



The Sudbury Community Food Pantry

2016 A year in Review

The Sudbury Community Food Pantry celebrated its 26th anniversary in 2016. The 93 volunteers, contributed 6,351 hours serving our clients. Their commitment and dedication has enabled us to aid people who are struggling financially by providing them with food and personal care items that promote healthy living and doing so in a manner that preserves their dignity. I have heard on numerous occasions from my peers in other towns that clients of their pantry have described the Sudbury food pantry as a place with a friendly and welcoming environment.

From coordinating the volunteers, monitoring the pantry answering machine, stocking the shelves, picking from: donation boxes at Sudbury Farms and Shaw's, purchases from The Greater Boston Food Bank and delivering them to the pantry, distributing the food, registering the clients, stocking the shelves, processing the food collected in the various food drives and deliveries from the GBFB, our volunteers have enabled *The Sudbury Community Food Pantry* to become an exceptional organization.

2016 was not a year without its challenges. We scrambled to get enough turkeys for Thanksgiving as the after effects of 20 million turkeys being euthanized because of the avian flu in 2015, meant there were fewer eggs laid. We were however able to obtain 112 Turkeys and 60 large roasting chickens.

2016

Towns served - Families served - Family members - Client visits

65 851 2,592 2,824

Family Members --- 34.1% under 18,-- 7.6% over 65, and 3.1% Vets.

11.9% of clients from Sudbury.

We provided 14,154 shopping bags of groceries to our clients.

To make that happen we purchased 139,993 lbs. of food and personal care products from the GBFB with a retail value of \$142,323. The amount of free food from the GBFB was down this year. Percent of free food received from GBFB- USDA 15.99% and from Massachusetts Emergency Food Program (MEFAP) 23.89%. This was a decrease of 5.7%. Our purchases from the GBFB cost an average of. of \$.172/ Lb. We also purchase food from local stores when items not available from GBFB.

We distributed 23,090 lbs. of produce and 23,788 lbs. of meat and poultry products.

<u>Source Produce</u>			
GBFB	Gaining Ground Farm	Rescued est.	Local Farmers est.
13,552 lbs.	5,327 lbs.	510 lbs.	205 lbs.

This was a 12.3% increase from 2015

Source Meat, Poultry & Seafood

GBFB	Rescued Est.
19,453 lbs.	4,335 lbs.

This was a 15.6% increase over 2015

The Sudbury Elementary Schools Collected a record 50,710 items with an estimated retail value of \$91,278 and constituted 33% of the food distributed. This is an increase of 12.9% from 2015. This would not have happened if it were not for the commitment of the students, faculty and the volunteer parents who help organize the food drive and transport the collected items to the pantry.

We purchase 51% of what we distribute from the GBFB, with the remaining 16% of the food distributed comes from supermarket purchases, food drives and donation boxes in Sudbury Farms, Roche Brothers and Shaw's.

In 2016 we entered into a partnership with *Lovin' Spoonfuls*, a nonprofit, to provide us twice a week with rescued food from Supermarkets in Natick, Wayland and Sudbury.

We also partnered with *Hope and Comfort* another nonprofit who provides us *personal care products monthly*.

None of the above could have happened if it were not for the many volunteers we have on our team who give generously of their time.

I also want to thank Our Lady of Fatima Parish who has graciously hosted us since our inception in 1990

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