



Interfaith Food Pantry

Serving Morris County

Annual Report 2012



Neighbors Helping Neighbors

MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission of the Interfaith Food Pantry is to:

- improve the health and well being of Morris County residents in need by providing access to food, nutrition education and related resources;
- provide hands on opportunities for neighbors to help neighbors;
- educate the public about the issues of hunger in our area.

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What is the Interfaith Food Pantry?

The Interfaith Food Pantry is a non-denominational, non-profit 501 (c) (3) organization helping families make ends meet by supplementing their monthly groceries in times of need. Established in 1994, the Interfaith Food Pantry was formed when a group from four local houses of worship decided to address the growing issue of hunger by consolidating their food assistance programs. The objective was to create a central collection and distribution center in Morristown. Our Federal tax-exempt # is 22-3618468.

What We Do The Interfaith Food Pantry provides groceries to eligible Morris County residents. Groceries are collected from a variety of sources: houses of worship, businesses & schools, community service programs, local groups and organizations, individuals and families.

The Food Pantry purchases food whenever donations run low in order to maintain our goal of providing reliable assistance to the community. We distribute groceries to: senior citizens, low-income working families, recently unemployed workers, and other individuals in crisis. In addition to those who come to the Pantry, groceries are delivered throughout the county to those who are disabled and cannot get to us.

How Does Someone Get Groceries? Groceries are provided to anyone in need from Morris County who has housing and cooking facilities. Individuals set up an appointment with our Intake Counselor where they will fill out an application and are interviewed to help us assess their need. Our pantry is set up as a Client Choice Program, where clients are allowed to select the food they want from the shelves as if they were in a supermarket. The amount they can take is determined by the size of their family. They may continue to use the pantry as long as there is need.

Where Do Our Clients Come From? All are residents of Morris County. In addition to walk-ins, referrals are made from houses of worship, hospitals and schools. Many are sent by community agencies such as the Department of Aging and Disabilities, Maternal and Child Health Network, NJ Battered Women's Shelter, St. Clare's Behavioral Health Center, Family Service, Homeless Solutions, Inc. and the Mental Health Assoc. of Morris County.

Our clients come from all walks of life. Most are working but their incomes do not keep pace with the cost of living. They are employed as nursing aides, clerical workers, restaurant & retail staff, school employees & day care assistants. In recent months we have seen a large increase in the number of people who have lost their jobs. Others are living on Social Security or Disability. They are grandparents raising their grandchildren and folks living with chronic illness. **They are our neighbors.**



What Else Do We Do? As we determine what other needs families may have, we give them referral information to resources that provide assistance, such as eyeglasses, day care scholarships, furniture, clothing, etc. Nutrition and making good food choices is the basis for our **"Healthy Choices Program"** which also involves cooking classes for children. A visiting nurse **screens clients for health issues** like diabetes and hypertension and our nutrition educator provides information and counseling to help families understand the link between food and health. She also assists us in securing the most nutritious food possible.

The Pantry also tries to make holidays a little brighter for those in need. We provide **Thanksgiving food baskets and turkeys and December holiday baskets.**

The Food Pantry accepts donations from a variety of local sources that want to help those in need. If we cannot use the items offered we try to match donors with groups who are looking for particular donations. We also stock an emergency food closet located at the Morristown site of the County Office of Temporary Assistance. Finally, we help meet the emergency food needs of some of the other non-profit groups whenever possible.

The Interfaith Food Pantry embodies the traditional spirit of neighbors helping neighbors.

ANNUAL REPORT

In 2012 we accomplished the following:

# different households served	4,768	# family visits/year	16,543
IFP sites & Home Delivery	1,917		
From our emergency site	1,566		
Food given to other agencies & extra people at holidays	1,285		
# different people served	12,068	# lbs. of food distributed	741,416 lbs.
IFP sites & Home Delivery	4,552	IFP sites & Home Delivery	672,731 lbs.
From our emergency site	3,679	From our emergency site	35,844 lbs.
Food given to other agencies & extra people at holidays	3,855	Food given to other agencies & extra people at holidays	32,841 lbs.
		# tons of food distributed/year	371

Home Delivery Program* 2012

# of home visits	1,718	# of homebound families served	168
#people served	238	# lbs. of food distributed/year	70,121

* #'s included in yearly statistics above.

