



Newberg FISH Emergency Service

Friends In Service to Humanity • Newberg's Food Pantry

JANUARY-MARCH 2023 NEWSLETTER

Published off and on, once in awhile, now and then, occasionally and whenever.

2022 RECAP:

We continue to use the call-in method where clients call from the parking lot. Those answering phones read from the list of what is available, and the client says "yes or no" depending upon what they need or want. The system continues to work well. Many of our clients are overwhelmed with relief when we bring out the food they ordered many exclaim, "THANK YOU SO MUCH!". Our response is to tell them that we are able to give them assistance because of the great support we receive from the community.

Contributions were down just a bit last year. Perhaps that is because inflation has raised the cost of living. We also anticipate a further increase in clients as the SNAP program and other governmental programs return to their pre-Covid levels. Thus, we and our clients again thank you for your generous support!

2022 FOOD PANTRY IMPACTS:

- 7,243 individuals were served through our food pantry. This is a 47% increase from the previous year.
- **Thanksgiving assistance:**
1,131 individuals were served by Thanksgiving food boxes and vouchers for Nap's Thriftway.
- **Christmas assistance:**
946 individuals were served by Christmas food boxes and vouchers for Grocery Outlet.
- **Thanksgiving and Christmas food boxes** and vouchers are given to clients based on their household size. The vouchers are like gift certificates to be used for the purchase of produce or meat products only.
- **Over \$112,000 allocated to purchase** produce, milk, eggs, cheese, cooking oil, and protein. We purchase these basics to ensure our neighbors have access to nutritious food.

ADDITIONAL IMPACTS BEYOND THE FOOD PANTRY:

Our mission to provide assistance to our neighbors during periods of financial hardship means that we reach out beyond the food pantry to help the community in other ways. This year the impacts we made included:

- **18,098 pounds of food shared with organizations** in our area to support their needs, such as YCAP, Newberg Emergency Shelter, 2nd Street Drop-In Center, Chehalem Senior Center, Helping Hands, and many area churches serving weekly meals.
- **992 weekend food bags delivered to students at** Edwards Elementary School for their Weekend Backpack program.
- **502 individuals served through our special assistance** partnerships with the Newberg-Dundee Police Department to provide vulnerable people on the street with overnight lodging and Love INC to support people with emergencies related to rent, utilities, prescriptions, and dental procedures.

All of us at Newberg FISH are proud to be a 100% volunteer-run organization.
Last year, our volunteers put in 9,277 hours serving our neighbors!
Thank you, FISH volunteers!!