



Fairbanks Community Food Bank

HARVEST

Winter 2019

Neighbors Helping Neighbors



Why is the Fairbanks Community Food Bank different from other food banks?

In 1982, during a Recession, a few people came together to make sure no person in the Tanana Valley needed to go to bed hungry. This organization was formed and it is now nearly 37 years old (May 2019). The intention from the first day was that we would be a COMMUNITY food bank. We receive free food and give it away free, and **it takes a COMMUNITY to support the hard work of collecting several tons each day of local surplus food and giving it freely to people in the Tanana Valley who need it.**

As you can imagine, the first few years were rocky. We don't have the best business plan. We receive free food and give it away free, but we need a huge warehouse which means space heat and power and vehicles to move the food. HmMMM. Impossible. But we persisted. **The important part is that we believed that in Interior Alaska neighbors really do help neighbors.** Our middle name is still COMMUNITY and here we are 37 years later celebrating local SHARING and CARING.

Our community people have so many great ideas to make sure no one in the Tanana Valley goes to bed hungry. You will see many photos in this newsletter which show great creative projects proposed and executed by many local people. There are girl scouts who make bread in sacks for their families, and also

enough to SHARE with others in our community. There was a retired nurse who took the time to prepare 958 pounds of apples so that First Presbyterian Church Youth and other groups, along with teachers from the Barnette Magnet School could make 425 pie "kits" to go into the Thanksgiving food boxes. North Pole High School actually has a "crowning" ceremony for the people who collect the most food in their school. Salcha Elementary School invited Sam out to talk about the 17 United Nations Goals for a better world in 2030. They asked Sam, "What are WE doing in the Tanana Valley to end hunger, for local people and worldwide?" Then they presented Sam with a canned food drive of 270 pounds which they collected in December.

Safeway customers in Fairbanks and North Pole buy HUNGER BAGS during holiday time. Fred Meyers does an ongoing round up at every cashier stand. One of Costco's first gifts was pies for Thanksgiving. Walmart provides us with daily surplus food and special collection opportunities. The list of canned food drives is extraordinary. The best way to keep track of that is to watch FACEBOOK every day because both our corporate and individual support is a daily activity in our community. **The people in our community take care of one another through the efforts of this small, local Food Bank. For that, we are very grateful.**



Our logo was designed in 1982. It took us nearly 30 years to understand the profound significance of our logo design.

We took the time in 2018 to look at other food bank logos in our state and other states, across the nation, and most of them have the symbol of bread with hearts or hands in the middle of them. They are beautiful, but a different concept than we have here in Interior Alaska.

Look at the logo on this page. THIS IS WHAT MAKES US DIFFERENT.

In 1982 a second grade class in a local school was invited to share their ideas of what a food bank does. They drew the concept of one person handing food to another person, in a circle.

SHARING and CARING, goes round and round here in our Fairbanks Community Food Bank building in 2019, as it has done since the beginning of this organization. We take care of one another in our logo, in our building, and in our communities. We SHARE!

Support is a Daily Activity in our Community

Hunter Byrd and Sasha Dixon sorting eggs. We are so grateful when eggs are donated, and we still need those egg boxes. It takes a whole community to support food bank work.



This is Cecilla letting us know Costco wanted to participate in holiday SHARING, too — on November 20, the first day Costco was open in Fairbanks.

958 pounds of apples were used by both the First Presbyterian Youth Group and the crew Jim Williams rounded up also included teachers from Barnette Magnet School. They put together 425 pie kits!



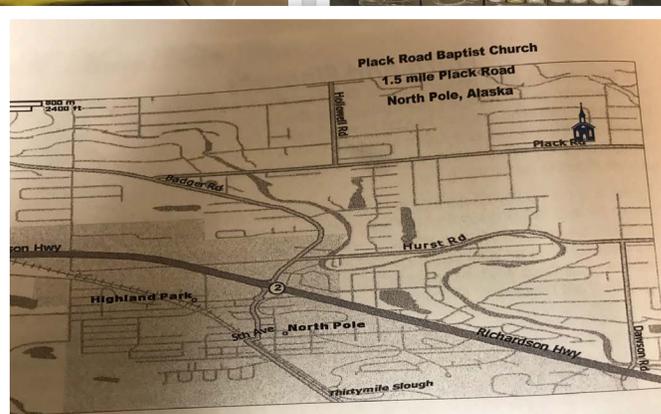
Daisy Troop 183 came to the Food Bank to make a donation and tour in November. It is such a joy to have them ask questions about how we SHARE food in our community. We hope to see them regularly as they continue to grow and learn about SHARING in our community.

Robin Atkins from North Pole High School preparing to crown the students and teachers who brought in the most food. They gave 106 turkeys, 78 pies and 2,000 pounds of other holiday food.



Remember all those HUNGER BAGS you have been buying in the local Safeway stores? Well, here they are beginning to arrive in this Food Bank. **Thank You.**

A pile of donated turkeys for holiday meals.



Plack Road Baptist Church joined the list of distribution sites for food boxes. **Thank you.**

More Ways You Can Help

Charity Walk

An ongoing fundraiser to support the mission of the Fairbanks Community Food Bank.

Walk with the Caribou Across the Arctic Circle

Take a virtual fundraising walk up the Dalton Highway in January, February and March 2019 at fairbanksfoodbank.org!