CLIENT DEMOGRAPHICS

Primary Source of Income		Ethnicity		Age	
Salary	44%	Hispanic/Latino	37%	60+	13%
SS/Pension	15%	Caucasian	46%	19-59	51%
SSI	10%	African American	15%	0-18	36%
Disability	11%	Other	02%		
Public Assistance	05%			Size of Households	
Unemployment Ins.	08%			1 or 2	59%
Child Support	02%			3 or 4	31%
Other	05%			5 or 6	09%
				7,8,or 9	01%

Volunteer Summary

During 2012 **20,405 hours** of volunteer service were donated to the Interfaith Food Pantry. The value of this time is **\$430,262**. Volunteers at the Interfaith Food Pantry perform such tasks as office work, sorting food, restocking shelves in the shopping rooms, working on special events, working with youth groups, assisting clients during distribution, providing delivery to housebound clients and picking up from the Community Food Bank and area organizations that are not able to deliver their food collections.

	2012	2011	2010
Staff Volunteers (324 different individuals)	16,534 hrs	14,743 hrs	13,853 hrs
Regular Groups & Short Term Volunteers (1607 individuals)	3,871 hrs	4,258 hrs	2,167 hrs
Donated mileage by Home Delivery volunteers	28,642 mi	25,504 miles	24,657 mi

Client Yearly Family Incomes

\$15,000 or less	52%	\$20,001 - \$30,000	19%	\$35,001 - \$40,000	2%
\$15,001 - \$20,000	18%	\$30,001 - \$35,000	5%	\$40,001 +	4%

HOURS OF OPERATION

**Warehouse/Office, 2 Executive Drive,
PO Box 250, Morris Plains, NJ 07950**

For food distribution

1st four Tues. of each month 2pm - 4pm

To drop off food or visit

Monday - Thursday 9:30am - 4:30pm
Special arrangements may be made by request.

1st & 3rd Tues. of each month
1st four Wed. of each month
1st four Thurs. of each month
1st four Saturdays of each month

