Resource Guide

Generated November 29, 2026 · 23 open facilities · closed facilities are not listed · call before you go: details change quickly

PA

59th Street Baptist Church

Walk–in Resource · Open

Food Pantry

5838 Pine Street, Philadelphia, PA 19143

Mamber agency of Philabundance – See facility record:

https://reliefdb.org/shelters/2777

Services offered: Food Distribution, Food Pantry (Distributes to the Public)

Updated Feb 2, 2008 · https://reliefdb.org/shelters/2726

Acts Christian Transitional Service ~ Acts Master Street Family Residential Center

Shelter · Open

Faith–Based Community Outreach – Social Services – Recovery House For Women

2802 W. Master St., Philadelphia, PA 19121

Phone 215–232–4592
Web www.phillysos.org/servicelocation.asp?id=2101140613
Hours Mon – Fri 9:00am – 5:00pm (Office), 24/7 (Shelter)

ACTS CHRISTIAN TRANSITIONAL SERVICES began as a ministry of Acts of the Apostles Church in Jesus Christ in 1976 by opening its doors to the abused women and children who came to the Church seeking refuge. Then in 1978, Acts began providing assistance to the mentally handicapped and the elderly by providing residency, nursing care, case management and recreational activities.

In 1986 (Year of Incorporation), the City of Philadelphia approached our agency and asked us to join the umbrella of homeless shelters that would provide services to the clients who came through the Office of Supportive Housing (formerly known as the Office of Services to the Homeless and Adults and the Office of Emergency Shelter and Services). So, in November of 1986, ACTS CHRISTIAN TRANSITIONAL SERVICES opened its doors as a homeless shelter for families and single women. From the very beginning, ACTS has strived to IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF LIFE for our clients. ACTS provides a safe, drug free, comfortable and supportive environment for the clientele coming through the OESS System.

In February of 1990, ACTS expanded its program with the introduction of an Individualized Social Service Plan for each client. Programming for the clients is designed to dismantle the vicious cycles that cripple our homeless population, and in particular those who are suffering from substance abuse and chronic disorders.

In April of 1993, we opened PHASE II of ACTS, which is earmarked for those individuals currently in residence at our Master Street Facility. These residents have three or more months of sobriety, are actively participating in the community and have been consistent in the following of their Service Plans. These clients maintain their own building, run their own house meetings, have extended curfew privileges and are assigned to the Aftercare Case Manager.

Since its inception, ACTS has been a pioneer in the development of programming and collaboration with other supportive service agencies seeking to assist the homeless:

· Pennfree pilot site for families and single women
· Assisted in the development of the School Districts Homeless Student Initiative
· Pilot site for PHMC Healthcare for the Homeless project and the Case Management project
· Pilot site the Nutritional Development Project for the Archdiocese of Philadelphia
· Advisory council for the Girl Scouts of the Greater Philadelphia “Our Time” program for children in shelters and serves as a pilot site
· Pilot site for the Aids Community education project with HIV specialist in shelter

ACTS is an agency that is willing and has proven itself able to progress programmatically with the needs of the clients.

From July 1993 to December 2003 – ACTS accepted the responsibility of managing the OESS Family Shelter known as Woodstock. Along with the need to establish services for the adult population of the facility, we created a structured program for the 185 children which included school registration assistance, tutoring, youth case management, age appropriate support groups, Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts, recreational programming, counseling and an on–site preschool program.

Currently, ACTS services 61 adults and 62 children on a daily basis, and the services that we provide are directly related to the needs of the adults and children in our facility and to those who have moved on.

1998 we joined forces with the City of Philadelphia’s Department of Public Health – Coordinating Office for Drug & Alcohol Abuse Programs (CODAAP) and facilitate a Support (Recovery) House for adult women in Substance Abuse Treatment and Recovery Programs, in addition to women who were recently incarcerated.

ACTS will continue to explore and find ways to expand our base of services so that we can provide our clients with a holistic and comprehensive supportive service as they go through their transitional period.

