



Dear Friend,

Normally our annual appeal shares a story of a neighbor whose life has been positively influenced by the pantry. We decided to do things a little differently because really, what hasn't been different this year? We want to share some of the stories this year not only from our neighbors, but our community as well.

When the pandemic hit and so many businesses needed to close, the need to feed our neighbors didn't stop. We quickly changed how we served our neighbors, by moving to a drive-up distribution, as well as providing home delivery, and we continued to feed the growing need. While we will always remember the sadness we felt, we will also remember the spirit and support that we saw- and experienced - **in our community.**

We are so grateful to all of you for your support over these recent months. Over this past year, you ran marathons, sewed masks, became ambassadors, donated your veggies from your garden beds, your children sold lemonade and made homemade jewelry-all to help The Pantry. Our Party for the Pantry and Empty Bowls events still happened, but in a different way. Our Turkey Trot went virtual. Our Food Elves went out into the community and worked harder than ever to make their goal. You held golf tournaments, engaged with restaurants, and even wrote letters to Santa to help feed your neighbors. We were overwhelmed by the support this community showed.

And our neighbors have been more appreciative than ever. [Make a donation today to help:](#)

"I'm so grateful to have the Pantry. I can't imagine not having it. Having the option to visit the Pantry relieves the burden for food for myself and my daughter. Food is expensive- not having to worry about that expense in my budget is huge."

Sofia* (current client)



Cars line up for distribution

Have you ever wondered *who* you are helping?

You helped **Allison** who told us that sometimes, "I think you are the only ones who care." Allison is a single mom, and her son is committed to eating healthy. Because of the Franklin Food Pantry, she can provide him with healthy meals and snacks.

You helped **Linda** who shared, "if it weren't for The Franklin Food Pantry, I would have no fresh vegetables."



You helped **Sofia*** who is a vegetarian. She doesn't eat chicken, fish or red meat. "I'm so grateful that the pantry supports our plant-based diet, with protein, whole grains, and fresh produce. It allows my daughter and I to eat healthy. It's so much cheaper to eat processed foods food than fresh vegetables."

- Your gift of \$250 can help feed the 1,400 individuals who rely on the Pantry, so they don't go hungry.
- Your gift of \$100 can help put food on the tables of the 621 households who would not have enough to eat otherwise.
- Your gift of \$75 can make life a little easier for the 410 children, who count on the Pantry today.
- Your gift of \$25 can help change the lives of the 197 seniors, who are on a fixed income and face rising medical costs.
- Become a GEM (Give Every Month) Your monthly donation of as little as even \$10 can have an even larger impact on all who we serve throughout the year.



Volunteers and staff gather for holiday distribution

Of course, these are only a few of our neighbors whom you have helped. Our neighbors are more than just a face or a person driving up in a car. Each person has their own story: a lost job, a death in the family, a medical bill, an illness, or the fallout of a global pandemic.

We're asking for your help again because while the pandemic highlighted food insecurity nationwide, the need will not recede as this bright light fades. After the Great Recession, it took nearly ten years, until 2018, for food insecurity to return to pre-recession levels, and even then 37 million people were still at risk for hunger (Feeding America, March 2021).

Our mission hasn't changed, and we still need your support to feed our neighbors. The Franklin Food Pantry was here before the Pandemic, and we will be here after the Pandemic.

Thank you for your support. Franklin is truly a community who cares for one another.

Suzanne Gendreau
Board Member,
Franklin Food Pantry
Fundraising Chair

Tina Powderly
Executive Director
Franklin Food Pantry

P.S. – You may have heard that we have purchased a new building. We are very excited about the future of the Pantry and look forward to sharing more with you in the months ahead. Stay tuned as we imagine the possibilities together.

P.P.S. – Make your gift go even further! Become a GEM (Give every month) whether it is \$10/week or \$25/month (or something else!) you can support the Pantry all year long.

The Franklin Food Pantry is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization FEIN #04-3272663

Please make your gift today so that we can continue to help support our neighbors like Linda, Allison and Sofia.

**Sofia represents an actual client who uses The Pantry regularly. Her name has been changed to protect her privacy.*