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The River Food Pantry, Inc 2008 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 2008 Annual Report

2008 was another year of significant expansion for The River Food Pantry. Pantry usage almost doubled from 2007. Several sizeable donations allowed an expansion of pantry hours. The River continues to be a very significant resource for the north side of Madison and for all of Dane County. The pantry has established itself as one of the largest in the county. The River Food Pantry is still almost 100% volunteer driven, unusual for an organization of our size.

As the economy deteriorated this year and the pantry usage accelerated, the availability of donated food through our food bank decreased. The months of August through November were especially difficult months. We were forced to purchase food through local grocery wholesalers and low cost retailers. This was the only way to keep nutritious food on our shelves.



Pantry:

The number of people using the pantry increased tremendously over the course of the year. The River served 34,552 individuals in 2008, a 92.5% increase over 2007. Pantry usage rose to an average of over 300 households per week by the end of the year.

In April, The River Food Pantry added a Tuesday noon pantry session. The new Tuesday 12 to 1:30 PM session proved to be extremely popular, averaging over 110 families. Tuesday evenings are also well attended.

Friday night pantry usage which frequently exceeded 160 households during the first half of the year moderated at 120 to 140 families per session.

Our volunteer base has held steady over the course of the year. We need 35 to 45 volunteers on Friday night, 15 to 25 for each of the Tuesday sessions. A huge encouragement to us 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 of accomplishing our mission.



As the economy deteriorated this year and the pantry usage accelerated, the availability of donated food through our food bank decreased. The months of August through November were especially difficult months. We were forced to purchase food through local grocery wholesalers and low cost retailers. This was the only way to keep nutritious food on our shelves. Additionally, the monthly government commodities (TEFAP) distributions were meager until November of this year.

Pierce's Northside Market organized a two month food drive for the pantry which resulted in about 4000 pounds of food being donated by their customers with an additional 10% donation match by Pierce's. We are extremely grateful for their support and the support of the north side of Madison.

The pantry also made repairs to a donated van and is now using it to provide rides home for clients with their groceries as well as volunteers.

We estimate that we distributed over 535,360 pounds of food this past year. The pantry has logged over 20,000 volunteer hours for 2008.

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 and 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.



We've also been able to provide live music 2 times a month on Friday nights. We hope that these services contribute to making people feel cared for and special.

Other Relationships:

The River Food Pantry has a thriving relationship with Youth Services of Southern Wisconsin. This organization sends weekly teams of youth to help clean and set up for Friday dinner. In return, the pantry provides the youths with a hot meal.

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 to carry out our mission. We continue to rely on them weekly and truly appreciate what they have done for us.

Our relationship with the Dane County Ferris Center is also very beneficial to both pantry and center inmates. Volunteers from the Ferris Center have been an enormous help in both pantry preparation and in distribution of food on Tuesdays and Fridays. Additionally, the same volunteers have been important in staffing our concession stands at the University of Wisconsin football and basketball games. The pantry, in exchange, offers the inmates an opportunity to become part of our serving community. This is a new and life changing experience for some of those volunteers. A number of inmates continue to serve in the pantry long after their release, viewing their participation as an important part of a new lifestyle.

Staffing:

We have one employee, Jenny Czerkas. She is paid for her first 20 hours per week and then donates an additional 30 hours each week. For the year 2008, 3200 volunteers worked about 20,000 hours to provide for our clients.

Managing Directors:

Our management team consists of the two directors-founders, Jenny Czerkas and Andy Czerkas. A former banker, Charlene Hubble, reviews the financials on a monthly basis.

Executive Board:

Our executive board members are Jim Carrier, Andy & Jenny Czerkas and Jan McGill.

Advisory Board:

Members are Ritchie Baumann, Bridget Bradley, Tim Bolhuis, Shane Holden, Charlene & Dave Hubble, Len Lindsay, Martee & Jim Mikalson, Rick Miles, John Plumitis, Steve Sachtjen, Tom Thuemling and Brandon Vincent.

2008 Monetary Donations

\$10,000 and more

David & Jean Gerry
Housing Ministries of American Baptists in
Wisconsin
Ted & Donna Gerry

\$1,000 to \$9,999

Andy & Jenny Czerkas
Badgerland Cattle, INC.
Barry & Kathy Van Veen
Dave & Charlene Hubble
Covenant Lutheran Endowment Fund
EPIC Systems Corporation
Geraldo & Brie Chapa
Hope Crossing Community Church
Jeff Havey
John & Alice Gibson
John & Nancy Rolfsmeyer
Karl & Darlene Williams
M Ross & Marita Menard
Mad City Church
Madison Rotary Foundation
Marc & Kim Flood
Matt & Jean Collins
Morgan Stanley Foundation
Production Machine & Enterprises Corp.
Robert & Linda Straughn
Sharon McDougal - New Life Christian
Center Pass Thru Fund
Steve & Fran Tate
Steve & Shari Sachtjen
Todd & Kara Schwartz
Tracy Sargent
Wal-Mart Foundation

\$200 - \$999

Alice Reuter
Amanda & Chris Rudolph
Amy Vincent
ARMA Madison Chapter
Cheryl Bradley & Jonathon Lombard
Constance Palmer & Charles Smalley
Cuna Mutual Group Foundation, Inc.
Dan & Beth Spransy

