Mission Statement: In response to Jesus Christ's call to affirm the sacred and dignity of each human life, to build solidarity within the community, and to advocate for justice for the poor and vulnerable, Catholic Charities of Central Colorado listens, supports, empowers, and advocates for all—individuals and families—very fully. Our Church's Gospel gives purpose.

Values: To transform lives through relationships that build individual resiliency and thriving community.

Volunteer: Please check us out at www.CCharitiesCC.org/DonateYourVehicle.

For More Information: Email KJohnson@CCharitiesCC.org

Laura K. Johnson

The Catholic Charities Blog is a collection of work and ideas from our Catholic Charities team.


www.CCharitiesCC.org/Blog

“Without Catholic Charities, my son would not have the future he now has.”
The Marketplace
A Food Pantry at Marian House

The Marketplace food pantry continues to be a valuable resource for families and individuals experiencing instability and hardship. A year ago, we opened the pantry during the pandemic, as a way of helping those struggling with food insecurity. In the past month, we have provided 683 unduplicated households that have received food from the Marketplace.

That day in September, the dining room was busy with staff, volunteers, and clients. The food pantry was open, and lines formed out the door of the building, as families and individuals came to the pantry looking for food that had run out during the pandemic. As the lines thinned, it had become evident that the pandemic had shifted the mission of the pantry. In the course of the past month, we track more than 793 points to answer one question: how are we doing?

One way to answer this question is by analyzing data. Collection and review is a fundamental aspect of all modern businesses. In the charitable sector, where so much of the good work we do involves the care and concern of individuals, we are able to measure a lot about what and how the pantry’s clients have been served. Each client family comes to the pantry once per month to choose a selection of food items to supplement their families’ nutritional needs. Most clients arrive with about 100 pounds of food. To date, over 312,100 pounds of food has been distributed to families, helping them manage their low resources – meeting one of their basic needs.

As our pantry has continued to grow, so have our hours. Initially, the pantry was open from 1:30 p.m. – 3 p.m. Mon, Wed, and Fri. Today, however, hours have been extended to 3 p.m. and a fourth shopping day is coming soon, extending the programs to 15 hours per week. Since the pantry opened, we have served more than 735 unduplicated families and individuals. Each client family comes to the pantry once per month to choose a selection of food items to supplement their families’ nutritional needs. Most clients arrive with about 100 pounds of food. To date, over 312,100 pounds of food has been distributed to families, helping them manage their low resources – meeting one of their basic needs.

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If you can help, with a donation of non-perishable foods, you may do so through the Marian House Desk located at 14 West Bijou Street in Colorado Springs. Monetary gifts allow for the purchase of dairy and produce. For more information, please contact us at 719-866-6440.

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