Enhancing the lives of our neighbors by nourishing their bodies, hearts and souls to build a brighter future.
STRENGTH IN COMMUNITY SERVICE

Nearly 1,000 volunteers gave over 36,000 hours of time.

WHAT WE DO

The Marysville Community Food Bank is dedicated to providing food to families facing life’s challenges in the Marysville/Tulalip/Lakewood area. Our vision is a hunger free community. Addressing hunger in the community is our priority. By assisting families with the basic need of food, many are able to utilize freed-up resources to pay for medicine, car expenses, school essentials for their children or the cost of housing during tough times. Providing food to school children over the weekend prepares them for the school week with minds ready to learn.

A STORY

September 22, 2017 - When I pulled into the parking lot of the Food Bank this morning, I noticed a car parked crosswise. After about a half hour, knowing that many volunteers would soon be arriving and needing parking places, I asked a volunteer to join me in a discussion with the vehicle owner about moving from the volunteer parking area. We could see a man in the driver’s seat and a woman in the passenger seat, both seats reclined. There was a mid-sized dog occupying part of the back seat and a black and white cat on the shelf below the back window. The man awoke with a stir and his right hand trembled uncontrollably as he struggled to fully awaken and get clarity of what was going on. He rolled down the window.

He said they were homeless. In the middle of the night they were shoed away from the Smokey Point rest area by a state patrolman. I asked if they were in need of food. They said they were and that they could wait until we were open at 9:00 am to get food. Asking if they had food for their pets, they told me that the dog had food but that the cat had none. I requested the couple to move their car to the front of the Food Bank and to come in for groceries once we opened at 9:00. I spotted a few cans of cat chow so I delivered them to the re-parked car. They were thankful and I’m sure that cat was too although he wasn’t admitting it at that point. The couple did get a cart load of food for themselves. So, hopefully all the occupants of the vehicle got a little relief from some of the stresses they must face so much of the time.

The Marysville community understands that their donations go a long way to providing relief to the homeless or food insecure. We are grateful for our donors!

marysvillefoodbank.org
REFLECTIONS ON 2017

Over the last year our primary focus was on executing and refining what we had put in place the previous year driven by our vision of “a hunger free community.”

A Simple Gesture, the program which provides local families with an easy way to donate food without dropping off at the Food Bank, ramped up to 325 bags in circulation. Over 31,000 pounds of food has been donated through this “COOL GREEN BAG” program.

The shuttle, in partnership with Marysville United Methodist Church has continued to give folks access to much needed foods by providing rides home from the Food Bank with their groceries. On average 19 households use the shuttle each week.

The Food For Thought food backpack program, in partnership with St. Mary’s Backpack Ministries, served 500 students per week (up from 400 per week the previous year) with some weeks over 600.

And, many higher grade level students continue to benefit from our “in-school” food pantries.

The Toy Store had more community involvement than ever before and cheerfully served up gifts for 1,100 children at the incredible venue offered by The Grove Church.

Finally, over the last year the board of directors and staff implemented more best practices learned from our board development training. We now have clear expectations for board members and are running more efficient and effective meetings.

THE FUTURE

As 2019 nears, the board of directors and staff will prioritize the many “opportunities” that we have for guiding us into the future. These could include building capacity, software systems, food quality and healthy choices, and much more. We are already working on our role in the community in the event of a natural disaster.

CLIENT SURVEY ON IMPACT - 98% of respondents to a survey stated that receiving food from the Food Bank allows them to use resources for other basic needs. 81% of those respondents cited utilities, 78% housing, 56% transportation and 47% medical.
What goes into a backpack?

25 volunteers assemble and distribute Food For Thought “Backpacks” weekly during the school year.

Children’s Toy Store

1,100 children received holiday gifts. The Grove Church once again offered a wonderful venue for the Toy Store.

HIGHLIGHTS

- 15,594 families served
- 18,484 food backpacks provided to students
- 1,185 holiday baskets
- 1,100 children received holiday gifts
- 1,067,464 pounds of food given out

Clients can visit the Food Bank three times each month for full service, and once a month for bread, pastries, and fresh produce. Holiday food baskets are offered to families in need every Thanksgiving and Christmas.

FOOD DISTRIBUTION HOURS

Mondays: 9:00-11:00 AM
Seniors 62 & over and disabled clients ONLY

Tuesdays: 3:00-6:00 PM
Plus 3:00-6:30 PM the last Tuesday of the month

Fridays: 9:00-11:00 AM

DONATION, BUSINESS & VOLUNTEER HOURS

Mondays: 7:30 AM – Noon
Tuesdays: 7:30 AM – Noon and 2:00-6:30 PM
Thursdays: 7:30 AM – Noon
Fridays: 7:30 AM – Noon
Saturdays: 7:30 – 11:00 AM

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