“AN ANCHOR IN THE STORM”

Services offered: Advocacy, * (ANY/ALL Types); Advocacy, Health & Human Rights; Assistance * (ANY Type of: Referrals or "How to" Assistance); Assistance, Referrals, Housing, Housing Resource Referrals; Case Management, for Special Needs Folks; Case Management, * (Providers of ANY Type of Case Management); Case Management, Seniors/Elders; Housing * (ANY/ALL Types); Housing, Recovery House (For Substance Abuse Treatment); Housing, Transitional Housing; Shelter * (ANY/ALL Types); Shelter, Homeless Shelter

Updated Nov 29, 2008 · https://reliefdb.org/shelters/2728

Aftersch at Cook/Wissahickon

Walk–in Resource · Open

Food Pantry

3616 South Galloway Street • PO Box 37555 • Philadelphia, PA 19148, Philadelphia, PA 19128

Phone (215) 339–0900
Contact Philabundance
Web www.philabundance.org
Serves Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Montgomery and Philadelphia counties in PA; Burlington, Camden, Gloucester, Mercer and Salem counties in NJ.

Philabundance is the region’s largest food rescue organization. In fiscal 2006, we distributed 26 million pounds of food. We serve low income residents at risk of hunger and malnutrition, of which 23% are children and 16% are senior citizens.

Philabundance distributes food through a network of more than 600 member agencies throughout the Delaware Valley. These agencies include food cupboards, neighborhood distributions, shelters, emergency kitchens and various social service agencies with special programs such as daycares and senior centers.

The agencies serve people in need in Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Montgomery and Philadelphia counties in PA, and in Burlington, Camden, Gloucester, Mercer and Salem counties in NJ.

Currently, Philabundance distributes food to member agencies through the following distribution systems:

*Orders for items on the weekly Philabundance Food Bank menu that can be delivered or picked up at the Berks location.

*Items picked up from the Walk Through shopping area at the Berks location.
*Produce delivered weekly.
*Produce picked up from local hub distributions.

Member agencies pay shared maintenance as well as delivery fees for the food they receive from the Food Bank. Agencies may also apply for the Produce Program to either receive a weekly delivery or come to a produce hub distribution; the Produce Program is free and agencies that apply are added to a waitlist for the next available space.

In 2005, Philabundance integrated with the Philadelphia Food Bank to become the region's largest nonprofit hunger relief organization. Today, Philabundance offers a full plate of services to Delaware Valley residents at risk of chronic hunger and malnutrition.

Philabundance provides food if and when a disaster strikes. During the Hurricane Katrina aftermath Philabundance was the fourth largest provider of food to the Gulf.

Services offered: Distribution * (ANY/ALL Types); Facility: Food, Emergency Food Center; Food, Distribution, Emergency Food Program; Food Distribution, Food Pantry (Distributes to the Public); Food, Non–Perishable Food * (ANY/ALL Types of Canned, Dry, Drinks, Snacks)

Updated Dec 20, 2007 · https://reliefdb.org/shelters/2731

Agape Community Outreach Services

Info/Hotline · Open

Community Outreach Services

P.O. Box 27367, Philadelphia, PA 19150

Phone 215–247–7386 or 215–247–4770

Member agency of the Philabundance Food Bank. See record:

https://reliefdb.org/shelters/2777

Services offered: Community Outreach Programs

Updated Feb 2, 2008 · https://reliefdb.org/shelters/2732

Aid for Friends Frail Elderly Outreach Center

Walk–in Resource · Open

Elderly Outreach Center

12271 Townsend Rd., Philadelphia, PA 19154

Phone (215) 464–2224

Web www.aidforfriends.org

(FROM THE WEBSITE)

Who We Are & What We Do:

We are 16,000 volunteers – from all walks of life, from just about every religious orientation, color, creed and economic status. We live in every corner of the 5 County Greater Philadelphia area –just like you,

Since our inception in 1974 – we have steadily grown day by day year by year – one volunteer at a time. We initially served 11 people – today we serve over 2000, providing each one with 7 free, home–cooked meals and an hour of friendly visiting each week (over 13 million free meals, and thousands and thousand of compassionate, friendly visits in the past 33 years)

We would love to have you join us as a:

1. Cook – cook an extra portion of your meal and freeze it immediately – we supply the trays, menu sheets, and plastic bags

2. Visitor – you choose the person you would like to visit and bring seven home–cooked meals (prepared by the cooks) to the same client/friend, each and every week.

