

# INTERFAITH FOOD PANTRY

## Annual Report 2008



## Neighbors Helping Neighbors

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## What is the Interfaith Food Pantry?

The Interfaith Food Pantry is a non-denominational, non-profit 501 (c) (3) organization helping families make ends meet by supplementing their monthly groceries in times of need. Established in 1994, the Interfaith Food Pantry was formed when a group from four local houses of worship decided to address the growing issue of hunger by consolidating their food assistance programs. The objective was to create a central collection and distribution center in Morristown. Our Federal tax-exempt # is 22-3618468.

### What We Do

The Interfaith Food Pantry provides non-perishable food and groceries to eligible Morris County residents. Applications are taken and food is given to anyone in need. Groceries are collected from a variety of sources: Houses of Worship, businesses & schools, community service programs, local groups and organizations, Individuals and families

The Food Pantry purchases food whenever donations run low in order to maintain our goal of providing reliable assistance to the community. We distribute groceries to those in need: Senior Citizens, low-income working families, recently unemployed workers, other individuals in crisis

Groceries are delivered throughout the county to those who cannot get to the distribution centers.

### How Does Someone Get Groceries?

Groceries are provided to anyone in need from Morris County who has housing and cooking facilities. Individuals set up an appointment with our Intake Counselor where they will fill out an application and are interviewed to help us assess their need. Our pantry is set up as a Client Choice Program, where clients are allowed to select the food they want from the shelves as if they were in a supermarket. The amount they can take is determined by the size of their family. They may continue to use the pantry as long as there is need.

### Where Do Our Clients Come From?

All are residents of Morris County. In addition to walk-ins, referrals are made from houses of worship, hospitals and schools. Many are sent by community agencies such as the Department of Aging and Disabilities, Maternal and Child Health Network, NJ Battered women's Shelter, St. Clare's Behavioral Health Center, Family Service, Homeless Solutions, Inc. and the Mental Health Assoc. of Morris County.

Our clients come from all walks of life. Most are working but their incomes do not keep pace with the cost of living here. They are employed as nursing aides, clerical workers, restaurant and retail staff, school employees and day care assistants. In recent months we have seen a large increase in the number of people who have lost their jobs. Others are living on Social Security or Disability. They are grandparents raising their grandchildren and folks living with chronic illness. They are our neighbors.

### What Else Do We Do?

As we determine what other needs families may have, we give them referral information to a variety of resources that provide assistance, such as eyeglasses, day care scholarships, furniture, clothing, etc. Nutrition and making good food choices is the basis for our "**Healthy Choices Program**". A visiting nurse **screens clients for health issues** like diabetes, hypertension and osteoporosis and our Nutrition educator provides information and counseling to help families understand the link between food and health. She also assists us in securing the most nutritious food possible.

The Pantry also tries to make holidays a little brighter for those in need. We provide **Thanksgiving food baskets and turkeys and December holiday baskets.**

The Food Pantry accepts donations from a variety of local sources that want to help those in need. If we cannot use the items offered we try to match donors with groups who are looking for particular donations. We also help **stock the emergency food closets of the County Office of Temporary Assistance every week.** Finally, we help meet the emergency food needs of some of the other non-profit groups whenever possible.

The Interfaith Food Pantry embodies the traditional spirit of neighbors helping neighbors.

## HOURS OF OPERATION

**Warehouse/Office, 540a West Hanover Avenue, Morristown**

### For food distribution

1<sup>st</sup> four Wednesdays of each month  
1<sup>st</sup> four Saturdays of each month

6pm -8pm  
10am-12pm

### To drop off food or visit

Monday – Thursday 9:30am – 4:30pm

Special arrangements may be made by request.

**Pantry, 190 Speedwell Avenue, Morristown**

## Interfaith Food Pantry 2008 ANNUAL REPORT

In 2008 we accomplished the following:

<b># different households served</b>	<b>4,424</b>
- regular IFP clients 1,688	
- through food given to other agencies for emergency distribution 2,736	
<b># different people served</b>	<b>10,661</b>
- regular IFP clients 4,507	
- through food given to other agencies for emergency distribution 6,154	
<b># of family visits/yr.</b>	<b>15,083</b>
- regular IFP clients 11,309	
- non-client holiday visits 1,038	
- through food given to other agencies for emergency distribution 2,736	
<b># lbs. of food distr./yr.</b>	<b>619,832</b>
<b># tons of food distr./yr.</b>	<b>310</b>

### *Home Delivery Program\* 2008*

# of home visits	1,493
# lbs. of food distr./yr.	54,135
# of homebound families served	119

\* #'s included in yearly statistics above.