6pm - 8pm
6pm – 8pm
1pm – 3pm
10am - 12pm

**Satellite Pantry @ 190 Speedwell Avenue,
Morristown For food distribution only**

Every Tues., Wed. & Thurs. 9:30am – 12pm

REGULAR IFP CLIENTS **

Town	#Families		#People		#visits	
	2012	2011	2012	2011	2012	2011
BOONTON	57	47	146	118	346	294
BUTLER	18	5	48	11	79	27
CHATHAM/TOWNSHIP	15	12	26	26	119	50
CHESTER	4	2	9	5	21	10
DENVILLE	35	28	95	70	184	154
DOVER	303	308	816	862	1881	1787
EAST HANOVER	6	6	14	15	45	45
FLORHAM PARK	15	10	30	21	130	112
HANOVER TWSP (WHIPPANY & CEDAR KNOLLS)	34	29	87	80	221	239
JEFFERSON (JEFFERSON, HOPATCONG & LAKE HOPATCONG & OAK RIDGE)	32	24	77	66	190	138
KINNELON BOROUGH	0	0	0	0	0	0
LINCOLN PARK	21	15	53	32	134	62
LONG HILL TWP (MILLINGTON, GILLETTE)	7	5	18	15	31	46
MADISON	32	31	69	71	247	233
MENDHAM/TOWNSHIP/BROOKSIDE	9	9	26	22	64	47
MINE HILL	18	13	53	34	70	67
MONTVILLE TWP(MONTVILLE, PINEBROOK,TOWACO)	29	15	72	35	162	83
MORRIS PLAINS	62	42	111	84	398	271
MORRIS TOWNSHIP (INCLUDES CONVENT STATION)	5	9	7	16	51	38
MORRISTOWN	631	641	1454	1442	5551	5873
MT. ARLINGTON	7	7	14	16	62	67
MT. OLIVE (BUDD LAKE, FLANDERS)	90	70	231	167	493	398
MOUNTAIN LAKES	3	3	5	5	23	19
NETCONG (NETCONG HEIGHTS)	34	25	62	40	249	186
PARSIPPANY TROY HILLS (PARSIPPANY, LAKE HIAWATHA, MT TABOR, LAKE PARPIPPANY)	127	115	265	247	890	864
PEQUANNOCK (POMPTON PLAINS)	13	12	16	12	107	104
RANDOLPH (CEDAR GROVE, MT FREEDOM, RANDOLPH & IRONIA)	96	90	206	209	656	609
RIVERDALE	4	4	13	13	18	14
ROCKAWAY/BORO (HIBERNIA & GREEN POND)	62	46	170	127	375	300
ROXBURY TWP (KENVIL, LANDING, LEDGEWOOD, SUCCASSUNA)	50	56	126	142	257	300
VICTORY GARDENS	3	1	8	5	12	4
WASHINGTON TWSHP (LONG VALLEY, STIRLING)	8	5	19	5	52	29
WHARTON	70	69	182	197	379	344
OTHER	6	6	16	14	36	33

****Data on town of residence is only collected on clients using our main distribution centers. We do not collect specific data from emergency sites as these are one time only visits.**

Who Are Our Clients?

There are so many people who come to the Interfaith Food Pantry looking for a helping hand – they come from all walks of life and all have moving stories about how they came to need our services. Your donations of time, money, food and expertise really make a difference in the lives of these neighbors and we thought you might like to meet a few of them.

“Patty” and “Andrew” live in the western part of the county with their children. They bought their house years ago when Andrew held a mid-level management job with a Telecom company, and Patty worked part time. They were not wealthy, but were living comfortably when Andrew lost his job in a massive downsizing. He spent the next six months looking for work in his field but found they were few and far between. After they ran through their savings and retirement funds, he widened his search looking for any job that would help them keep their home. He found he was considered “overqualified” or facing employers who were afraid he would leave if he found a better position. They also found his unemployment insurance made them ineligible for any government assistance even though they did not have enough funds to pay their basic expenses and still buy food. This was when they finally came to the Interfaith Food Pantry for help.

Patty came to the Pantry for the first time by herself. Andrew was really struggling with no longer being able to support the family – he had never needed help before and coming to ask for aid was more than he could handle. As Patty said afterwards, she was extremely nervous during her first visit as she didn’t know what to expect and was afraid they would not qualify for assistance. But the counselor was patient, kind and understanding. She received her ID card and then loaded up her shopping cart with cereal, juice, tuna, soup, pasta, milk, bread and even fresh corn that was donated by a local farm. It was enough to supplement her family for an entire month. She broke down in tears, as she thanked the volunteer who helped her that day. She said, “I couldn’t believe how nice everyone was, and that this food was available to us during such a difficult time. When we get back on our feet, we will begin donating once again through our church.”



“Kevin”, a man in his early fifties walked in on a Friday afternoon sporting a nice leather jacket, a button down shirt and Dockers. It was not clear whether he was a volunteer, donor or someone looking for help. He finally quietly told the receptionist that he “just needed a bag of food to get me through the weekend”. After talking him into sitting down for a few minutes with one of the counselors, we found out that Kevin had worked at a car dealership for many years and did quite well until his mother fell critically ill and had no one to care for her. Since he had money saved, he decided to take a leave of absence to move in with her until she recovered. Unfortunately her health continued to decline and she needed round the clock care that they could not afford. She was in and out of the hospital and more dependent on him than ever. Eventually they had to replace him at work and he lost his job. Her medical bills – even with insurance – quickly depleted his safety net. He used the last of his savings, for her funeral expenses. Yet, he insisted that he didn’t need to enroll in the program, because he had an extensive resume and years of experience and he would be able to find a job quickly. We gave him the emergency bag he requested but convinced him to fill out an application “just in case.” Last month he returned, still looking for work and ready to accept help. He said “I’m so glad we talked and thank you for making this easy for me. I never imagined I would be in this situation, but am so lucky you are here because I’m not sure where else I would turn to.”



