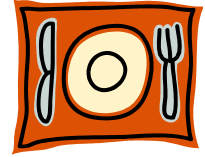
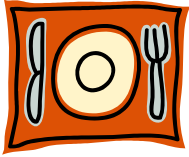

Bringing More to the Table

Formerly Land of Plenty

Greater Berks Food Bank

June 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



SUMMERTIME IS RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER - BUT THERE IS STILL A NEED TO FEED THOSE IN OUR COMMUNITY

YES, SUMMER IS RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER WHICH MEANS SCHOOL IS OUT, THERE WILL BE VACATIONS FOR SOME FOLKS AND RELAXATION FOR OTHERS. WE HERE AT THE FOOD BANK THOUGH WILL STILL BE OPERATING IN OUR MISSION TO KEEP FOOD AVAILABLE FOR OUR OVER 310 AGENCIES ACROSS BERKS, SCHUYLKILL AND WESTERN MONTGOMERY COUNTIES. THE NEED FOR FOOD DOES NOT STOP JUST BECAUSE IT IS SUMMER BREAK. AS IN YEARS PAST, WE WILL MOST LIKELY BE RECEIVING MORE GREAT PRODUCE OPTIONS FOR YOU TO ADD TO YOUR ORDERS. IF WE RECEIVE CERTAIN ITEMS AND THINK YOU MIGHT LIKE THESE, DON'T BE SURPRISED IF WE GIVE YOU A CALL. WE DON'T WANT TO HAVE YOU MISS OUT ON THE OPPORTUNITY TO SHARE THE GREAT NUTRIENT RICH FOODS WE HAVE BEEN RECEIVING FOR THE PAST FEW MONTHS. PLEASE REMEMBER IF THE SUMMER DOES BRING CHANGES TO YOUR AGENCY'S SCHEDULE, LET US KNOW AS SOON AS POSSIBLE SO WE CAN ADJUST OUR INFORMATION ACCORDINGLY. THANKS!

Agency Complaints

Please make sure to immediately notify the Agency & Volunteer Services Department if you have any discrepancies regarding your orders. It makes it very difficult for us to rectify disputes when notified weeks after the incident. Also, when you receive products that are questionable, please try to take a picture of the product and email it to us as soon as possible. We are all working towards the same goal, to feed the hungry. Understandably, mistakes will happen. However, we are doing our best to minimize error. Thank you for all of your help.

Food Safety Update

Thank you to everyone that has taken the Food Safety Training we offered through the months of March, April and May. We were able to hold 9 trainings, three off-site and 5 here at the main office, including one for the warehouse staff. Our last training is scheduled for Friday June 12, at 9 am. If you have not taken the training at this point and you do not require Serv Safe certification with your program, you **MUST** attend. This training is mandatory for all CSFP agencies, backpack agencies, snack programs and pantries. If you have any questions please contact Lori at extension 206 as soon as possible. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

WE APPRECIATE YOUR PATIENCE

Over the past few months, we have heard from agencies that their delivery is scheduled at a set time and our drivers are arriving later than anticipated. We understand that you have volunteers helping you to unpack the truck and their time is precious, but unfortunately things can happen. Due to traffic, weather, unforeseen mechanical difficulties, and the other situations, GBFB asks that agencies view delivery appointments as an approximate time of arrival. Drivers may arrive 20 minutes before or after your “scheduled” delivery time. Please be patient as we also have new drivers learning the routes. Beyond the 20 minute timeframe, someone from GBFB will try to contact an agency to make them aware the truck is going to be either early or detained (depending on the situation).

*Thank You For
Your Patience*

NOTES ABOUT OUR FOLKS—Tim Becker

Many of you may know Tim Becker, who is our Operations Manager at GBFB. Tim has many responsibilities but to sum it up, he manages the daily operations of GBFB. He has worked here for 13 1/2 years, since October 15, 2001. When he started he was the Coordinator for the Kids Cafe Program. You may not know that Tim has been married to Judy for 34 years and they have two children—Jon who is married and Ashley who is getting married this August. Tim has been blessed with 1 granddaughter, Audrey, who is 2 years old and a second granddaughter to be born in July. Tim is very involved at his church, Rosedale UCC, where he serves as the treasurer, besides helping in numerous fundraising and fellowship activities. When Tim has free time he enjoys reading, traveling and vacationing in Rehoboth, Delaware. When asked about working at Greater Berks Food Bank, Tim says “it is not just a job, it is a very rewarding experience, knowing that each day I am helping to provide food to people in need throughout our community.” Thanks Tim for all you do to make that happen here in Berks and Schuylkill Counties.