### CLIENT DEMOGRAPHICS

Primary Source of Income		Ethnicity		Age	
Salary	52%	Hispanic/Latino	46%	60+	10%
SS/Pension	09%	Caucasian	35%	19-59	50%
SSI	10%	African American	16%	0-18	40%
Disability	08%	Other	03%		
Public Assistance	03%			Size of Households	
Unem. Ins.	04%			1 or 2	51%
Child Support	02%			3 or 4	36%
Unknown/Other/None	12%			5 or 6	12%
				7,8,or 9	1%

### Client Yearly Family Incomes

\$10,000 or less	42%	\$20,001 - \$30,000	15%	\$35,001 - \$40,000	1%
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\$10,001 - \$15,000	24%	\$30,001 - \$35,000	2%	\$40,001 +	< 1%
\$15,001 - \$20,000	15%				

**REGULAR IFP CLIENTS**

**2007**

**2008**

TOWN	#Families	#Families	#People	#visits
BOONTON	23	36	100	172
BUTLER	2	6	12	24
CHATHAM/TOWNSHIP	6	10	29	54
CHESTER	1	2	3	10
DENVILLE	15	24	58	146
DOVER	234	289	878	1518
EAST HANOVER	4	4	10	46
FLORHAM PARK	5	7	16	49
HACKETTSTOWN	2	5	10	12
HANOVER TWSP (WHIPPANY & CEDAR KNOLLS)	13	16	39	119
JEFFERSON (JEFFERSON, HOPATCONG & LAKE HOPATCONG & OAK RIDGE)	18	19	56	108
KINNELON BOROUGH	1	2	8	5
LONG HILL TWP (MILLINGTON, GILLETTE)	3	3	4	39
MADISON	26	33	88	252
MENDHAM/TOWNSHIP	3	5	14	29
MINE HILL	9	8	34	31
MONTVILLE TWP(MONTVILLE,PINEBROOK, TOWACO)	12	18	46	100
MORRIS PLAINS	17	25	51	150
MORRIS TOWNSHIP (INCLUDES CONVENT STATION)	8	9	16	43
MORRISTOWN	617	720	1840	5458
MT. ARLINGTON	3	6	25	24
MT. OLIVE(BUDD LAKE,FLANDERS)	33	49	134	318
NETCONG	7	19	39	99
PARSIPPANY TROY HILLS (PARSIPPANY, LAKE HIAWATHA,MT TABOR, LAKE PARSIPPANY)	102	116	247	1018
PEQUANNOCK (POMPTON PLAINS)	10	9	16	99
RANDOLPH (CEDAR GROVE, MT FREEDOM & RANDOLPH, IRONIA)	56	72	197	461
RIVERDALE	1	1	1	7
ROCKAWAY/ROCKAWAY BORO	33	45	129	227
ROXBURY TWP(KENVIL, LANDING, LEDGEWOOD, SUCCASSUNA)	28	44	131	250
VICTORY GARDENS	2	7	26	30

WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP (LONG VALLEY, STIRLING)	2	3	8	25
WHARTON	54	72	231	367
OTHER	4	4	11	19
<b>TOTAL SERVED IN MORRIS COUNTY</b>	<b>1,354</b>	<b>1,688</b>	<b>4,507</b>	<b>11,309</b>

## HOME DELIVERY PROGRAM

Delivered to 119 different families (total served 199 people):

76 adults 60 and older, 84 adults between 19 and 60, and 39 children under 18

We delivered 54,135 lbs. during 1,493 visits; donated mileage: 21,640 mi. at .50/mile = \$ 10,820

### Delivered to housebound in the following towns/localities: (# of families)

Boonton (1) Butler (3) Chatham (3) Dover (18) East Hanover (1) Florham Park (1) Madison (3) Mendham (3) Morris Plains (1) Morristown (28) Morris Township (2) Montville (1) Mt. Arlington (1) Mount Olive: Budd Lake (5), Flanders (3) Netcong (4) Jefferson Township: Oak Ridge (2) Roxbury: Landing (5), Ledgewood (1), Succasunna (1) Parsippany: Parsippany (10), Mt. Tabor (1) Pequannock: Pequannock (1), Pompton Plains (2) Randolph (6) Riverdale (1) Rockaway (4) Victory Gardens (1) Wharton (5) Whippany (1)

76% Delivery families are Caucasian; 18% African American; <1% Hispanic/Latino; <1% Other.