Belin moved to New Jersey with her daughter to be near family after Hurricane Katrina destroyed her apartment in New Orleans, wiped out her community and ended her job. Finding herself with practically nothing, she turned to IFP for help. She was raising her child on her own and rebuilding her life from scratch. “The food we received was a life saver for us. But this place also is inspiring to see so many people helping each other. Working with the staff and volunteers here gave me so much more than food. It gave me hope and a safe haven.” This summer Belin finally completed the associate degree that she started in New Orleans and this fall she begins working on her BS in social work at a local university. She did all this

while working two jobs and raising her daughter. Now she has graduated from client and currently serves as a volunteer interviewing and assisting new applicants.

Interfaith Food Pantry Programs

Client Choice Program

- provides clients with emergency and supplemental food during time of need
- provides clients with access to a variety of food from each food group based on family size, dietary restrictions and personal preference
- empowers clients to make decisions and restores integrity to the process of receiving food



Healthy Choices Program

- Provides nutrition counseling for prevention and/or management of diet related illnesses.
- Provides access to a greater variety of nutritious foods that may not typically be available at food pantries (i.e., fresh dairy, lean proteins, low sodium options, gluten free foods, and fresh fruits and vegetables).
- Increases fresh produce by working with communities and groups to set up gardens for IFP.
- Educates client about how to grow their own food in limited space.
- Instructs clients on how to prepare available foods in a nutritious manner.
- Offers a series of health and nutrition related workshops for children of clients.
- Provides screening for potential health risks, e.g., diabetes and hypertension.



Working Families Access Program

- Provides low-income working families access after work on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings as well as Saturdays.
- Provides them with access to nutrition programs and health screening.

Home Delivery Program

- Works to enable home-bound elderly, disabled and medically fragile clients to remain living independently by pairing them with volunteers who bring food to their homes.
- Attempts to meet dietary restrictions related to their medical needs wherever possible.
- Allows opportunity for community involvement for those who are not available to volunteer during daytime hours.

Family Self-Sufficiency Program

- Enables easy referral to services such as medical and behavioral health care, eyeglasses, furniture, home energy assistance programs, EITC, low cost child care options and prescription assistance programs.

- Provides referrals to job fairs and training programs.
- Provides access to case managers.

Youth Involvement Program

- Provides hunger-related educational and hands-on sessions for civic, scout, school and worship-based youth groups through volunteer-conducted field trips and after school activities.
- Assists young people in developing their own hunger support activities off site.
- Provides education about local hunger issues and the IFP's role in the community via presentations to schools, scouts, civic and worship-based youth groups at their facilities.



Community Awareness Program

- Enables IFP to provide public education about hunger and related issues through printed material, presentations and various forms of media.
- Enables IFP to provide public education about the IFP's mission, goals and need for community support and involvement.
- Enables IFP to promote awareness about the program to those who may need assistance.
- Promotes volunteerism and advocacy.

Advocacy Program

- Offers opportunities for community involvement through awareness of legislative impact on hunger and related issues.
- Offers opportunities for families and individuals to participate in public awareness and activism campaigns such as the food stamp challenge, letter writing, brown bag buddies, etc.

Volunteer Program

- Provides opportunity for community involvement for individuals, families, civic groups, houses of worship and corporations.
- Allows members of the community to connect with their neighbors and become part of the solution.
- Enables IFP to be cost-effective, using donated services to expand programs while keeping administrative costs low.
- Provides resources to IFP through fundraising programs and community-wide food drives.



