



KING'S CUPBOARD 2010 PROJECT RECAP

THE PANTRY SERVES

Over the past months, the media reports the economy is slowly improving. We have not yet seen that improvement in the lives of our clients. Unemployment, underemployment, poverty, hunger, loss and fear for the future – these remain the norm for many of our neighbors.

We, a community of many, found strength in our common caring for those less fortunate in our midst. We came together, worked hard, and with God's help made a difference to the families we served.

King's Cupboard remains a 100% volunteer organization, supported by a broad base of congregations and other community members. King of Kings Lutheran Church is the host congregation; partners include Oak Hills Presbyterian Church, Milwaukie Lutheran Church, Creator Lutheran Church and Clackamas United Church of Christ.

2010 HIGHLIGHTS

During 2010 the pantry served 24% more families compared to 2009: 1185 families and 3901 people. We handled the added demand effectively, in part thanks to infrastructure and process improvements accomplished during the year.

Remodel

In late 2009 we were awarded an ELCA (Evangelical Lutheran Church of America) domestic hunger grant. This \$2,500 became the cornerstone of a modest yet significant remodel project which ultimately doubled our shelf/storage space and doubled our capacity to store frozen and refrigerated products. A number of donors helped us raise needed funds and resources. Oregon Food Bank's Network Support Fund provided \$4,000 to complete the task.

For approximately \$9,000, pantry upgrades included: new internal door and lock, new flooring, paint, additional shelves, commercial refrigerator, commercial freezer, and electrical work to support the new units.

When it came time to move, prepare, paint, and install, volunteers arrived from partner congregations, the community and Providence. We could not have accomplished our goal without these extra helping hands.

Expanded Hours

Once the remodel was complete, we extended pantry service times by one hour, to make the pantry more available to families who struggled to arrive within our two hour service window. Current service times are 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month (except holidays).

Clackamas County Special Projects Grant

In October we were awarded a \$3,500 Clackamas County Special Projects grant. These funds allow us to work towards dual goals of doubling the quantity of fresh fruits and vegetables available to clients and providing each family with ½ gallon of fresh milk. We immediately began to implement this special project, working with local wholesale vendors. Clients deeply appreciate the opportunity to select these fresh and healthful foods.

SERVICE STATISTIC DETAILS

From January to December, King's Cupboard served 1185 families, 3901 people, providing each family with 3 to 5 days of food. Our shopping style pantry service facilitates individual food choice and preserves dignity.

Pantry demand was strong in January 2010, continued with solid numbers from February through May, with very strong demand in June. July was surprisingly quiet, for reasons unknown. In August, we experienced another service high. October destroyed the August record, while November and December remained extremely busy.

King's Cupboard Service Statistics – 2010

MONTH	FAMILIES	PERSONS
January	101	339
February	84	284
March	94	331
April	85	283
May	93	321
June	108	345
July	77	237
August	110	357
September	101	323
October	128	428
November*	85	281
December	<u>119</u>	<u>372</u>
	1185	3901

*Only one service in November due to timing of Thanksgiving. Clients were reminded of November and December dates well in advance.

FOOD AND FUNDS AND VOLUNTEERS

Food

We estimate the pantry purchased or received approximately 80,000 pounds of food during the year.

Almost 58,000 pounds of food was acquired from the USDA, Oregon Food Bank, Safeway, Franz, Dave's Killer Bread and food industry donors.

Partner congregations and others in the community donated over 12,000 pounds of food. Super Bowl drives were fun and successful, and the soup products are always needed for pantry shelves. Day Camp and Vacation Bible School kids collected food and products for the pantry. Over 300 pounds of garden fresh produce was donated from local gardens during the season.

About 10,000 pounds of food was purchased by pantry shoppers or purchased from wholesale produce vendors.

Funds

During 2010 the pantry spent \$11,497 on food and other products for distribution. In addition, \$2,802 in grant funds available via Oregon Food Bank (federal and local money) was directly deducted from OFB invoices. The pantry was also selected to take part in a Fred Meyer shopping spree worth \$500.

Partner congregations held fund and food raising events throughout the year. In November, King of Kings held a Pie Social and Quilt Auction fundraiser to benefit the pantry.

The pantry received generous direct financial support from various sources and activities, including:

\$4,500	Pie Social and Quilt Auction (plus Thrivent, listed below)
\$4,000	Oregon Food Bank Support Fund (for commercial refrigeration)
\$4,551	Partner congregation fundraisers and other donations
\$3,500	Clackamas County (for fresh produce and dairy project)
\$2,875	Donations by individual and family community members
\$2,500	ELCA Domestic Hunger Grant (pantry remodel)
\$2,000	Providence Milwaukie Hospital
\$1,500	Clackamas Emergency Services Foundation
\$ 800	Thrivent Financial For Lutherans

Volunteers: the helping hands

King's Cupboard provides a high level of personal service to each client family, including a personal shopper at two separate points of service. Many hands are needed to order and pick up food, fill shelves, welcome and assist clients and perform administrative functions.

We are blessed by volunteers from each of the partner congregations and the community. Youth groups and a scout troop helped us sort food; volunteers from Providence helped during our remodel. We are grateful to each volunteer for time and effort donated to the pantry project. We could not accomplish this work without you! Thank you.

King's Cupboard Volunteer Support 2010

MONTH	Volunteers	Total Hours
January	60	366
February	39	254
March	36	292
April	38	202
May	36	266
June	49	386
July	37	275
August	41	312
September	41	301
October	79	345
November*	48	267
December	<u>45</u>	<u>326</u>
	549	3592

GOING FORWARD: WHAT DO WE SEE?

We deeply hope the need for emergency food in our community soon begins to level or decline. That will mean families are beginning to recover from this long and torturous recession. It will mean employment opportunities are available and families are earning enough to fulfill their needs without help from others. Will 2011 be the year things begin to look better for struggling families? Only time will tell.

King's Cupboard begins the 2011 service year with a strong sense of purpose and the resources to do its work. On the horizon we see various opportunities and challenges.

1. USDA cuts promised for 2010 did not materialize and, in fact, allocations of these foods were larger than expected. This truly helped us meet increased demand. We understand USDA allocations may dramatically slow in the second quarter of 2011.
2. The overall quantity of free (or nearly free) donated food from Oregon Food Bank (OFB) remains limited. Over \$2,800 in federal, state and local grant funds helped mitigate the dearth of donated foods in 2010. These funds allowed us to purchase select products from the OFB food-to-buy program at discounted prices.
3. We continue to develop fresh produce and dairy sources. It is not clear if or how we might consistently provide the same high quality products once the Clackamas County grant funds have been spent.

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4. We are excited by two school garden projects in the area which will help provide some fresh fruits and vegetables. The Concord School garden provided small amounts of lovely produce in 2010 and we hope to see more from this source in 2011. A large View Acres School garden is in the development stage.
5. We hope that partner congregations will continue their support with food, funds and/or volunteers, as each is able. Two additional congregations are considering whether this project matches their resources and goals.
6. Additional areas of focus for 2011
 - a. Strengthen our volunteer base, so we do not burn out faithful helpers
 - b. Consider new and existing grant/funding opportunities
 - c. Hold a major fundraising event

CONCLUSION

King's Cupboard creates an important resource for the community. Its work is accomplished by a coalition of congregations and others who care deeply about our most vulnerable neighbors. Together we continue to make a difference, one family at a time.

King's Cupboard:
Where the community comes together to feed hungry neighbors.