



Mendocino Food and Nutrition Program Inc

THE FORT BRAGG FOOD BANK

910 N Franklin St, Fort Bragg CA 95437 707-964-9404

The State of the Food Bank

Dear Friend of the Food Bank,

The Fort Bragg Food Bank, supported by the incredible generosity of our community, continues to be an essential source of nutritious food for our friends and neighbors in need. We'd like to keep you, as a generous supporter, up-to-date on our activities, successes and needs.

2015 in REVIEW

- ❖ In 2015 we distributed 1,090,000 pounds of food.
 - 400 tons went directly to coastal residents from Elk to Westport through our Food Bank warehouse on Franklin St in Fort Bragg, where we served weekly groceries to over 870 households (1,600 people) each month.
 - In addition to our weekly food distribution, we provided a 30-lb "Senior Box" of food to 240 seniors each month.
 - We delivered 145 tons of food to food pantries and soup kitchens serving small communities county-wide. This included 30 tons of fresh produce for remote rural food pantries with help from a grant from the Community Foundation of Mendocino Co. This support to small-budget, volunteer-run pantries with limited transport capability was much appreciated.
- ❖ We provided groceries for a delicious holiday dinner complete with a turkey and all the trimmings to over 700 local family households for Thanksgiving and for Christmas.
- ❖ By emphasis on locating sources of donated foods and maintaining the necessary vehicles and infrastructure to transport them, we were able to distribute \$6.32 worth of food for every budget dollar spent.
- ❖ We installed a brand new 20-ft refrigerated shipping container to act as an "overflow" freezer. The payoff was almost immediate. Within just a few weeks, we were offered 31,600 pounds of frozen chicken and 2,700 pounds of frozen salmon from a government program – at no charge to the Food Bank. We had received a similar offer the prior year, and had to reject it due to lack of freezer space. But this time around we were able to accept all of this much needed high-protein food.
- ❖ Over the course of the year 185 volunteers contributed over 10,500 hours of their time helping with food distribution, fundraising events and newsletter mailings. Thank you to our generous and loyal volunteers!
- ❖ Our 5th Annual Soup & Chili Cook-Off was a smashing success! Look for our 6th Annual on Oct 22, 2016!

2016 and BEYOND

- ❖ We have added one extra trip to the Redwood Empire Food Bank in Santa Rosa to pick up an additional 9,000 lbs of donated food every month.
- ❖ We have begun implementing a *Protein for Kids* program funded by a grant from the JG Cummings Foundation to increase the amount of weekly protein for children of Food Bank families.
- ❖ For the first time in many years we were able to distribute hams for Easter.
- ❖ With funding received through a CDBG grant and a donation from Bruce Campbell, we will be installing solar panels in the coming year. This will help us with our \$1,000/mo PG&E bill and let us do our small part for the environment.
- ❖ Future needs include repaving our parking area/warehouse receiving area.

OUR VISION: People coming together to create hope for a dignified, abundant life for everyone.

OUR MISSION: To provide nutritious food that supports people in creating a healthy and better life.