



Helping on the Home Front

301 Bunch Springs Rd.
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Berryville, AR
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870-423-4246

Director—Sara Hodgson
Secretary—Lieu Smith
Treasurer—J Thompson
Food-Kids —D Hunter

- Robert West
- Jason Tennant
- Ron Tracy

How you can help:

- Help with utilities. We now have two commercial refrigerators and two walk-in freezers. We have maintenance costs and high electric bills.
- Funding to provide staples such as peanut butter, spaghetti sauce, oatmeal, rice, beans, cooking oil.
- Volunteers to clean the building perhaps on Thursdays when the food bank is not open.
- Persons to conduct food drives or stage events to raise funds for the food bank among their friends or work colleagues.
- Regular ongoing financial support. No wages are paid. All work is done with volunteers, however there are costs. Donations are needed each month to help with set expenses.

September 2017

Supporters Update



FULFILLING THE MISSION

Jesus said in the Bible, "The poor will be with you always". There will never be a time when the whole world is totally fixed until Jesus comes back, but part of life's purpose is to help those who are less fortunate. Worldwide disasters frequent our attention and rightly so, however, the need in our immediate area continues, and also deserves our attention. By donating to Loaves & Fishes, you can share your bounty with those less fortunate right here in Carroll county.

After Hurricane Katrina, victims came to this area to start over. We were here to help. With your donations, we can continue to provide.

Recently, two 70+ senior women on fixed incomes came in to Loaves & Fishes Food Bank for food. One had obvious difficulty getting around due to a fall injury. After they received food, we loaded their groceries in the car for them.

A couple living in a tent came in. The woman's eyes started tearing up when she recounted what they had been through. They were very grateful for the food and whatever we had to help them.

A mother who had just started a job but hadn't gotten her first paycheck came in. She needed some help until the paycheck came.

A young family with a little child came in. They had just moved to the area. The parents were grateful for the food and the child was happy to receive one of the books from the red bookshelf.

These are just a few accounts from one day at the Foodbank. According to our statistics, most people don't use the Foodbank more than 5 times a year.

THE BLESSINGS WE RECEIVE..

February 2017 we moved into the additional space added on to the warehouse. This gives Food for Hungry Kids program a dedicated space.

June 2017 we accepted an additional 7.5 acres adjacent to our building donated by Mrs. Mary Trimble. This is a buffer as well as a place for possible future services.

Country Chicks Home Extension Club purchased *Good and Cheap Cookbooks* and provided them to our clients. They also conducted food demonstrations using the cook books in our waiting areas.

LEARNING TO HELP IN THE BEST WAY

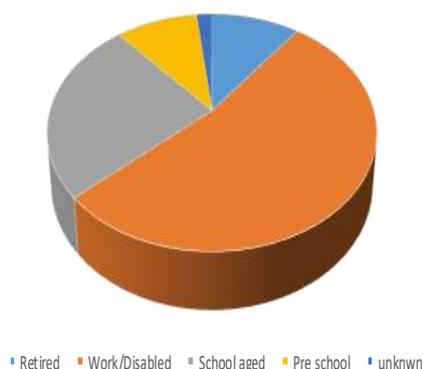
The downward spiral of poverty: less money for food and other basic needs, greater stress. stress illness occur, work missed due to illness, even less for food and basic needs, resulting in more illness, greater poverty...

The food bank sent a representative to two separate University of Arkansas Medical School sponsored events for food pantries to learn how to better serve the needs of your food bank clients.

UAMS is working with food pantries to provide good nutrition for clients and “nudges” to help client families make healthier choices. They even provided training on food safety and networking opportunities to connect with other agencies to help families meet needs and thus reduce the stress upon their daily lives.

Overall nutritional and lifestyle health issues (obesity, diabetes, heart disease, hypertension) are more prevalent among Arkansans than most Americans. Thus your food bank is participating with these trainings to help improve lives here in Carroll County. We got access to the Good and Cheap Cookbooks, nutritional posters, and guidance on displaying garden items. We appreciate the Country Chicks extension club of Carroll County for providing a case of these books. **Your support helps reverse this downward spiral. Thank you!**

AGES OF PERSONS RECEIVING FOOD



The pie graph shows that half the clients are of vulnerable age: elderly or children. Although the “working age” group includes a huge age span (from 18 to 60 years) it is just half of those served. The working age group includes those underemployed as well as those living on disability.

