The Pantry Door

Published monthly by the Homer Community Food Pantry-August, 2020

The Coordinator's Corner.

V/ell, we are officially out of tents. All six of the recently acquired tents have been distributed to those who have been unable to find housing in the area. If you have a tent, especially a smaller two-person or backpack tent, with no plans to use it, consider a dona-



Dennis Weidler

tion to the Homer Food Pantry. We will put it to good use.

We are also seeking egg cartons. We

would prefer the dozen size, but can make the larger, 18 size work. We have recently taken delivery of 150 dozen eggs, but they arrived in flats. We have a team standing by to transfer the eggs from the flats to the cartons for distribution. If you have extra cartons to spare, you can drop them in the donation bin.

A Special Thanks...

to our team of home-delivery drivers.

They are currently delivering over 40 food boxes to 37 addresses from near Happy Valley to Fritz Creek.

Thank you so much for your dedicated service.

What Is The Farms to Families Program?



Each Farms to Families Produce Box comes with a sheet of recipes.

s part of the Coronavirus Food Assistance Program, Secretary Perdue announced back on April 17th of this year, that the USDA is exercising authority under the Families First Coronavirus Response Act to purchase and distribute agricultural products to those in need.

Through this program, USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) is partnering with national, regional and local distributors, whose workforces have been significantly impacted by the closure of restaurants, hotels and other food service businesses, to purchase up to \$3 billion in fresh produce, dairy and meat products from American producers of all sizes.

The program has been supplying food boxes of fresh fruits and vegetables and dairy products.

Distributors will package these products into family-sized boxes, then transport them to food banks, community and faith-based organizations, and other non-profits serving Americans in need. The first round of purchases totaled up to \$1.2 billion from May 15 through June 30, 2020. The second round will aim to purchase up to \$1.47 billion July 1 through August 31, 2020. AMS may elect to extend the period of performance of the contracts, via option periods, dependent upon program success and available remaining funds, up to \$3 billion. (source: USDA)

To date, The Homer Food Pantry has been the recipient of over 300 Farms to Families produce boxes and 216 gallons of fresh milk, delivered to us from the Kenai Food Bank, at no cost.

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