# The Pantry Door

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#### The Coordinator's Corner.

The generosity of this commu-**I** nity is outstanding. In the midst of an extremely challenging year, the Food Pantry has always been able to provide the most basic and most necessary services to the residents of the south peninsula.

As we look ahead to 2021 we can only hope we can leave so much of



Dennis Weidler

the negative aspects behind. We don't need a pandemic. We don't need the business challenges. What

we don't wish to leave behind are the compassion, the generosity and the caring our neighbors share with one another.

At the Homer Food Pantry, we are blessed to live with and serve our neighbors.

Here's to looking forward to 2021. And, thank you all.

### A Special Thanks...

...to Two Sisters Bakery. In the past 9 months, they have donated over 5,000 loaves of bread to the Homer Food Pantry.

That's a lot of dough! Thanks for making a simple, yet delicious loaf of bread available to so many.

## Taxi Vouchers Now Provide A New Opportunity To Serve.



Nadya with a handful of taxi vouchers.

hanks to three different L organizations, the Homer Food Pantry now has a healthy supply of taxi vouchers from Kostas Cab.

A special thanks to the I Love Homer campaign, the Homer Foundation's Community Choice Award and to the South Kenai Resilience Coalition. All three designated taxi vouchers as a use for their recent donations.

We have found that transporta-

tion to and from the weekly Food Pantry distribution has been a challenge for many of our clients. Icy or snowy road conditions, COVID-19, doctor's visits or serving those who are elderly or infirm have led to the Food Pantry requesting the special funding. No one should miss out on receiving food or critical services.

Included with each taxi voucher is also a tip for the driver. We thank them so much for this service.

### 2020 A Record Year For Services.

It's a record we had hoped we would not see in some time. But 2020 has ended with a record number of prepackaged food boxes distributed to a record number of families.

During the Mondays before Thanksgiving, Christmas and again at New Year, the Food Pantry prepared and distributed 190 food boxes. In addition, on the third Monday of each month, 27 boxes were shipped across the Bay to the three villages. There were also 65

Senior Boxes provided each month.

Our non-food services also saw a dramatic rise in use. As we wrapped up the year, in just the month of December, we provided 95 gas cards, 39 shower or laundry vouchers, nearly \$3,400 in electricity assistance and \$850 in firewood.

Also during this year, The Food Pantry referred 134 individuals or families to the Haven House Homeless Assistance Program. The need continues to grow.

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