3. Driver –– we desperately need drivers to bring supplies to our 300 sites and to sometimes move meals from our office – warehouse site to another site that has run short of meals.

4. Contributors – we need individual contributors, organizations, businesses, and charitable foundations – to help us meet the financial obligations necessary to run Aid For Friends. Please be aware that because of our wonderful volunteer network of cooks who use their own food, visitors and drivers who use their own cars and gas, and countless other volunteers who work in the office, warehouse, maintain the building and the grounds and perform a myriad of other tasks, every $1.00 contributed translated into $6.22 of direct services to our wonderful client/friends.

We must raise out entire budget of $1,098,000(one million ninety–eight thousand dollars) every year because all that we do for our disabled frail elderly homebound is free.– Free daily meals, supplemental food, all 16 ancillary projects to support our shut ins and enhance their quality of their lives.

This is a Philabundance Food Bank member agency. See record:

https://reliefdb.org/shelters/2777

Services offered: Advocacy, * (ANY/ALL Types); Advocacy, Special Needs Folks, Seniors/Elders; Community Outreach Programs; Financial Assistance, Emergency Financial Assistance; Meals, Home Delivered Meals (For Seniors/Elders); Mental Health Services; Services, Support, Caregiver Support Services; Volunteer Opportunities, In General * (ANY/ALL Types); Volunteers, Elder/Senior Volunteers (This facility accomodates Elder Volunteers); Volunteers, Groups of Volunteers (This facility accomodates Groups of Volunteers); Volunteers, Individual Volunteers (This facility accomodates Individuals Volunteers)
Campaigns: United Way
Updated Feb 2, 2008 · https://reliefdb.org/shelters/2733

Allegheny West Foundation

Walk–in Resource · Open

Non–Profit Community Development
Allegheny West Foundation Community Center; 2330 West Allegheny Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19132
Phone SEE NOTES
Web www.awest.org
Serves Allegheny West

The Allegheny West Foundation is one of the oldest and most successful community development corporations (CDCs) in Philadelphia. Since 1968, we have worked to revitalize our community and have focused tremendous energy toward improving the quality of life for the residents of Allegheny West.

We are a cornerstone in the Allegheny West community, and our initiatives aim to continuously develop and improve the neighborhood by helping residents find safe, affordable and desirable housing while achieving educational and economic success. The foundation of our success to date has been our close ties to the community and our strong network of supporters and partners.

In the 35 years since our founding, we have incorporated, grown, and expanded to become a key partner in revitalizing and developing the Allegheny West neighborhood. We play a critical role in the growth of our community, and are constantly working to:

–Promote the region
–Create social and business networks that bring investment into our community
–Advance strategic community initiatives
–Encourage efforts that foster human development
–Instill a sense of pride and safety in the community

AWF helps strengthen the fabric of the community, and we have been instrumental in repairing or rehabilitating over 5 percent of the local housing stock, and have helped scores of low– to moderate–income residents either rent or own homes in Allegheny West. We have also made improvements to the commercial and retail corridors, initiating development through community planning.

We recognize that community development takes much more than four walls. Looking to the future, we have expanded to include many more youth, education and community programs.

We've partnered with several grassroots community organizations to provide assistance for area residents through a variety of initiatives. For senior citizens, we administer food giveaway programs and coordinate a cancer screening program. We run career development programs for high school students, including summer employment and civic engagement, and educational programs, including Communities in Schools and City Year. We've also helped provide services like technical and financial assistance to over 200 business owners.

We enjoy excellent working relationships with other Community Development Corporations and participate in regular meetings with these organizations through the Philadelphia Association of Community Development Corporations. We also receive funding from our corporate sponsor, Tasty Baking Company, through the Department of Community and Economic Development Comprehensive Services Program's contributions.

Many more programs and improvements are planned in the coming years.

