

Spring 2010

Pro Visions

The Quarterly Newsletter of the Auburn Food Bank

Mission Statement

The Auburn Food Bank provides food, referrals and emergency assistance to those in need within The Auburn School District

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Group Begins Cash For Cleanliness For Needy Auburn Families

Students in the Leadership Institute of South Puget Sound have started a program to collect funds or items for needy families in Auburn.

The new program, Cash for Cleanliness, will collect toiletries and other sundries to be provided to those in need.

Cash donations are now being accepted at Top Foods, located at 1702 Auburn Way N., and Sterling Savings Bank, located at 1261 Auburn Way N.

A drop-off box is scheduled to be installed at the Auburn Food Bank on June 1.

Suggested items for donation are shampoo, conditioner, perfume, deodorant, soap and other personal hygiene products. Products will be given to needy families on a first-come, first-serve basis.

For more information on this program or to donate, contact Ashley Riggs at ariggs@auburnwa.gov or the Auburn Food Bank at 253-833-8925.

Wanted

Who: The Auburn Community

What: Dueling Out Hunger

Where: Longhorn BBQ

When: Thursday July 1st at 7pm

Dueling Pianos Starts at 8:30pm

Why: Auburn Food Bank Fundraiser

Cost: \$25.00

Save the day

Director's Report

What a great job I have! Not only are people being helped each and every minute of the day – YOU are coming in and make donations to help us!

It's exciting to receive a check "because I was thinking of you" or "I was poor and I remember how it felt".....

Your donations are put to use immediately! The results for our client are immediate!

I've often spoke of making our lobby area comfortable for clients – we know it's hard to come here – no one wants to admit they need help with food.....so if they have to come – I want the lobby to be warm and welcoming! Already down on your luck, you don't need to walk into a building that isn't comfortable. Last year, a team from the Leadership Institute of South King County came through with a partnership with Newcastle Flooring and put in new carpet! This year a team partnering with Kustom Koats, Inc. painted the lobby! Amazing what a new coat of paint will do! We had clients tell us "it's peaceful here!" What a great compliment to this Leadership Team, as well!

Coming soon – through the Leadership Institute – will be "drop off boxes" made for us through a partnership with Green River College. This LI Team talked about "leaving a legacy" – an ongoing project that would sustain a need here at the food bank for years to come! Through our talks with them – one of the things I said we don't get donated often, or much of, is hygiene products. And we all need hygiene products! Food stamps cannot be used for the basic necessities like toilet paper, toothpaste, shampoos, etc. This team "ran" with that idea and have come up with a nicely designed, painted, lettered, drop boxes that will sit at a few grocery stores in town, as well as one here at the food bank – sitting outside our building – for you to swing by and have a spot to leave them if we are closed. Think of all the things in your bathroom, laundry room and under your kitchen sink! These are all items our clients need and cannot afford.

We will be launching a new web site: www.theauburnfoodbank.org designed for us by Michael O'Brien of Praece Strategic Technology Consulting. We are so grateful for the incredible work he has put into this project for us! From this site, you will be able to contact us with any questions, find out what projects are going on that you can help with, find out what foods/products we need, catch up on news, listen to client success stories, and place on-line donations. Watch for a Facebook page as well!

I'd like to personally invite you to call and make a reservation for "Dueling Out Hunger"! This will be a VERY fun night – with fantastic food at the Longhorn Restaurant! July 1 - \$25.00 per person.

'Dueling Pianos' will keep you entertained! Never heard of this.....well, while one piano player starts to play a song...you discover you may not like the song....so you donate money to the other piano player to play YOUR favorite song and thus the "dueling" begins.....you gotta watch your back – someone may not like YOUR song!!!

Thanks for all you do to keep this food bank in operation! 96 cents from every \$1.00 goes right to work the minute you give it!!! AND, every dollar can be stretched to \$4.50 because of our bulk buying and deal making power! Think of the investment!



Debbie Christian, Executive Director

TAFB Donors

Aero Controls is a long time supporter of the food bank. The current President of their Community Services group is Carl Longhofer who says they have been able to increase their contributions over the last few years with spring and Holiday food drives. Their mission statement is focused on work targeted to the local community and its people. Debbie Christian recently spoke at a quarterly meeting at their company where there were about 160 people present. Her explanation of how the food bank's buying power can turn a dollar contribution into five dollars of food made a big impression on the people. They collect cash in jars, food in barrels and allow the employees to donate even modest amounts with easy payroll deduction forms. At Thanksgiving time Aero Controls gives turkeys to its employees who often in return give them to the food bank.

The owner and President, John Titus is celebrating 25 years of providing service to the aviation industry in the repair and sale of aircraft parts and is especially proud of the volunteers and employees who make the Community Services group work. The Auburn Food Bank not only appreciates but depends on companies like Aero Controls for their many contributions. Thanks!!

Auburn School District All School Food Drive

This school drive was held from February 22 until March 5. At the end of this annual drive The Auburn Food Bank was given \$15,723 and 51,680 pounds. Again, the students, parents, teachers, and administrators of the Auburn School District have come through for us. Thank you to all of you who donated food and money and your time to make this drive successful. The winning schools will receive their trophies at school assemblies and also be honored at our annual Harvest Breakfast.

Letter from the President

Dear Supporter of the Auburn Food Bank,

It seems as if it just started, but my year as president of this distinguished board of directors is coming to a close. It has been humbling to have served in this capacity and I am continually amazed how our community has come forward to keep our doors open in this most difficult economic times.

We hear from Debbie often of the ever increasing numbers of clients each month - there have been times when she was not sure how she was going to be able to provide for them - but she has and continues to do so. This cannot happen unless there are people out there to help us. Whether it is through a donation, volunteer service or helping us with fundraisers of your own - it has always been my motto that everyone can do something. The help that you are giving us is immeasurable and appreciated.

We are a unique organization and a community that cares. We at the Auburn Food Bank will continue our work to help those in need and we will always be most grateful for the help and caring that you are able to share each and every day.

*Most humbly yours,
Dana Hinman, Board President*

President Goes The Extra Mile

Auburn Food Bank president Dana Hinman's birthday is in April. She says she has everything she needs



(???) so she requested family and friends give her either food or money for the food bank. Although some folks broke the rule and brought her a gift, also, she received over 368 items and \$150 for the food bank. What a great way to share your birthday, Dana!



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F.Y.I.

- Our two community suppers on Monday and Wednesday night are currently feeding over 100 individuals each night.
- 1st quarter of 2010 the food bank served 20,237 clients and 5,359 households.
- We received 321,850 pounds of food the first quarter of 2010; we are down 81,757 pounds from this time last year.
- First quarter of 2009 we had 9,829 returning individuals; first quarter of 2010 we had 13,480 returning individuals.
- This means we served 3,651 more individuals first quarter this year on 81,757 fewer pounds of food.

From the editor: ProVisions welcomes your comments and suggestions. Please send them to:

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