

# **The River** Food Pantry



**2201 Darwin Rd. Madison, WI 53704**

Email: [riverfoodpantry@yahoo.com](mailto:riverfoodpantry@yahoo.com)

Web Site: <http://www.the-river-madison.org>

Phone: (608)442-8815

## **The River Food Pantry, Inc 2007 Annual Report**

Mission: To bring a message of mercy and hope to those in need by providing nutritional basics and encouragement; to be a unifying, servant hearted and community building expression of Jesus Christ in Madison.

## The River Food Pantry 2007 Annual Report

2007 was a year of expansion for The River Food Pantry. The average monthly pantry usage increased from 442 families per month to 649 families per month, a 46% increase. Dinners served went from an average of 798 per month in 2006 to 1084 per month in 2007, a 36% increase. The growing pains associated with the rapid growth caused us to expand pantry hours on Tuesday evenings. The year saw a very successful motorcycle fund raiser raffle. The River has become a very significant resource for the north side of Madison and for all of Dane County. Many of our clients frequently tell us how much we have been able to help them out.

### **Pantry:**

During the past year The River Food Pantry hosted the First United Methodist Pantry. Both pantries used the same space and food inventory. August brought the completion of the new FUMC space and the move out of the River space. It was a privilege to be able to provide a home to the FUMC Pantry for an entire year.



Friday night pantry usage frequently exceeded 160 households during the first half of the year. These numbers caused some difficulties in effectively serving clients, as well as traffic congestion in the parking lot and neighborhood. As a result, the pantry opened a second evening, Tuesday as of September. This had the desired effect of relieving the

pressure of Fridays.

Tuesday evenings are well attended, between 50 and 65 households. Pantry usage rose to an average of 170 households per week by the end of the year.

Our volunteer base has held steady over the course of the year. We need 30 to 40 volunteers on any given Friday night, 10 to 15 for a Tuesday. A huge encouragement to us again is the number of volunteers who are also clients of the pantry. Approximately 25% of our volunteers also use the pantry for their own families. It is a practice we strongly encourage. Together we have built a community that is united in service. Our volunteers come from different churches, educational institutions and also from the community. We all work together for the purpose accomplishing our mission.

We estimate that we are distributing about 7000 pounds of food weekly.

The pantry has logged in excess of 8000 volunteer hours for 2007.

### **Friday Dinner:**



Our Friday dinners continue to be a popular item. Most of the families that come to the pantry on Friday also stay for dinner. Additionally, a number of people come just to eat and socialize. We typically serve between 175 – 250 dinners. We work hard to

provide tasty and nutritious meals.

The pantry continues to receive free flower bouquets each Friday for our tables. At the end of the dinner, the bouquets are made available for anyone to take home. This has been a really popular service.

### **Other Relationships:**

The River Food Pantry has a thriving relationship with Youth Services of Southern Wisconsin. That organization sends weekly teams of youth to help clean and stock the pantry. In return, the pantry provides the youths with dinner.

We have built strong relationships with Second Harvest and Community Action Coalition, our two food banks. Without them our finances would not have been sufficient. We continue to rely on them weekly and truly appreciate what they have done for us.

We have developed a new relationship with the Dane County Ferris Center. Since initiating expanded pantry hours, volunteers from the Ferris Center and been of enormous help in both pantry preparation and in distribution of food on Tuesdays and Fridays. Additionally, the same volunteers have been key in staffing our concession stands at the University of Wisconsin football and basketball games.

## **Fundraising:**

The pantry is operating a concession stand at the University of Wisconsin football and men's basketball games for the second year. This provides us with much needed additional income.

During the spring / summer of 2007 we ventured into raffle fundraising. A very successful motorcycle raffle raised \$23,000 for the pantry.



Our two largest contributors this year were the Housing Ministries of American Baptists in Wisconsin and individuals from Mad City Church. We also received significant funds from EPIC Systems in Verona. Other grants were received from Sam's Club and Madison West Kiwanis.



## **Managing Directors:**

Our management team consists of the three directors-founders, Tom Thuemling, Jenny Czerkas and Andy Czerkas.

## **Advisory Directors:**

Bridget Bradley, Jed Dufek, Shane Holden, Mark Jungbluth, Martee Mikalson, Rick & Carol Miles, Steve Sachtjen, Kenton Sorenson. All of them work on a volunteer basis.