HAPPY FATHER'S DAY!

New Pantry Income Guidelines are effective as of July 1st

*At the annual pantry meeting all pantry sites will receive the updated forms reflecting income guidelines for 2015-2016. Please make sure when you receive your packet that **ALL OLD FORMS ARE DESTROYED**. You cannot use the previous year forms after June 30. If you do we will send you the forms back and you will have to contact each and every recipient you served to complete the correct forms. You will receive master copies at the meeting **which you MUST PHOTOCOPY** and keep for reference for the entire year. Your agency number will be listed on the forms, along with your site address, main contact name and numbers. **Thank you** in advance for your cooperation.*

CSFP Reminders

Don't forget, we need all **CSFP 2015 Certifications and CSFP Proxies** returned by **May 31st, 2015**. Any certification not received by this date will jeopardize the program for the recipient. Also, **CSFP Caretakers** can only sign at the **Caretaker Signature** column if their name is typed onto the Caretaker column by GBFB. The CSFP Caretakers are to be noted on the CSFP Certifications where it says caretaker signature. If you want or have a Caretaker who is not listed on the signature sheet and you already turned in your CSFP certification, you will need to create a new application for that recipient and re-submit it. Please call Ashley Snyder at (610)926-5802 Ext. 207 with any questions.

Thank you!

JUNE EVENTS...

AGENCY ORIENTATION

Monday June 8, 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

Tuesday, June 9 at 9am

Thursday, June 11 at 1pm

Please sign up in *Volgistics* to attend the training



ANNUAL MANDATORY PANTRY COORDINATOR MEETING FOR BERKS COUNTY

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

At *EASY DOES IT*, 1300 Hilltop Road,

Leesport, PA 19533

Please RSVP no later than June 17th

NALC FOOD DRIVE
THANK YOU

The 2015 NALC food drive collected about 50,000 lbs of food, translating into approximately 2,000 boxes filled with grains, canned fruits, canned veggies, and more. Many thanks to all the volunteers, Letter Carriers, and GBFB staff who helped at the event May 9th. We could not have done this without all of you! All the NALC food boxes will be added into the food drive donations category. These will still have a charge of .02 per box, with the maximum food drive donation boxes of 40. Thank you again for your support! The community appreciates it.



Greater Berks Food Bank
117 Morgan Drive, Reading, PA 19608
610-926-5802

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*Bringing More to
the Table*
Greater Berks Food Bank



WEEKENDER BACKPACK SURVEY RESULTS

As some of you may know, we sent out surveys to the parents, coordinators and students who took part in our Weekender backpack program throughout Berks and Schuylkill counties. We had a total of 15 sites participate in the program throughout the 2014-15 school year. As of May 20, the number of responses have been steady, which were compiled to show our strengths and weaknesses in order to improve in the upcoming year. This program is essential to help families in our communities and the feedback has been most helpful. It is interesting to note that 88% of the students like receiving the backpack each week, while 82% of the students share their food with someone either in their family or with a friend in the neighborhood or class. The most popular items the children enjoy are fruit cups, juices, peanut butter, cereal and soup. The items least liked were raisins and beef stew. Many families asked to include items like toothbrushes, toothpaste, notebooks and the like. 78% of the parents state that the backpack program does extend their budget, while 90% state the variety is excellent or good, and 85% state the quantity is good or enough for their household. Thank you again to all those that helped to make this program happen for the children in our area, *especially the coordinators* who make it work at their locations.

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

We'd love your input

*of Greater Berks Food Bank
Staff*

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ext. 206
(610) 926-5802
117 Morgan Drive
Reading, PA 19608*

Thanks