From August 1, 2016 through July 31, 2017 there were 6,712 allotments of food given to families averaging 41 pounds per allotment. Families may come each month to receive food; however, **the average number of visits is 5 per year per household.** The volunteers are serving your friends and neighbors. Often clients say, “We come only when we really need it. We don’t want to take something that someone else needs worse than I do.” **Your donations matter. Thank you for making a difference in our community.**

OPERATION FOOD FOR HUNGRY KIDS: A BLESSING

Operation Food for Hungry Kids – the “foodpack” program – kicks off its fifth year, there is a growing need in the community for this nutritional support for precious hungry children in our schools. Operation Food for Hungry Kids had its beginnings in the 2013-14 school year, when school nurses advised Mercy Hospital that there were children in the Berryville Schools going home hungry on the weekends. Mercy contacted Loaves and Fishes asking for assistance in addressing this need, and the Food for Hungry Kids program was born. **3,238 food packs were delivered in that first year.** Green Forest Schools were added the following year, and the need continues to grow. **In the 2016-17 school year, 5,072 bags were delivered,** and since the program’s beginnings, almost 17,000 bags have delivered about 85,000 pounds of food to hungry children on weekends. In addition to hunger, **this program addresses nutritional issues,** with the hope that better nutrition will help with classroom performance and improve the long-term health of these children. This program would not be possible without the support of so many in the community, from the hundreds of volunteers who have given their time to packing bags, to the many donors who provide the financial support so important to the delivery of good nutrition to our children. **Thank you for your continuing support of this mission-critical program!**



RED BOOK SHELF

A group of Carroll County women have enjoyed reading together for over ten years in their Novel Women Book Club. Wanting to encourage children to read, they researched ways to accomplish this. Their research shows that children that are read to have better vocabularies and advantages in school. They embarked upon a project to provide books to children. The Little Red Bookshelf at Loaves and Fishes Food Bank has books available for children to choose a book to keep each time they come in, or their parent can choose one for them. Each week the book club members restock the shelf. They range from board books for babies through 8th grade. Loaves and Fishes is feeding families and encouraging reading, as well as a love of learning, as they dispense books provided by the Novel Women.

Children look forward to picking out their books. No one maybe able to do everything, yet these wonderful ladies have shown with their generosity and time something is valuable. Thank you!

PROJECT SELF-ESTEEM

2017!

Project Self-Esteem purchased, packed and delivered 700 backpacks filled with school supplies for the food bank to distribute the days before school starts each fall to clients with school aged children in the home. Poverty levels are high in all three Carroll County Schools with Berryville at 67%, Eureka Springs at 62%, and Green Forest at 82%. If you would like to support this, please send checks made out to Project-Self Esteem of Carroll County, Inc. at 204 Atchley St., Berryville, AR



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[http://
www.berryvilleloavesnfishes.org](http://www.berryvilleloavesnfishes.org)



Loaves & Fishes Food Bank of
the Ozarks

Clients need to bring

- Picture Identification and documentation for all household members
- Make statement of household income
- Proof of Carroll County residency

Food Bank Hours
Open to Clients

Monday, Wednesday
Friday
10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Tuesday 4 to 6 p.m.



Loaves & Fishes Food Bank of the Ozarks is a Christian ministry dedicated to following our Lord's directive in Matthew 25:35 to feed the hungry. Loaves & Fishes Food Bank meets USDA requirements for TEFAP commodity distribution; IRS nonprofit status; and Arkansas State nonprofit and charitable solicitation. Thus Carroll County residents who are unable to secure nutrition for themselves can receive food through the gleanings of foods from private donations, from salvage from stores, warehouses, processors or food producers as well as The Emergency Food Assistance Program. Families are served once each month and food is distributed according to the number of persons living in the household. Income guidelines are followed. Persons receiving assistance usually receive help on the day they apply.

"For if they fall, one will lift up the other; but woe to one who is alone and falls and does not have another to help. Ecclesiastes 4:10

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: Many faithful volunteers do a tremendous job; however food bank work is unending. In July 59 volunteers gave 485 hours. Volunteers are needed to do computer work, filing, help clients with forms, keep records, interview clients to receive food. In addition volunteers are needed who can lift cases of food (up to 50 pounds) sort and discard and repackage edible food. If you want a place to exercise and help others at the same time, this is it! All volunteers must show an attitude of Godly servanthood as our Lord Jesus demonstrated. If you want to volunteer, come any hours we are open.



I feel so blessed to be able to help with this needed ministry !
\$5 \$50 \$100 \$250 \$ _____

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

_____ Contact me about presenting a program to my church or other organization.

I want to donate to providing Food for Hungry Kids. \$ _____.