



BITS FROM THE BASKET

CCEA FOOD PANTRY NEWS

October 2015

Fall has finally fell! I hope your summer was great. The kids have all gone back to school and we are starting to think about the holidays.

The Food Pantry had a busy summer. We were blessed with a number of local gardeners who brought their excess produce to the complex for the Food Pantry clients. Everyone received fresh tomatoes, lettuce, green beans and potatoes. In spite of the fresh produce, we had trouble keeping up with the need. We received donations of 2568 pounds of food. We distributed 2730 pounds of food. We are not keeping up. We had to buy food or use food in stock to meet the need.

I would love to say, "We are out of business, no one came this month". That would mean there was no need, no hunger, in Chesapeake City. Unfortunately, the need grows every month and donations are out paced by those who come in for food. Please keep us in mind when you grocery shop. One can of food added to your grocery cart will help us feed a family.

Along with the fall season and the holidays, come our fall food drives. Fill-A-Truck at Redner's in Elkton will be held on November 14, 2015, from 10 AM to 2 PM. Also, we will soon be starting our holiday food drives and asking for donations of turkeys or hams.

The Bag of Hope program facilitated by the CCEA and under the umbrella of the Food Pantry Ministry, supplies a month of food to twenty-six families through the Maryland Food Bank. This program will be taking a big hit this fall. Food for this program is purchased from the Maryland Food Bank and delivered to a central location for sorting into individual distributions. The Maryland Food Bank will be raising their fees, minimally increasing the cost of this program by 150%. We have not yet heard of all the changes to take place on October 1, 2015, but considering this basic increase, we are not feeling very positive.

Please remember, trying to help the hungry in our community gets more difficult every month. We cannot do it without YOU. Don't forget your hungry neighbor!

Diane Newton, Food Pantry Manager