

Project Hope is Experiencing Food Shortages

All of us are experiencing the effects of higher food and gas prices. We have less spendable income now than a year ago. To accommodate for this, we have tightened our purse strings in case the situation worsens. The problem is, low income families with children lost the government sponsored Covid-19 benefits on December 31, 2021 which was greatly assisting them in providing necessities for the family. Their monthly income decreased as the food and gas prices started to increase.

Clients

As a result, Project Hope is serving over 100% more clients this year compared to last year. Last month we served 445 families with a total of 1,383 individuals. The number of clients requesting food assistance increases every month. This means that many more families and individuals are suffering from food insecurity in our community.

Food and Expenses

In the past, we served our clients with food from the Foodbank for the Heartland, Saving Grace Food Rescue Organization, and the food donations from you. Unfortunately, all of these sources of food have significantly decreased. We are now purchasing the majority of food for our clients. In the first six months of this year, we spent over \$20,000 on food items purchased from the local grocery stores to have enough food. Our food budget for this year was \$15,000 and we have spent all the grant money received so far for food purchases. If your church has an Endowment Fund with grant money available for special causes, please notify Project Hope.

Donations Needed

Your donations of food items and financial assistance is greatly needed and appreciated. Here is a list of food items we need everyday to provide pantries for our clients. Cereal, Cereal Bars, Granola Bars, Oatmeal, Pancake Mix, Pancake Syrup, Fruit Cups, Canned Peaches & Pears, Applesauce, Canned Peas, Corn, & Green Beans, Canned Beans including Baked Beans & Refried Beans, Canned Meats (Chicken, Salmon, Tuna, etc.), Rice or Pasta Sides, Ramen Noodles, Tuna & Hamburger Helper, Pasta, Mac & Cheese, Pasta Sauce, Tomato Sauce, Diced Tomatoes, Canned Soup, Salsa, Box Potatoes, Crackers, Peanut Butter, Jelly/Jam, Brownie or Cake Mix, Condiments (Ketchup, Mustard, BBQ Sauce, Mayo, & Salad Dressings), Small Bottles Cooking Oil, and Microwave Popcorn. Thank you in advance for your help.

Project Hope Job Opening Part-time Pantry Specialist Needed

This individual will be responsible for processing pantry donations and inventory, assist clients, collect client data, as well as assist with office tasks and special projects.

Work Hours are Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday 9 am-4 pm.

Skills and Qualifications:

- Active member of a Christian church.
- Able to lift and move up to 50 pounds, carry boxes, stand and walk for long periods of time.
- The capacity to work well with others; as well as relate sensitively and effectively with our staff, those who serve as volunteers, and our clients.
- Demonstrates positive abilities in the areas of organization skills, independent time management skills, effective communication skills, and leadership qualities.
- Ability to proficiently use a computer with Microsoft Word, Excel and the Microsoft Suite programs as well as knowledge and proficient use of the internet and social media.

Duties and Responsibilities:

- Supervises, processes, and organizes the intake of all food, household products, personal care items, and clothing donations including documentation on intake forms and stocking the shelves.
- Supervises the processing and distribution of food in the pantry.
- Maintain the appearance and function of the pantry area.
- Collects client data and interacts with pantry clients to facilitate a positive experience for the clients.
- Maintain food inventory records including completion of monthly inventory process.
- Records freezer and refrigerator temperatures and maintain logs.
- Answers phone calls and records phone messages.
- Develop and print pantry forms, fliers, and handouts.

Complete job description and job application form available on our website @ www.projecthopeomaha.org.