Thanksgiving and December Holidays Program

- Allows clients to provide their families with appropriate meals for the holidays.
- Provides opportunity for community-wide involvement via food drives and volunteer opportunities.



Client Choice Shopping Center

Healthy Choice Teaching Kitchen



IFP Pantry and Resource Center – 2 Executive Drive, Morris Plains, NJ

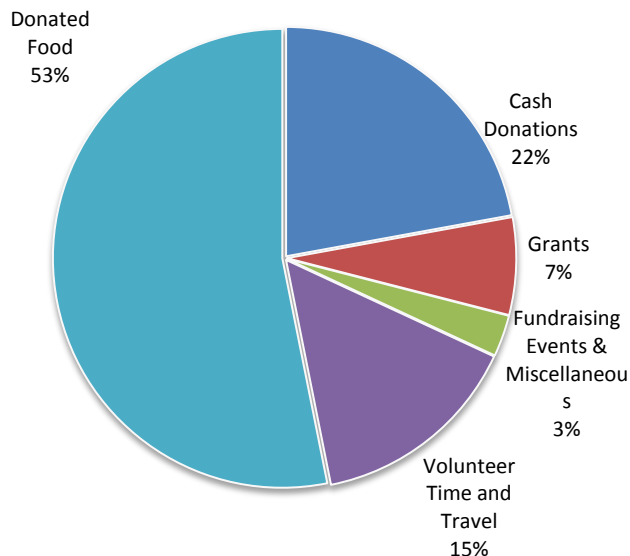


Warehouse

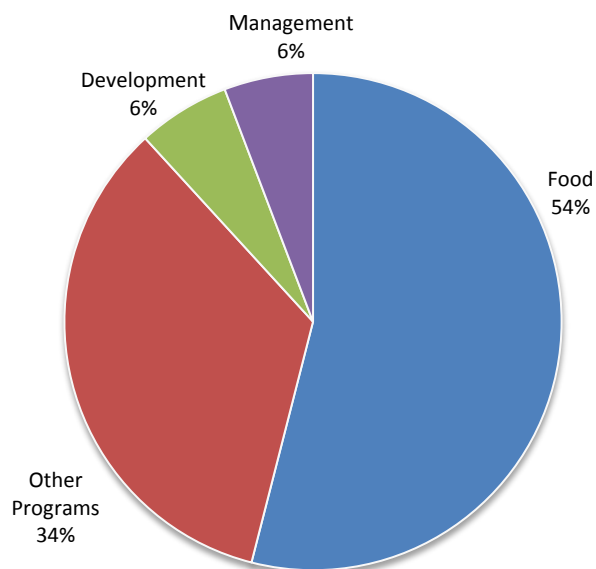


Self-sufficiency Center & Classroom

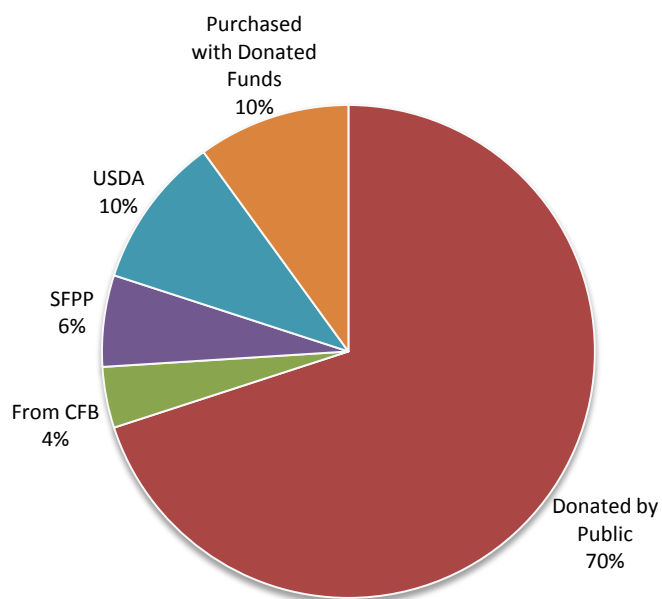
2012 Financials and Food Sources



2012 INCOME		
Cash Donations	\$660,704	22%
Grants	\$204,967	7%
Fundraising Events & Miscellaneous	\$87,349	3%
Volunteer Time and Travel	\$446,016	15%
Donated Food	\$1,586,630	53%
Total	\$2,985,666	



