

FISH of East Aurora, Inc.



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Judy Lamb, *Executive Director*

September was hunger action month when all food pantries across the county asked everyone to help fight hunger in their communities. We were so grateful for the several food drives held in our community for the FISH food pantry. Every month, our pantry helps over 300 families get the support they need to find nutritious food to eat. Hunger does exist in our community and has a profound effect on all within the family. Proper nutrition is vital to a child's development and our seniors face a number of medical and mobility issues that put them at a greater risk of hunger. FISH understands the daily challenges that our low-income families face.

During the last few months, we have had a substantial increase in the number of individuals and families we serve. The increase in the food distribution depletes our supply very quickly. In addition, through our innovative Senior Nutrition Plus Program, we give an additional bag of food to seniors. Also, the food distribution on our Saturdays has increased as well. Our pantry supply is once again low on all canned goods and non-perishables.

As we prepare for the holiday season, we need your help once again. We know this is a very giving and generous community. We are so moved by all of the support we receive on a daily basis. All of you make our work possible. You can continue to make a difference by raising awareness of hunger, donating food, money, toys, or gift cards, organizing a food drive, becoming a business or corporate sponsor, or volunteering your time.

On behalf of the FISH organization, staff, and volunteers, we wish you many blessings on Thanksgiving, Christmas, and a New Year filled with peace, joy and above all, love.

Gratefully,

Judy Lamb, Executive Director

OUTREACH SERVICES AT FISH



Once a month we continue to have SNAP outreach with Lauren Merriman to take your applications for food stamps. We also have representatives for both Medicare and Medicaid as well. All are open to the public and you can call FISH at 652-7272 for dates or more information.

MOBILE FOOD PANTRY

We continue to offer the mobile food pantry food distribution on the 1st Thursday of every month from 10:30-12:30. However, very often we are out of food by 11:30. Please get here early. This Feedmore food distribution is open to anyone in the area that is low-income and food insecure.

EXCITING OPPORTUNITY

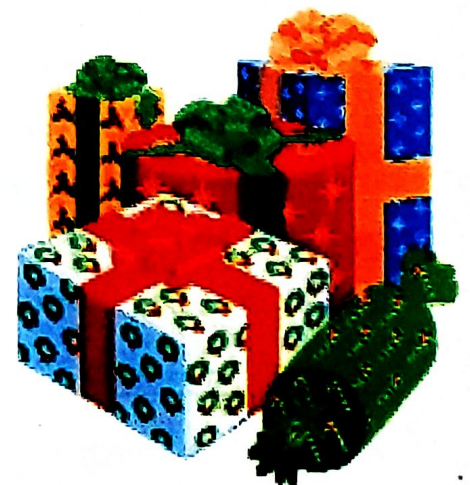
We are currently looking for someone to Chair/Co-Chair our Soup and Bread Hunger Awareness Fundraiser for next September 2024. We have many volunteers willing to help. The event is really so much fun. Please call Judy if you are interested or want more information.



CHRISTMAS TOY DAY

Toy Day gives our FISH parents the opportunity to choose toys for their children; often, these are the only toys the children receive.

Our Toy Day will be on **Saturday, December 16th**. All parents need to be registered. FISH will be accepting new, unwrapped toys during the next few months. All toys donated remain here for our families. Gift cards for older children and teens are also greatly appreciated. You can drop off toys on Tuesday and Thursdays between 8:30a.m. and 3p.m. or the first Saturday of the month 10a.m. to 12p.m.



We ask that all toy and gift card donations be brought by **Saturday, December 2, 2023**. We know this is an early date, however, we need to be able to pack all of the bags before our toy distribution on December 16th.

****Thanks to Elma United Methodist Church for copies of this newsletter.



FISH Honors Volunteers

Sandy Pearson (23 years), Judy Engberg (22 years), Janie Beyer (20 years), Connie Suchak (12 years), Linda Gryzkowski (12 years), Judith Malys (10 years) and Beth Reif (10 years) are honored for their years of service to FISH of East Aurora at the group's annual banquet at Kodiak Jack's. Missing from this photo are volunteers Ruth Buda (16 years), Joyce Ortman (15 years), and Robert Nareau (10 years).



Mobile Food Pantry Volunteers Marilyn Gembar, Janie Beyer, and Kathy Grabon



Janie Beyer, Volunteer

FISH end of summer BBQ



Amy Vogel, Winnie Bove, Paula Ruggiero, Shelly Szpara, Marilyn Gembar at our annual BBQ



Our entertaining volunteers at the annual BBQ



Marge Schultz, Nancy Gradwell, Sonny Schultz, Jean Kron



Our Volunteer dudes at the annual BBQ



Our retired volunteers Marlene Gradl and Dolores Walczyk, and our part-time social worker Beth Storm-Reif at the Volunteer BBQ

MANY THANKS TO

- The East Aurora Co-operative Market. This summer the East Aurora Co-op Market partnered with FISH of East Aurora for their Round Up at the Register Initiative. From June through August, Co-op shoppers had the option to support FISH by rounding up their total purchase. Through the Co-op community's generosity, a grand total of \$6,013.26 was raised for FISH.
- Roycrofters at Large Association, Inc. for sharing proceeds from a community concert in July. They raised \$908 for FISH.
- Those supporting our fundraiser at the Valu Community Days. Our volunteers raised \$562 selling hot dogs, chips, pop and cookies.
- Dale Little and Gary Warner, our volunteer electricians, who put new lighting in the interior and exterior of the FISH building.

**Thanks
So much!**



HOLIDAY FOOD DISTRIBUTION

FISH will gladly accept donations of small turkeys, chickens, hams and any canned good or non-perishable for both holidays.

THANKSGIVING FOOD DISTRIBUTION - will be on Tuesday, November 14th and Thursday, November 16th.

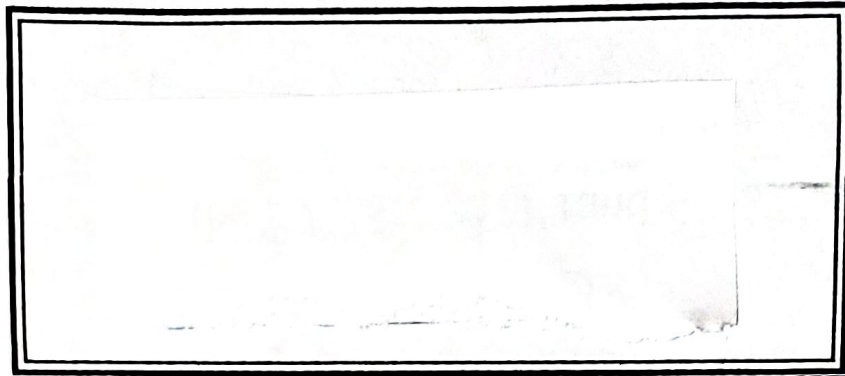
CHRISTMAS FOOD DISTRIBUTION - will be on Tuesday, December 19th, and Thursday, December 21st.





**FISH OF EAST
AURORA, INC.**
960 East Main Street
P.O. Box 120
East Aurora, NY 14052

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FISH of East Aurora, Inc.

A charitable Christian organization that provides free services to low-income families in the Southtowns.

Open Tuesday and Thursday from 9 A.M. to Noon for donations.

Food Pantry open 1-3 P.M.

Also, food distribution 10-12 P.M. on the first Saturday of the month.



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Now On Facebook at: www.facebook.com/fishofeastaurora

"And the Angels said unto them, fear not for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which, shall be to all people." - Luke 2:10 KJV