70,000

- 2015 Budget \$400,000
 - Food Pantry– \$120,000
 - Backpack Program - \$90,000
 - Food Bank Building Roof/Exterior Paint - \$50,000
 - Additional food bank needs - \$65,000

Donations:

- 54% of all monetary donations come from individuals and local organizations, 11% from the City of Meridian (Community Development Block Grant), and 35% from corporations and foundations.
- 79% of the food distributed was donated. The food comes from food drives, private donations, grocery stores, community gardens and local farmers – 830,145 pounds of food were donated in 2015.

Services:

- **Food pantry services** available Monday, Wednesday, Thursday each week. Individuals and families within Treasure Valley are permitted two visits per month.
- **School backpack program** delivers food packs weekly to children within the West Ada School District and Meridian Head Start.

Organization:

- Founded in 1999, received 501(c) (3) designation in 2006.
- All volunteer organization. No paid positions. Over 100 volunteers conduct day-to-day operations for both the Food Pantry and School Backpack Program.
- 9 member Board of Directors.
- 3 person management team directing daily operations.
- Managerial oversight provided by Executive Director.