Source of Income - 23% Disability, 34% Social Security, 26% SSI, 12% Salary, 2% Public Assistance, 3% Other.

## Volunteer Summary

During 2008 **14,533 hours** of volunteer service were donated to the Interfaith Food Pantry. The value of this time is **\$261,020**. Adult volunteer time is valued at \$18.77/hour\*, set by Independent Sector\*\*. Youth hours are valued at \$7.15, the federal minimum wage.

Volunteers at the Interfaith Food Pantry perform such tasks as office work, sorting food, packing bags to be distributed, stocking shelves in the packing room, transporting bags to the distribution site, recycling and taking out garbage, food distribution, delivery to clients and food pick up from the Community Food Bank and area organizations that are not able to deliver their food collections.

<b>Staff Volunteers (245 different individuals)</b>	<b>12,164 hrs</b>
<b>Regular Groups and Short Term Volunteers</b>	<b>2,369 hrs</b>

**Staff volunteers** - Volunteers who are scheduled to work at the warehouse and distribution center on a regular basis doing specific tasks such as office work, sorting, packing, food distribution, recycling, home delivery and food pickup.

**Regular Groups** - This includes groups that come on a regular basis through out the year. These volunteers are involved with restocking 190 Speedwell. This group includes St Virgil's Youth group, St Patrick's Church, Washington Avenue School, Christ the King Church and Morris Plains Presbyterian.

**Short Term Volunteers** - Some of these are youth groups who visit the warehouse for a tour and participate in activities such as sorting. This group also includes adult individuals and groups who volunteer on a one-time basis as well as those that volunteer sporadically throughout the year. Some of our corporate volunteers this year came from NYLIM, Pfizer, Novartis, Wyeth, Kraft, Unilever and

## MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission of the Interfaith Food Pantry is to:

- ◆ distribute supplemental and/or emergency food to eligible Morris County residents in need;
- ◆ provide hands on opportunities for neighbors to help neighbors;
- ◆ educate the public about the issues of hunger in our area.

### 2008 Board of Trustees

President - Russ Hall - Community Volunteer  
Treasurer - Carolyn Hession - Community Volunteer  
Secretary - Wendy Potkay - Community Volunteer  
Vice Pres. - Deacon Mike Hanly - Assumption Church  
Rob Baumeister - Refined Sight, Inc.  
Rachel Carter, Esq. - Graham Curtin, PA  
Igor Fastov - Merrill Lynch  
Bruce Galton - Senesco Technologies, Inc.  
Michael Geraghty - BIS Risk Mgmt.  
Karen Jones-Williams - Morris School District  
Chris MacDonald - Community Volunteer  
Anne Marie Manahan - Community Volunteer  
Maureen Martin - Sussex Bank  
Pam Palumbo, MPA, CFRE - Homeless Solutions  
Francisco Parra - St. Clares Hospital; FDU  
Pastor, Leon Sims - Union Baptist Church

### 2008 Staff

\*Executive Director - Rosemary Gilmartin  
Assistant Director - Elaine Britcher  
Outreach Coordinator - Carolyn Lake  
Warehouse Manager - Doug McMahon  
Office Manager - Mary Jones  
Intake Counselor - Kris Lariccia 1/08 - 6/08  
Client Svcs Mgr - Liliana Henao 9/08 - 12/08  
Intake Asst. - Diana Garcia  
Nutrition Educator - Katy Galton  
Warehouse Asst. - Joe Harris  
Warehouse Asst. - Eric Larsen  
\* Also member of Board of trustees

## AGENCIES REFERRING CLIENTS IN 2008

Caring Partners  
Cerebral Palsy of New Jersey  
Community Hope  
Community Soup Kitchen  
Dawn Center for Independent  
Living  
Division of Youth and Family  
Services  
Family Enrichment Program  
Family Service of Morris County  
First Call for Help  
FIS  
Gateway NW Maternal and Child  
Network  
Girl Scouts

Homeless Solutions  
Hope House  
Interfaith Council for Homeless  
Families  
Market Street Mission  
Mental Health Association of  
Morris County  
  
Morris County Division of Aging  
and Disabilities  
Morris County Head Start  
Morris County Housing  
Authority

Morris County Nutrition  
Program  
Morris County Office of  
Hispanic Affairs  
Morris County Office of  
Temporary Assistance  
Morristown Memorial Hospital  
Newbridge Services  
NJ Battered Women's Shelter  
NWNJ Maternal & Child Health  
Network  
Our Place  
Park Lake School  
Roots and Wings  
Special Child Health Services

St. Clare's Behavioral Health  
Center