We would not be where we are today without the financial support and partnership of the Tasty Baking Company, whose facilities are located in our neighborhood. The

company recognized an opportunity to contribute to the improvement of its surrounding community, and has provided Allegheny West the chance to not only survive, but thrive.

We are a Pennsylvania nonprofit community development corporation, and are an operating, not funding, organization with 501(c)3 status.

For all questions regarding real estate or administration, please contact our corporate office:

Allegheny West Foundation
3413 Fox Street
Philadelphia, PA 19129
Phone: 215–221–8830
Fax: 215–221–5933

For all questions regarding community programs, please contact the Community Center:

Allegheny West Foundation Community Center
2330 West Allegheny Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19132
Phone: 215–226–0130
Fax: 215–226–0190

All mail should be sent to:

Allegheny West Foundation
2801 Hunting Park Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19129–1392

This facility is a member agency of the Philabundance Food Bank.

See record:

https://reliefdb.org/shelters/2777

Services offered: Assistance * (ANY Type of: Referrals or "How to" Assistance); Assistance, Referrals, Housing, Housing Resource Referrals; Financial Assistance, ** Financial Assistance (ANY/ALL Types); Financial Assistance, Housing, Mortgage Assistance; Food * (ANY/ALL Types); Food, Distribution, Emergency Food Program; Training * (ANY/ALL Types of Instruction) ; Training Classes, Resume Writing, Interview Skills; Training, Services, Employment /JobTraining ; Youth Program
Campaigns: Arts Community / Artist Network
Updated Nov 29, 2008 · https://reliefdb.org/shelters/2735

Allen AME Church Food & Clothing Bank

Walk–in Resource · Open

Faith–Based, Food Distribution
5902 Addison St, Philadelphia, PA 19143
Phone 215.748.0257

This facility is a member agency of the Philabundance Food Bank.

See record:

https://reliefdb.org/shelters/2777

Services offered: Demographic Served: Low Income Folks; Distribution * (ANY/ALL Types); Distribution, Clothing Distribution (To the Public); Food Distribution, Food Bank (Public Distribution Available); Services, Church/Worship Services
Updated Dec 2, 2008 · https://reliefdb.org/shelters/2736

Anti Drug and Alcohol Crusade, Inc.

Info/Hotline · Open

City Run
5052 N. 52nd St., Philadelphia, PA 19139
Web www.phila.gov/Health/units/DCDP/Community_Partners.html

This facility is a member agency of the Philabundance Food Bank.

See record:

https://reliefdb.org/shelters/2777

Through Steps to a Healthier Philadelphia, implements a health education program known as "Healthy Steps to Preventing Chronic Diseases", targeting children of all ages.

Services offered: Training * (ANY/ALL Types of Instruction)
Updated Dec 2, 2008 · https://reliefdb.org/shelters/2738

Baptist Worship Center

Info/Hotline · Open

Church
2222 Wakeling Street, Philadelphia, PA 19137

This facility is a member agency for Philabundance Food Bank.

See record:

https://reliefdb.org/shelters/2777

Services offered: Services, Church/Worship Services
Updated Feb 3, 2008 · https://reliefdb.org/shelters/2753

Berachah Baptist Church

Info/Hotline · Open

Church
2043 Eastburn Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19138
Phone (215) 224–5522

This facility is a member agency of the Philabundance Food Bank, see record:

https://reliefdb.org/shelters/2777

Services offered: Services, Church/Worship Services
Updated Feb 2, 2008 · https://reliefdb.org/shelters/2755

Bethel Baptist Church

Info/Hotline · Open

Church
2210 E. Susquehanna Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19125
Phone (215) 426–1909

This facility is a member agency with the Philabundance Food Bank.

See record:

https://reliefdb.org/shelters/2777

Services offered: Services, Church/Worship Services
Updated Feb 3, 2008 · https://reliefdb.org/shelters/2763

Bethel Fellowship Frankln Mill

Info/Hotline · Open

Church
903 Franklin Mills Circle, Philadelphia, PA 19154
Phone (215) 824–3000
Web www.fmchurch.net

This facility is a member agency of the Philabundance Food Bank.

