Bringing More to the Table

Formerly Land of Plenty



Greater Berks Food Bank

April 2015



Our Staff:

Peg Bianca, Executive Director

Tim Becker, Operations Manager

Wayne Cockrell,
Operations Director

Deb Gehris, Business Manager

Doug Long, Marketing & Development Manager

Lori Lowery,
Agency and Volunteer
Services Coordinator

Deb Mest, Agency and Volunteer Services Manager

Ashley Snyder Agency and Volunteer Services Coordinator

Jane Vitalo Customer Service Rep.

David Bradbury, Warehouse

Phil Ciofalo Warehouse Lead

Francis Delauretis Warehouse

David D'Ginto, Warehouse

Tom Marsh Warehouse

Jim Welsh Warehouse

Rob Wertman Warehouse Supervisor

Meats, meats and more meats!

Our freezer is bursting at the seams with all kinds of frozen products, especially an assortment of meats. And, yes, I did say our brand new freezer is bursting at the seams. It's full to capacity. We are very fortunate to have these products available consistently. There are many food banks that very rarely get meats. Now our problem is, we need to move these out to those in need. Remember even if your delivery is not on your distribution day, you can always schedule to pick up the frozen products the day of distribution (Monday – Friday). There is no limit on how many pounds you can take. Why not give each recipient two or three packs of meat to put in their freezer? They would love 'center of the plate' meats!! You can't beat \$.19/lb.!! We also have freezer blankets available if you need them.





Product in the Spotlight

Quik Bread- (5031367- 12/15oz., 5031327-12/16.9 oz., 5031227- 12/14oz., 5031217-15.6oz, 5030027-12/17.4oz) -

We have over 8,000 cases of Quik Bread begging to be added to your order! Quik Bread products are commonly thought of as just a bread mix; however they can be a variety of different products. For example, Quik Bread can be muffin mix, cake mix, brownie mix, biscuit mix, scone mix and pancake mix. This product would be perfect for all of our agencies. At only \$.19 lb. this product could be a breakfast, lunch, dinner or snack item for those families in need. One case with 12 boxes of Quik Bread would only be \$2.28— WOW! Please help us move this product out of our doors and into the bellies of those that truly count.

Agency Department is Here to Help You

Our Agency & Volunteer Services Department is always willing to assist you with any issues, complaints, needs or comments. If you received an order and are missing items, call us. If you are not sure what an item on the order sheet is, call us. If you need help filling out our paperwork, call us. If you think GBFB staff is doing an awesome job and you just want to let someone know, call us. The purpose of the Agency Services Staff is to be the liaison between the GBFB and your agency. So no matter what the reason, you can call one of the Agency Staff to help. If we don't have the answer, we will get you the answer. We are here to help.

Who are we?

Deb Mest – Agency & Volunteer Services Manager, ext. 205; dmest@feedingamerica.org

Ashley Snyder - Agency & Volunteer Services Coordinator, ext. 207; asnyder@feedingamerica.org

Lori Lowery - Agency & Volunteer Services Coordinator, ext. 206; llowery@feedingamerica.org.

<u>FEEDING</u>

FRENZY

On Friday March 13, Lynx Computer Technologies had its concert for charity with the beneficiary named as the Greater Berks Food Bank. It featured the music of the Jimmy Buffett Tribute band, Parrot Beach. The night was filled with lots of drink specials, giveaways, food, fun, and music for our friends who came out to support us. Over 300 people were able to come out to the Reading Country Club to take part in the event, raising money for the Greater Berks Food Bank Capital Campaign. We are so grateful for the support of Lynx Computer Technologies and all the corporate sponsors who were able to underwrite the event, including the law firm of Leisawitz Heller, Redner's Warehouse Markets, Outten Family of Car Dealers, Sterling Financial Advisors, East Penn Manufacturing, Compleat Baldwin Brass and Richard Waldron, senior financial advisor. We appreciate everyone who came out to join in the fun while

National Association of Letter Carriers

helping others in need!

GBFB is once again looking for volunteers to help pack the donations from the annual National Association of Letter Carriers (NALC) on Saturday, May 9. NALC this year will be held at GBFB. We are looking for volunteers to sign up for shifts from 2 pm - 5 pm and 5 pm to 8 pm. There will be food, and drinks available for all the volunteers to enjoy. As it is the day before Mother's Day, there will be a letter available for any volunteer to give to their mother to show her that they volunteered to help someone else in our local community who is less fortunate. NALC food drive is the largest food drive of the year which supplies a large percentage of the items for our network throughout the year. If you are interested in helping, please sign up on your Volgistics account. If you have questions contact Ashley Snyder at ext. 207, Deb Mest at ext. 205 or Lori Lowery at ext. 206. Hope to see you there!

REMINDER

Your monthly statistics are due in to GBFB for the previous month by the 5th of the following month. Even if you DO NOT serve anyone for that particular month, please send in the monthly statistic report with that noted. If you do not send in your statistics within the required timeframe you may be suspended from ordering from GBFB. If you have any questions please feel free to contact Deb Mest at ext. 205, Lori Lowery at ext. 206 or Ashley Snyder at ext. 207.



