



The Pantry Door



Published monthly by the Homer Community Food Pantry – February, 2026

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We All Loved You Mike!



It is with great sadness that we say goodbye to our dear friend and colleague, Mike Kliemann. What Mike was known mainly for was his kindness and willingness to help with anything and everything. He reliably showed up every Monday to lend his support to the pantry. Mike also started coming in on Thursdays to help in the kitchen making sandwiches for our Community Free Fridge. He was always upbeat and had a heart of gold. His twin brother Mitch said,

“My goal is to emulate Mike’s giving spirit and kindness.”
**We will all miss you dear Mike.*

Out with the former, in with the former, former?



Our dear co-worker, Bette Seaman, has decided to step down from the board as our secretary. Coincidentally our former secretary Ruth Dickerson has agreed to fill that spot. I'm thinking... ~Serendipitous~

Team Homer Food Pantry!



Annie Garay and a team from the South Peninsula Hospital spear-headed the annual Community Resource Connect, held at the SPARC at the end of January. This year 30 organizations showed up to offer information and their services for those in need. Over 45 volunteers showed up to help 115 individuals from Anchor Point, Homer and the surrounding area. This is a state-wide



program. The Homer Food Pantry handed out pkg and canned goods, sleeping bags, clothing items and shower and laundry vouchers. The hospital and the Food Pantry also provided a yummy lunch!

We're all truly here for each other!

Some donations continue to come in. This was from our friends at Uncle Herbs! We were also grateful to get supplies from the Pratt Museum! Ulmer's and Safeway are always very generous in giving us their surplus holiday cookies, candies and hot chocolate. Our clients are always happy to get that sweet treat surprise. Thank You!



Providing food and emergency assistance, with compassion, to those seeking our services.

907-235-1968 [volunteers](#)
907-435-1616 [donations](#)

770 East End Rd., Homer, Alaska 99603

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We Want to Thank...

*All of those who donated on behalf of the lovely Elaine Grabowski. She was such a blessing to those who had the good fortune of knowing her. She left behind a beautiful legacy!

We are also grateful to:

- *Robert and Charlotte Moss
- *Jim Bartilson
- *Maynard Smith
- *Marilyn and Ron Hess
- *Joan and Joseph Mello
- *Danielle and Matthew Freund
- *PayPal giving Fund
- *Kachemak Board of Realtors
- *St John's Catholic Church
- *Sons of the American Legion

Just a few stats...

We had 4 Mondays in January where we served 608 check-in clients. Many of those are families. On our busiest Monday we had 180 people come through, a new high! We gave out approx. 3,580 cans of food, with about 1,158 (32%) of those being from donations. We also gave out 12 milk crates of miscellaneous donated items. In addition we sent bay boxes to Nanwalek. We provided a substantial amount of food for High School students as well as the Girl Scout backpack program for those students couch surfing. ~Many people ask us what they can donate that would be most useful to the pantry. The answer is, money. We say this because we can purchase items at a reduced price from KPFB and various sources that offer us a discount. Regardless, we are grateful for everything that we are given. THANK YOU!

Items Needed;

- *wooden end tables or small bookshelf for an early summer fundraiser. If you have any to donate, holler!
- *egg cartons
- *Pick-up drivers and fridge stockers

Homer Community Free Fridge!

Vonda, Susan, Luanne and Jean are our dedicated Monday kitchen crew cooking for The Free Fridge. Jean is our lead and a fabulous cook!



Sarah, Karen M, Karen N. and Jean are the consistent Thursday cooks. Allison, Juliette and Aaron (upper rt) also show up quite frequently to slather sandwiches and make bagel pizzas. Aaron is our honorary dishwasher! I say honorary because we honor him for doing this job! Once again, Jean whips out numerous dinners, egg sandwiches and her famous bread puddings. We are a happy crew!



Homer's Community Free Fridge has been in operation approximately 2½ years now offering homemade meals to the community. We stock This fridge twice a day, 7 days a week and we still can't keep up with the demand. Everything we use in the kitchen, outside of containers for the most part, has been donated. We use excess bagels to make most the pizzas, and donated meats and veggies to make our soups and sandwiches. All scraps are picked up by local chicken and pig farmers. We recycle containers as well as receiving many from various restaurants. The month of January we made 303 dinners, over 1,000 sandwiches, 180+ hardy soups, 234 slices of pizza, roughly 200 bread puddings and a variety of yogurts, salads and desserts. Safeway and Save-U-More are very generous in giving us numerous meats, veggies, fruits & desserts that need to be utilized as well as the bakeries. We also have our Senior Sandwich Club, SPH cooks, the Senor Center kitchen and individuals that drop soups and fruits off. Our stockers and drivers also make this possible. We are humbled!

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