See record:

https://reliefdb.org/shelters/2777

Services offered: Counseling ($ NOT FREE) * (ANY/ALL Types of Counseling); Mental Health, Counselors/Psychologists; Services, Church/Worship Services
Updated Feb 3, 2008 · https://reliefdb.org/shelters/2766

Bethel Holy Temple No. Philadelphia

Info/Hotline · Open

Church
3220 N. 16th St., Philadelphia, PA 19140
Phone 215–226–0160

This facility is a member agency of the Philabundance Food Bank.

See record:

https://reliefdb.org/shelters/2777

Services offered: Facility: Camping Site (For Kids/Youth Only)
Updated Feb 3, 2008 · https://reliefdb.org/shelters/2758

Bethesda Bainbridge

Shelter · Open

Faith–Based Permanent Mens Housing (Addictions/Mental Illness)
700 S. 15th St., Philadelphia, PA 19146
Phone 215–985–1600
Hours 24/7
Serves Philadelphia

This facility is a member agency of the Philabundance Food Bank.

See record:

https://reliefdb.org/shelters/2777

Faith–based provider of housing and supportive services to particularly vulnerable homeless men.

FROM: http://www.phila.gov/reentry/Housing.html

Contact: John Mosley, Program Coordinator
Services Provided: SRO housing for 30 men with addiction histories or mental illness
Date Established: 1986

FROM THE SOS PHILLY SITE –
http://www.phillysos.org/ServiceDetails.asp?serviceID=2015837755

A community of formerly homeless men with mental and/or physical handicaps. Each resident has his own private room and shares a bathroom, kitchen, and recreational spaces with other residents.The house manager, assistant house manager, and volunteers coordinate the homemaking work of the men and/or assist and support them in those activities which they find difficult or are unable to perform.

Services offered: Housing * (ANY/ALL Types); Housing, Group Home, Special Needs/Mental Illness; Services, Special Needs, Services for People with Special Needs
Updated Feb 3, 2008 · https://reliefdb.org/shelters/2761

Bethlehem of Deliverance

Shelter · Open

Non–Profit Faith–Based Food Pantry, Drug/Alcholol Recovery/Transitional Housing
Joshua Achievement Ctr.; 2016 West Berks Street, Philadelphia, PA 19121
Phone 215–765–2209

Provides emergency food. Call to check food availability, eligibility requirements, and hours of operation. Food distribution is ONCE A MONTH.

Bethlehem of Deliverance Church is a Christian non–profit organization with (3) separate components: Drug and Alcohol Recovery and Transitional Housing.

This facility is a member agency of the Philabundance Food Bank.

See record:

https://reliefdb.org/shelters/2777

Services offered: Facility: Food, Emergency Food Center; Food * (ANY/ALL Types); Food Distribution, Food Pantry (Distributes to the Public); Housing * (ANY/ALL Types); Housing, Recovery House (For Substance Abuse Treatment); Housing, Transitional Housing
Updated Feb 3, 2008 · https://reliefdb.org/shelters/2764

Better Days

Walk–in Resource · Open

Non–Profit Advocacy Foundation
744 South 17th Street, 2nd Floor; Marian Anderson Rec. Center, Philadelphia, PA 19146
Phone (215) 755–6588

Programs:
Better Days program in the capacity of HIV/AIDS prevention/intervention Outreach providers: are striving to compound a formal referral mechanism for HIV AIDS positive individuals and Prevention/Intervention Outreach for Youths and Adults dealing with Substances of Addiction in the Philadelphia Region.

Additional Comments from the Organization:
We are member affiliates of the Point Breeze Network Association, the Point Breeze Community Development Coalition. Have established a "Cooperative Agreement? with Universal Companies, Southern Homes, Inc., ETRSA, and Philly Fight. We are Advisory Board Members for the Lycoming House and are working on a subcontract with Temple University Hospital.

Who We Are:
Better Days realizes HIV (human immunodeficiency virus) Infection and injection drug use are major public health problems in the United States today. The focus of this realization lies at the interface of these two critical treats to public health as it permeates into our children and their children's future.