NOTES ABOUT OUR FOLKS—Jane Vitalo

Jane Vitalo is our friendly customer service representative who you may know as the lady who makes those quotes for the weekly order sheet that goes out from GBFB. What you don't know is that Jane has been with GBFB approximately two years after she worked at a local bank for many years. She is married to her husband Mike & they reside just minutes away in Sinking Spring. Jane enjoys singing karaoke with her hubby as well as going to dinner theatres, trying out restaurants in historical buildings, taking scenic drives, going for train rides, and exploring the shops on the Best-Kept-Secret Tours. They enjoy vacationing in the Poconos & when she retires. Jane would love to run a private tea room/bed 'n breakfast for folks that need refreshment for their soul & spirit. Why does Jane work at GBFB?? "Because I feel I am part of a greater mission to make the world a better place---one plate at

a time!!!! I have a real passion for this....I truly do!!!" Next time you see Jane thank her for the positive attitude she brings to others in our midst. Her smile has warmed many hearts during her time with

Don't forget to smile!!!

hearts during her time with us.

WAREHOUSE TIDBITS

- 1) Please return any milk crates or bread crates you have. You may drop them off at GBFB or simply give them to our driver during your delivery.
- 2) As the weather begins to get warmer, please be sure to plan your orders for the refrigeration space you have. We also have freezer blankets available for agency use, if needed. Freezer blankets will keep food cold for up to 24 hours.
- 3) Lastly please make sure if you CANNOT pick up your items due to an unforeseen instance at your designated time to contact us. If we DO NOT hear from you, there **may** be a charge added to your order for a restocking fee.

Civil Rights Reminder

The Civil Rights Training must be completed with your volunteers by **April 30, 2015**. Please make sure you present the power point and have each volunteer sign the last page of the form. Please send this to GBFB as we need to have the signatures on file and you should keep a copy for your records as well. If you have any questions please call Deb at ext. 205, Ashley at ext. 207 or Lori at ext. 206.

REMINDER!! FOOD SAFETY TRAINING

If you have not signed up for the Food Safety Training course, please make sure you do so. This is a mandatory training to stay in compliance and maintain membership with GBFB.

The following dates have space available:

April 15: 9 -11:30 am **BERKS**;

April 16: 10 -12:30 pm **SCHUYLKILL; April 28:** 9-11:30 am **BERKS; April 29:** 1:00-3:30 pm **SCHUYLKILL;** and **May 7:** 1:00 - 3:30 pm **BERKS**

To register contact the Greater Berks Food Bank either via email:

<u>llowery@feedingamerica.org;</u> mail 117 Morgan Dr. Reading, PA
19608 or fax: 610-926-7638. If you have any questions please
feel free to call Lori at ext. 206.

APRIL EVENTS ...

GBFB CLOSED FRIDAY APRIL 3, 2015

Orders for delivery on April 6 must be in no later than 9 am March 31, for pick ups no later than 9 am April 1.



AGENCY ORIENTATION

Monday April 13, 2015, 9:00-10:00am Held at GBFB, RSVP is required...

Please contact either Deb Mest ext. 205, Ashley Snyder ext. 207 or Lori Lowery ext. 206.

VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION

April 9th 1—2 pm April 14th 9—10 am

Save the Dates..

May 28, 2015 4-6pm

Volunteer Appreciation Event at the Food Bank Details and invitation coming soon

June 24, 2015 1:30-3:30pm

Annual Mandatory Pantry Coordinator Meeting Details coming soon



CSFP Certification

It's time for CSFP Certification of all recipients on the active and waiting list. If you haven't received your packet already, it will be coming in the next couple weeks. All recipients must show proof of income for the household. Any recipient with a proxy, must appear with the proxy to sign a new form. All Certifications must be returned to GBFB no later than June 30, 2015. If you have any questions regarding this process, please contact Ashley at ext. 207.



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DID YOU KNOW?

Bringing more to the table is brought to you through a joint effort

We'd love your input

of Greater Berks Food Bank Staff

Editor: Lori Lowery Ilowery@feedingamerica.org ext. 206 (610) 926-5802 117 Morgan Drive

Reading, PA 19608

In the U.S. today, 16 million children face hunger – that's 1 in 5. Chances are, someone your child goes to school with struggles to get enough to eat. Just as hunger knows no age, neither does fighting it. We all have a role to play in solving hunger, whether old or young.

Children can make a positive difference in the lives of other kids in need. It's important to talk children about hunger, and inspire them to take action against it. Feeding America has provided a toolkit of resources designed to help you do just that. Talk to the kids in your life about hunger. Encourage them to help donate, advocate or volunteer. Only when we all work together – young and old – can we solve hunger, and make sure every child in our nation has the food they need to grow healthy and strong. If you are interested, go to www.feedingamerica.org—take action—talk about hunger - to download coloring sheets, family discussion booklets and more. Let's all take a step in the right direction to "Bring More to the Table".