2012 EXPENSES		
Food	\$1,663,353	54%
Other Programs	\$1,054,322	34%
Development	\$185,354	6%
Management	\$178,149	6%
Total * includes depreciation	\$3,081,178	



Donated By Public	516,003	70%
From CFB - Community Food Bank (non-purchased)	33,593	4%
SFPP - State Food Purchase Program	48,205	6%
USDA - NJ Dept. of Agriculture	71,033	10%
Purchased with Donated Funds	72,582	10%
Total	741,416	

BOARD OF TRUSTEES DURING 2012

President – Ann Marie Manahan – Community Volunteer
 Vice Pres. – Greg Supron – Community Volunteer
 Treasurer – Stuart Wiet – Community Volunteer
 Secretary – Rachel Carter, Esq. – Chubb Ins. Co.
 Pres. Emeritus – Russ Hall - Community Volunteer

Rob Baumeister – Refined Sight, Inc.
 Bruce Galton – Community Volunteer
 Karen Jones-Williams – Morris School District
 Chris MacDonald – Community Volunteer
 Marc Mackin – Lapp Holding NA
 Pam Palumbo, MPA, CFRE – Homeless Solutions
 Chris Richter – Avison Young

STAFF DURING 2012

Executive Director - Rosemary Gilmartin *
 Dir. Comm. Relations & Development – Carolyn Lake
 Client Services Manager – Liliana Herrera
 Food and Facilities Manager – Scott Lawton
 Office Manager – Dana Connelly
 Volunteer Coordinator – Doug McMahon
 Nutrition Educator – Katy Galton
 Distribution Manager – Diana Garcia
 Business Manager – Wendy Potkay
 Office Assts. – Lenora Caamano & Barbara Petrakis
 Maintenance Coordinator – Bill Zackoff
 Warehouse Assts. – Tony Aviles & Patrick Mitchell
 * also member Board of Trustees



AGENCIES REFERRING CLIENTS IN 2012

Caring Partners
 Community Hope
 Community Soup Kitchen



Dawn Center for Independent Living
 Family Service of Morris County
 First Call for Help
 Family Intervention Services
 Gateway NW Maternal and Child Network

Head Start
Homeless Solutions
Hope House
Interfaith Council for Homeless Families
Mental Health Association of Morris County
Morris County Division of Aging and Disabilities
Morris County Head Start
Morris County Healthy Families
Morris County Housing Authority
Morris County Nutrition Program
Morris County Office of Hispanic Affairs
Morris County Office of Temporary Assistance
Morristown Neighborhood House
Mt. Olive Township Food Pantry
New Bridge Services
NJ Aids Resources Center
NJ Battered Women's Shelter
Roots and Wings
St. Clare's Behavioral Health Center
Visiting Nurse Association
Workforce NJ
Zufall Health Clinic

**SOME OF THE PARTNER AGENCIES
COLLABORATING ON SERVICES IN 2012 AT IFP
SITES**

Morristown Medical Center – provided health educators and performed health screenings.
Charmoy Dental – provided dental health information and supplies.
Grow It Green Morristown, America's Grow A Row, and Giving Garden's Project – Wagner Farm Arboretum – all donated fresh produce.
Jack & Jill of Morris County – offered cooking and exercise program for client children and families.
Junior League of Morristown – ran series of family healthy cooking classes.
NORWESCAP – ran series of financial literacy classes.
Rutgers SNAP ED Program – provided nutrition education resources.
St. Hubert's Shelter – provided free pet food during distribution session