

2017 Year End Summary for the East Mountain Food Pantry

Thank you to everyone who volunteers, prays, donates cash and/or grocery items. Without you this ministry would not be possible.

This was the first time we ever served over 200 families/households in a single month (we did this in 7 months of 2017)!

In 2017 We Served:

683 different families/households of which 220 were new.

- Some only came once, some came each month, others came as needed (yearly total of 4,869 adults + 2,173 children with the average household size about 3)
- Enough grocery items were given out to make approximately 130,000 individual meals!!!

Current ideas/needs:

We are bursting at the seams in the pantry so we are looking at different options but lack funding. Please pray for:

- Explore the option of becoming our own 501(c)(3) organization.
- Additional space (at times we have standing room only as clients wait their turn)
Suggestion: Enclosing the porch area to act as a 'waiting' area
- Additional storage space (at times our shelves are overflowing on delivery days)
Suggestion: We need a POD unit or shed.
- Additional volunteers are needed to open more hours and/or days.
Suggestion: Extend current hours and/or days with a different shift of new volunteers or adding additional Saturdays.
- Volunteers are needed who will pray with/for client needs.
- Upgrade to the structure (wiring is maxed out, there is no air conditioning in the summer)
Suggestion: Mount an attic fan to blow/pull hot air out, make/install screens on all windows with some type of security bar (easily removable for emergency escape), air circulation is needed to keep non-refrigerated produce and bread from spoiling during hot weather.
- Relocating to a new location with appropriate space and up-to-date utilities.
Suggestion: Keep an eye out for existing vacant building/land that would be suitable for our needs and still easily accessible for our clients **and** for the owner to donate the use to us at little to no charge. *(We have had a couple of donors hint at their desire to help with this.)*