## 2007 Monetary Donations

### **Businesses & Organizations**

Cuna Mutual Group Foundation, Inc.  
EDS  
Epic Systems  
General Casualty Ins.  
Hooper Foundation  
Housing Ministries of American  
Baptists in Wisconsin  
Humblehost Web Site Design  
KIWANIS Club Madison West  
Mad City Church  
Meriter Health Services  
National W Club Concessions  
New Life Christian Center, a  
component fund of the Madison Community  
Foundation  
Production Machine & Enterprises Corp.  
ROF Enterprises  
Sam's Club  
The Tegra Group, INC

### **Individuals**

Ana Aquino-Perez  
Kristi Arnquist  
Ritchie Baumann  
Boyd & Toni Bender  
Michael & Kathleen Bingham  
Bridget Bradley  
Cheryl Bradley  
Jim & Char Bradley  
Kay Bradley  
Daniel Burbulys  
Benjamin Caceres  
Keith & Linda Cadwell  
David & Roxanne Cieszynski  
Andy & Jenny Czerkas  
Pierre Deboisblanc  
Rich Ergish  
Wayne & Latola Ewers  
Jamie & Ben Fisher  
Kirstin Fosdal  
Jeff Havey  
Bonita Heck  
Erik Hill  
Sarah Hinton  
Shane & Vicky Holden  
Patricia Jenkins  
Jack Lepak

Len Lindsay  
Justin & Anne Markofski  
Doris A. Marten  
Ken & Judy McCullough  
Michael & Sheila McKnight  
Carla Mollien  
Dave Netz  
Robb Peebles  
John Plumitis  
Elliott & Linda Pollasch  
Scott Rake  
Sarah Ramirez  
Rick & Karen Raymond  
Anthony Regali  
Ron & Paula Reif  
Steve & Kristi Rewey  
Steve & Shari Sachtjen  
James & Jacquelyn Schutz  
Todd & Kara Schwartz  
Lana Scott  
Constance Palmer & Charles Smalley  
Anne & Rusty Smith  
Sharene Smith  
Matthew & Katherine Swelstad  
Laura Hogan & Thomas Kinscherf  
Tom & Teresa Thuemling  
Andrew & Sarah Uttech  
Wade & Penny Van Tassel  
Amy Vincent  
Cynthia Walton-Jackson  
G. Adam Wigdahl  
Karl & Darlene Williams  
Ann-Marie Winecke  
Al & Michelle Yingling

### **And Many Anonymous Donors**

## **2006 In-Kind Donations**

### **Businesses & Organizations**

Bill Doran Company  
Bradley Farms  
Cub Foods East  
Cub Foods West  
Family Christian Bookstore  
FAST Families and Schools Together  
First United Methodist Church  
Insty-Prints  
Java Cat  
Jeff Havey Plumbing  
Jungs Garden Center  
Pellitteri Waste Systems  
Solid State Construction  
Starbucks Coffee

### **Individuals**

Bridget Bradley  
Jim Conant  
Andy & Jenny Czerkas  
Roger & Arlene Drouin  
Jed Dufek  
David Facklam  
Bob & Denise Favorite  
James & Bernice Grota  
Shane Holden  
Karen Johnson  
Mark Jungbluth  
Jody Knetter  
Martee Mikalson  
Rick & Carol Miles  
Steve & Shari Sachtjen  
Kenton Sorenson  
Tom Thuemling

### **Gifts given in memory of JoAnn Malchow**

Sally Bostad  
Mike & Daminga Cavill  
Paul Matzke  
Florence Sachtjen  
Steve & Shari Sachtjen

### **Gifts given in memory of Francis Adams**

Constance Palmer & Charles Smalley

Dennis Michaelis  
Anonymous

### **Gifts given in memory of Jim Johnson**

Phyllis & Ervin Johnson

**Statement of Financial Position  
Year Ended December 31, 2007**

	<u>2007</u>	<u>2006</u>
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Cash	\$ 104,403	52,073
Note Receivable	3,100	-
Prepaid Expenses	3,153	2,712
Promise to give – net	9,613	-
Property and Equipment - net	<u>124,713</u>	<u>174,023</u>
<b>Total Assets</b>	\$ <u>244,982</u>	<u>228,808</u>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>	\$ -	-
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		
Unrestricted	235,369	228,808
Temporarily restricted	<u>9,613</u>	-
Total net assests	244,982	228,808
<b>Total liabilities and net assets</b>	\$ <u>244,982</u>	<u>228,808</u>

A copy of the annual audit in its entirety is available upon request.