



133 W. Broadway Ave.  
Meridian, ID 83642

## **2019 ANNUAL REPORT**

### **Accomplishments**

#### **Food Bank**

- 35,846 volunteer hours were worked to provide food assistance to people in need and school backpacks to hungry children.
- In 2019, the food bank received 1,220,062 lbs. of food including 103,238 lbs. of food from "food drives".
- The Teacher Snack Packs and the Family Emergency Food Packs have continued to help satisfy the need brought upon 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 upon request from a teacher.

- 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 by a counselor. The schools can provide the packs to families facing an immediate food crisis.

CATCH, Inc. and the Agency for the Aged also request packs.

- The process in place for capturing the weight of all food items received and distributed has been updated to increase accuracy.

- **Shopping area and facilities configurations**

- 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. This model also allows for the use of a small shopping cart rather than a grocery bag.
- In 2019, a children's picnic table was added as a safe, visible place for children while their parents shop.

- In 2019, we applied for and received a grant to purchase a large walk-in freezer to be placed in the warehouse. The growth of the food bank has continued and the need for refrigerated storage has increased. The grant was from the Nagel Foundation and was very much appreciated.

- **Food Pantry**

- 19,410 households received food in 2019
- 49,417 individuals were served in 2019
- 1,148,408 pounds of food distributed in 2019
- 1,675 holiday baskets distributed in 2019
- 19,583 households received food in 2018
- 50,771 individuals were served in 2018
- 1,189,674 pounds of food distributed in 2018
- 1,779 holiday baskets distributed in 2018

### **Backpack Program**

- 20,339 food packs serving over 650 children weekly were provided in the 2018-2019 school year.
- 19,454 food packs serving over 600 children weekly were provided in the 2017-2018 school year.
- Partial funding for BP food purchases is made possible by grants from The Whittenberger Foundation, Scentsy Family Foundation, Boise Rotary Foundation, Laura Moore Cunningham Foundation and Realtors Community Foundation.
- In 2019, the Meridian Food Bank Board decided to increase the options available for funding the Weekend Backpack Program. The new option allows for a donor to donate \$25.00 (the cost of food for one student per month) or more each month. Please visit our website for more information about this option.

## **Demographics**

### **Food Pantry**

- Currently serving 31 communities throughout the Treasure Valley area and beyond with 92% of the clients residing in Ada and Canyon counties
- 86% of clients fall into very low to low income brackets
- 34% of those benefiting from the food pantry services are under the age of 18, 52% between the ages of 18 and 59, and 14% are 60 or older
- 17% of clients are Hispanic

### **Backpack Program**

- Currently serving 51 schools out of the 59 schools within the West Ada School District and the Meridian Head Start Program
- 11% of children receiving food packs are pre-school age (Head Start), 62% elementary school age, 17% middle school age, 10% high school age
- 40% of the food packs provided go to 9 schools in the West Ada School District identified as Title 1 schools

## **Budget**

### **2020 Income Budget \$188,300 (Forecast):**

- Food Pantry - \$93,000
- Food Pantry Grants - \$3,000
- Backpack Program - \$91,500
- Additional Income - \$800

### **2019 Income Budget \$213,800:**

- Food Pantry - \$93,149
- Food Pantry Grants - \$1,888
- Backpack Program - \$74,713
- Additional food bank needs - \$31,000

## Donations

- 77% of all monetary donations came from individuals and local organizations, and 23% from corporations and foundations.
- 94% of the food distributed was donated. The food comes from food drives, private donations, grocery stores, community gardens and local farmers – 1,220,062 pounds of food were donated in 2019.

## Services

- **Food Pantry Services** are available Monday, Wednesday and 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 200 volunteers conduct day to day operations for both the Food Pantry and the School Backpack Program for the West Ada School District.
- 9-member Board of Directors
- 7-person management team directing daily operations
- Managerial oversight provided by Executive Director