David Gibson
David Zweifel
Dennis Harrison-Noonan
Dwight & Bonnie Ziegler
Georgia Thompson
Jack & Cheryl Parrino
Jackie Mortell & Matthew Martini
James & Jacquelyn Schutz
James Sirianni
Jeff & Kathy Manthei
Jennifer Bergstrom
Jeremy & Amanda Akins
Jim & Elaine McNeil
John Plumitis
Joshua & Stacy Stokdyk
Justin & Anne Markofski
Karen & Bob Stanforth
Keith Vanden Wymelenberg
Ken & Betty Hill
Lana Scott
Laura Hogan
Laura Hogan & Thomas Kinscherf
Len Lindsay
Madison Christian Community Youth
Margaret Lindsay
Margaret Wheelock
MATC Foundation
Matt & Sarah Kirk
Melissa Matula
Meriter Health Services
Michael & Kathleen Bingham
Nate & Theresa Ellis
Northside Business Association
Pierre Deboisblanc
Rick & Carol Miles
Robb Peebles
Ron & Lucy Gibson
Ron & Paula Reif
Sams Club Foundation
Solid State Construction
Steve & Renee Springer
Tim & Tracy Markle
Tom & Janice Hanson
Tom & Page Krause
Tom & Teresa Thuemling

\$11 - \$199

Abbey Burton
Adam Hinterthuer
Al & Michelle Yingling
Alex Bloomquist
Alfred & Rosemary Hoffman
Alison Johnson
Allie Krizo
Andrew & Penny Mould
Anne & Rusty Smith
Ann-Marie Winecke
Anthony Regali
Benjamin Franklin Lodge No 83
Betty & Ronald Peterson
Beverly Faga
Bob and Henrietta Statz
Bonnie Cooley
Bridget Bradley
Carla Mollien
Cathy Andrews
Christine & Peter Esdaile
Christine Pire-Knoche & Greg Knoche
Colleen Frey
Craig Burk
Darrell & Karen Luckasson
Dave & Beth Latourelle
Dave & Michelle Dalsoren
David & Marian Torkelson
Deborah & Samuel Lawrence
Dennis Malone
Dennis Michaelis
Doris A. Marten
Erik Hill
Florence Sachtjen
Fred & Anne Grossenbach
Gary & Bonnie Klicinski
Gary & Ruby-Alice West
Gary Pings
General Casualty Ins.
Gerald Mowris & Leah Sachtjen
Ginny Martinson
Gordon & Julienne Trehey
James & Sara Ewing
James Helke
James Wenz
Jamie Fisher
Jan & Ron McGill
Jean Williams
Jennifer & David Stein

Jim & Char Bradley
Joan Laeser
John Van Wagoner Jr.
John Vick
Karen Johnson
Kay Bradley
Kelli Ward Agency
Kenton & Marlene Sorenson
Kirstin Fosdal
Linda & Bernie Micke
Lorrey Thabet
Marion Molly Hahn
Mark & Helen Jones
Mary & David Paulson
Mary & Scott Fish
Mary Dexter Braun
Mary Lou Hockett
Mary Louise Griffin & Dennis Mcgilligan
Matthew & Laura Moody
Melissa Janz
Paul & Val Vanden Boom
Paula Back
Reginald & Linda Rand
Renee Miller
Ryan Doucette
Scott & Christine Podboy
Sharene & David Smith
Shawn & Suzanne Shaub
Smiley Husebye & Shelly Spychalski
Susan & John Petty
Susan Helgesen
Susan Salisbury
Susie Forde
T Wills
Tammy Herman
Tammy Klaproth & Tim Lutz
Terry & Vickie Schlick
Theresa & David Beck-Engel
Tim Barnes
Tony & Julie Brendemihl
Tony & Kirsten Tucci
Trent Nichols
Vicki Lein & Daniel Hill
William & Deborah Lobre
William Schallert
Zach Bruns
And Many Anonymous Donors

2008 In Kind Donations

Cub Foods East
Cub Foods West
David Facklam
Family Christian Bookstore
Frito Lay
Java Cat
Jeff Freppon
Jeff Havey
Jim Carrier
Jim Conant
John & Alice Gibson
John Plumitis
Megan McGuire
Martee Mikalson
Pellitteri Waste Systems
Pierces Northside Market
Robby Kjonaas
ROF Enterprises
Roundys Foundation
Starbucks Coffee
Sudie Burnham
Tom & Barb Wiedenbeck
White Horse Middle School
And Many Anonymous Donors



Statement of Financial Position
Year Ended December 31, 2008 and 2007

	<u>2008</u>	<u>2007</u>
ASSETS		
Cash	\$ 127,257	104,403
Note Receivable	1,375	3,100
Prepaid Expenses	3,208	3,153
Promise to give – net	13,847	9,613
Property and Equipment - net	<u>75,086</u>	<u>124,713</u>
Total Assets	\$ <u>220,773</u>	<u>244,982</u>
LIABILITIES	\$ 3,152	-
Accounts payable and accrued expenses		
NET ASSETS		
Unrestricted	203,209	235,369
Temporarily restricted	<u>14,412</u>	<u>9,613</u>
Total net assets	217,621	244,982
Total liabilities and net assets	\$ <u>220,773</u>	<u>244,982</u>

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