Better Days is a nonprofit 501 c 3 organization qualified under the IRS codes with all apropos documents on files. We are committed to provide housing for HIV/AIDS infected, Mentally and Physically Disabled (Homeless) individuals by the year 2009. (GOALS) Currently, we are trying to host fundraisers, request charitable donations and contributions to help Better Days purchase a very large plot of land that will provide the space needed for our facilities projected assessments. We are committed to working with youths, adults and children living with HIV/AIDS. We host workshops, GED preparation, Computer literacy, Careerlinks –Online Job search, Feed the needy, provide low income percentages for Oil heating needs – via contract, and offer various referrals. We are in need of funds to continue these services as well. We are requesting any financial assistance the River Fund and offer at this time would be greatly appreciated. We do offer tax exemption to anyone that contributes to the Better Days initiative. We are found at www.better–days.org And our email address is:

gcherryaw@hotmail.com
BETTER DAYS ATTN: Germaine Cherry, CEO
215.732.3508 /09–Office 215.732.0696
Fax 267.241.8545–Mobile gc@better–days.org

What They Need:
Clothing: Clothes & Accessories, Jewelry
Computer–Related: Computers & Accessories, Computer Software, Computer Monitors, Laptop Computers, Desktop PCs, Computer Components
Entertainment: Books & Magazines, Musical Instruments, Video Games, Music, Movies (DVD & VHS), VCRs, Televisions, DVD players, Electronics, Audio, Cameras
Household Goods: Furniture, Kids Stuff, Home & Garden, Appliances, Toys & Hobbies, Collectibles, Art
Other: Sporting Goods, Building Supplies, Medical Equip & Supplies, Tickets, Office Equip & Supplies
Transportation: Vans, Trucks, , Boats, Airplanes & Aviation, Cars & Vehicles, RVs & Motor Homes, Bicycles & Equipment

Drop Off Location:
Address: 744 South 17th Street, 2nd Floor
City: Philadelphia, PA 19146

Hours: Between 10:00 am and 6:00pm

This facility is a member agency of the Philabundance Food Bank. See their record:

https://reliefdb.org/shelters/2777

Services offered: Advocacy, * (ANY/ALL Types); Advocacy, Health & Human Rights; Donations, Drop–Off, Collection Site Location; Financial Assistance, Utility Bill Assistance
Campaigns: Homelessness Relief Services
Updated Oct 5, 2008 · https://reliefdb.org/shelters/2768

Bible Way Baptist Church

Info/Hotline · Open

Church
1323–25 North 52nd Street, Philadelphia, PA 19131
Phone (215) 477–0778
Web www.biblewaybaptist.org

This facility is a member agency of the Philabundance Food Bank.

See record:

https://reliefdb.org/shelters/2777

Services offered: Services, Church/Worship Services
Updated Feb 3, 2008 · https://reliefdb.org/shelters/2770

Blair Christian Academy

School · Open

Private
220 West Upsal Street, Philadelphia, PA 19119
Phone (215) 438–6557
Web www.blairchristianacademy.org

This facility is a member agency of the Philabundance Food Bank.

See record:

https://reliefdb.org/shelters/2777
Updated Feb 3, 2008 · https://reliefdb.org/shelters/2772

Blumberg Seniors Building

Walk–in Resource · Open

Food Pantry
2340 Bolton Way, Apt. 905, Philadelphia, PA 19121

This facility is a member agency of the Philabundance Food Bank. See record:

https://reliefdb.org/shelters/2777

Services offered: Food Distribution, Food Pantry (Distributes to the Public)
Updated Dec 2, 2008 · https://reliefdb.org/shelters/2774

Bridge Inc.

Info/Hotline · Open

8400 Pine Road, Philadelphia, PA 19111

This facility is a member agency of the Philabundance Food Bank. See record:

https://reliefdb.org/shelters/2777
Updated Feb 2, 2008 · https://reliefdb.org/shelters/2759

Bridgeway Learning Center

Info/Hotline · Open

1722 W. Ontario St, Philadelphia, PA 19140

This facility is a member agency of the Philabundance Food Bank.