Thank YOU!

YOUR support keeps the doors of this Fairbanks COMMUNITY Food Bank open.



www.fairbanksfoodbank.org

In 2019, please support us with your PICKCLICKGIVE choices.



A SHANNON PARK BAPTIST CHURCH MINISTRY

We partner with the Fairbanks Community Food Bank and on Fridays we are a distribution site for them and their food boxes.

If you are finding yourself in a tight spot and could benefit from a food box, please call our food bank hotline at 907-371-3672 on Friday mornings between 10 am - noon to place an order. The food boxes get delivered to our church and are available for pickup later that day between 1:30 - 2:30 pm.

Very Special Volunteers we Celebrate in this Issue



Bill Moberly and Ron Phillips

Bill retired from IBEW and has been a volunteer for decades for Breadline and the Fairbanks Community Food Bank. When he comes to pack food boxes, his wonderful wife, Marj, joins him (as did his grandson years ago, too). Bill's special job now is to work with Ron Phillips in the H.E.L.P. room. Each day they assist those seniors who are over 60 and meet the enrollment requirements for CSFP food boxes, and people who are medically referred (any age) to pick up fresh food from the new commercial refrigerator. This is a special new program and referred people are able to come get fresh food, customer choice, a few days each week. The amount of food available each day depends on the donations to the Food Bank. The limit is a total of no more than 30 pounds for the week, which is Monday-Friday. The first month we were open there were 10-20 people daily who received at least 10 pounds each day they came in.

Ron Phillips laughs that he was VOLUNTOLD to keep track of the details of the H.E.L.P. room. He has been a volunteer for Alaska Health Fair for years, and has worked in emergency management and so many other state and community activities most of his professional life. The medically referred customers who are served in this new H.E.L.P. room are so fortunate to have both of these service-minded men helping with the customer choice fresh food selections which we are now able to provide to people with special dietary needs, and who are medically referred into the program.

Two very special food bank volunteers/supporters

Ruth Knapman helps Glenn Hackney celebrate his 94th birthday at Governor Dunleavy's Fairbanks Inauguration.



Pick.
Click.
Give.



A way to help feed hungry children, seniors, and families in Interior Alaska.

These are tough economic times — we're all feeling the pinch. But these are also times that give us — as generous Alaskans — the chance to help organizations that are important to us and our community. The PFD Charitable Contributions Program is a safe, secure, and easy way to make a donation. You can choose a contribution level anywhere from \$25 to the full amount of your dividend.

The project — **Pick. Click. Give.** — allows those who file online for their Permanent Fund Dividend check to reach out and help Alaskans.

Apply for your PFD online and you can share part of your dividend with **the Fairbanks Community Food Bank**. It's a chance for all of us to come together and give a little extra to help feed the hungry in our community.

Just Pick. Click. Give.

In addition to the website — www.PickClickGive.org — information is available by calling 1-888-785-GIFT (4438) or by emailing pfinfo@forakergroup.org.



Our Mission Statement

The mission of this Food Bank is to collect surplus food in the community and share it with local people who need it.

BOARD MEMBERS 2019

President: Steve Heckman
Vice President: Uriah Nalidikak
Secretary: Patty Walter
Treasurer: Hollis Hall
Past President: Karen Kiss
Anna Atchison
Tom Bartels
Genevieve Bell
Trevor Hanson
Gene Therriault
Ron Wall
Mike Walsh

STAFF LEADERSHIP TEAM

Anne Weaver, CEO
Samantha Kirstein, Community Development Director
Gail Ballou, Attorney

CONTACT INFORMATION

725 26th Avenue
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701
Phone: 45-SHARE (457-4273)

Mission Moments

All of these stories and other daily stories come from our **FACEBOOK** page, for those of you who love Facebook. Please go to www.fairbanksfoodbank.org and click on the **FACEBOOK** icon to see what we do every day.

Brrr!! This week our cold, Interior Alaska -40 BELOW ZERO weather is back! With that came a family who was having a food emergency due to their boiler breaking and unexpected costs of having their heating system fixed. This family's friend stopped by the Food Bank wondering how he could help them out, perhaps get them some food. We were happy to explain our **Neighbor Helping Neighbor** emergency food box program and other resource agencies available to help out our family! **Thank you Tanana Valley for making this all possible to help our hurting families, and thank you for providing 8,256 meals this week through our community food bank!**

(Tammy Tragis McCook - December 27, 2018)

Can you imagine what it is like to not be able to feed your family? For my birthday this year I asked for donations to the Fairbanks Community Food Bank. I have chosen this non-profit because their mission means a lot to me. Thank you for considering my request to contribute as a way to celebrate with me. Every little bit helped me reach my goal.

(Genevieve Bell)

As a board member of the Fairbanks Community Food Bank, I see firsthand the good work that gets done. Funny that we exercise to burn calories, while others don't have enough to eat. **Hunger is real. Please help me in supporting our local Fairbanks Food Bank and to make sure no one goes hungry in the Tanana Valley!**

If you're interested in volunteering, give us a call today at 907-457-4273 or visit www.fairbanksfoodbank.org to sign up!

For those who love to DONATE ONLINE, we hope we are giving you plenty of opportunity with easily accessible forms which are easy for you to use. If not, please help us improve them with your good suggestions.