See record:

https://reliefdb.org/shelters/2777
Updated Feb 3, 2008 · https://reliefdb.org/shelters/2762

Bright Hope Baptist Church Survival Program

Info/Hotline · Open

Church
1601 North 12th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19122
Phone 215-232-6004
Web brighthopebaptist.org/index.php?l=1

This facility is a member agency of the Philabundance Food Bank, see record:

https://reliefdb.org/shelters/2777

Services offered: Counseling, Spiritual; Services, Church/Worship Services
Updated Feb 2, 2008 · https://reliefdb.org/shelters/2765

Philabundance

Warehouse · Open

Non-Profit Food Bank
3616 South Galloway Street; PO Box 37555, Philadelphia, PA 19148
Phone 215.339.0900
Web www.philabundance.org
Serves Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Montgomery, Philadelphia, Burlington, Camden, Gloucester, Mercer, Salem,
Service Permanent

RECENT NEWS POSTING ONLINE / KYW Newsradio Site:

Posted: Friday, 11 January 2008 12:40PM

Area Food Bank Pleads for Post-Holiday Food Donations

by KYW's Karin Phillips

The local food bank "Philabundance" wants area residents to know that they still need food donations now that the holidays are over.

Philabundance says the need for food is increasing in this area -- and around the country -- primarily because the numbers of working poor is also increasing every day.

Martha Buccino of Philabundance:

"People are working but the salaries are low. They cannot afford all their needs that the family has, such as heating. So the choices are, do I get heat or do I get food? Do we heat or eat?"

Buccino says Philabundance received over a half-million pounds of food November and December after a call went out to answer the growing need. But she says that now that the holidays are over, the warehouse capacity of Philabundance is well below its preferred 90 percent.

She says she hopes local organizations will start to rev up local and regional food drives to meet the mounting need.

Philabundance is the region's largest food rescue organization. In fiscal 2006, we distributed 26 million pounds of food. We serve low income residents at risk of hunger and malnutrition, of which 23% are children and 16% are senior citizens.

The food does not come directly from Philabundance. Our two warehouses hold the food that is collected and donated, then repacked for distribution to our network of more than 600 member agencies throughout the Delaware Valley. These agencies include food cupboards, neighborhood distributions, shelters, emergency kitchens and various social service agencies with special programs such as daycares and senior centers.

The agencies serve people in need in Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Montgomery and Philadelphia counties in PA, and in Burlington, Camden, Gloucester, Mercer and Salem counties in NJ.

Currently, Philabundance distributes food to member agencies through the following distribution systems:

∗Orders for items on the weekly Philabundance Food Bank menu that can be delivered or picked up at the Berks location.

∗Items picked up from the Walk Through shopping area at the Berks location.
∗Produce delivered weekly.
∗Produce picked up from local hub distributions.

When we find ourselves with products that cannot be used by our network of agencies, then we have the ability to share it with other food banks throughout America's Second Harvest network. Often it is produce that is so highly valued by food banks and is available to Philabundance due to our geographic location.

Member agencies pay shared maintenance as well as delivery fees for the food they receive from the Food Bank. Agencies may also apply for the Produce Program to either receive a weekly delivery or come to a produce hub distribution; the Produce Program is free and agencies that apply are added to a waitlist for the next available space.

In 2005, Philabundance integrated with the Philadelphia Food Bank to become the region's largest nonprofit hunger relief organization. Today, Philabundance offers a full plate of services to Delaware Valley residents at risk of chronic hunger and malnutrition.

Philabundance provides food if and when a disaster strikes. During the Hurricane Katrina aftermath Philabundance was the fourth largest provider of food to the Gulf.

Services offered: Demographic Served: Low Income Folks; Food Distribution, Emergency/Disaster Food Distribution; Food Distribution, Food Bank (This Site Supplies Food Pantries/Agencies); Jobs, Paying; Support for "All" Disasters; Training ∗ (ANY/ALL Types of Instruction) ; Training, Services, Employment /JobTraining ; Volunteer Opportunities, In General ∗ (ANY/ALL Types); Volunteers, Groups of Volunteers (This facility accomodates Groups of Volunteers); Volunteers, Individual Volunteers (This facility accomodates Individuals Volunteers)
Updated Nov 30, 2008 · https://reliefdb.org/shelters/2777