



Partner Agency Newsletter

February 2017

Agency Spotlight: St. Ignatius Martyr Food Pantry



The St. Ignatius Martyr Food Pantry is a small but mighty pantry operation located in South Austin that has been serving individuals and families in need for nearly 30 years. Through parishioner donations and the support of local businesses, they provide food and one-day bus passes to area residents (in the 78704, 78741, 78744, 78745, 78748, and 78617 zip codes) as well as the homeless population.

In addition to food assistance, St. Ignatius also provides prescription vouchers in partnership with the nearby H-E-B. When clients take their Rx to the pharmacy, the pharmacists first verify that the items are medically necessary. Clients then go through the intake/verification process at St. Ignatius to ensure their eligibility and that items fall within the monthly expense cap. The pantry will then provide H-E-B with a prepaid gift card number to pay the bill. Clients are given a printed voucher to cover the cost of the prescription. They take the voucher to the pharmacist, who will then deduct the voucher value from the gift card.

More than 35 regular volunteers work between one or two days a week to help organize food orders and small hygiene packs for their clients. Benny Flusche, the Pantry Manager, estimates that they distribute approximately 25,000-30,000 lbs of food per month! Thank you Benny and the St. Ignatius staff for your hard work. You can find out more about their operation, as well as location and contact information [here](#).

Doing something unique or unusual at your agency that you want featured in the next Agency Spotlight? Email Colleen Ketchum at arintern@centraltexasfoodbank.org!

Current News

Due to the success of the Produce Container Pilot Program in McLennan County, the Food Bank is planning to replicate this program in Temple, to better serve Bell County. The produce container will be stationed at Churches Touching Lives for Christ, and the goal is to provide 2 million incremental pounds of fresh produce in the first 12 months of operation to neighboring agencies. The Food Bank is aiming to have this second container operational sometime this month!



If you have any questions about the containers in Bell County or McLennan County, please reach out to Heath Ribordy or Kara Prior. Watch the video about the original produce hub container in Waco [here](#).

The food bank will be running a pilot to ensure we can distribute purchased produce in a quicker manner. Therefore, the shopping list will reflect a miscellaneous produce Item Number as seen below. Additionally, the food bank will fulfill the 250 pound increments with assorted variety based on daily inventory. Please order in 250 pound increments to accommodate the other produce items seen on the inventory list. Thanks you for helping us address quicker turns on purchased produce to ensure clientele receive fresh product.

[44444](#)

Fresh Produce 250 LB MINIMUM
ORDER

Reminders and Procedural Updates

Don't forget to submit your monthly reports for January by **February 1st**, and no later than **February 15th**, to avoid being placed on hold!

Currently, the Food Bank is not requiring identification cards for agency pickups; however, protocol for signing in and out will remain the same.

REMINDER: If you have a recurring newspaper announcement about food distributions please make sure they are using the name **Central Texas Food Bank**. If you need help contacting your local media please contact communications@centraltexasfoodbank.org.

TEFAP Forecast

Here is a list of items we are expecting to receive from USDA/TEFAP in February:

Canned Refried Beans	Rice Crisp Cereal	Canned Applesauce	Grape Juice	Canned Salmon
Pasta Sauce	Rice	Canned Carrots	Orange Juice	Frozen Chicken Leg Quarters
Spaghetti	Shelf-Stable Milk	Canned Corn	Raisins	Cranberry Juice Concentrate
Frozen Blueberries				

Upcoming Events

Souper Bowl of Caring – You can continue to make donations at area H-E-B, Central Market and Randalls stores through February 5th! Our goal this year is to provide 2.75 million meals to families across Texas!

Austin CROP Hunger Walk – This annual event helps raise money for food, medical care, disaster relief and development locally and worldwide. Registration for the event is at 2 P.M. on February 26 at Camp Mabry. The walk starts at 2:30 P.M. You can also register online [here](#), or if you are unable to participate during the walk, may give a [donation](#) in support of a walker or a team.

Amplify Austin – Annual Day of Giving from 6 p.m. on March 2 to 6 p.m. on March 3. Pre-schedule your donation [online today!](#)

Contact the Team

Name	Title	Phone	Email Address
Heath Ribordy	Director of Agency Services	512-684-2503	hribordy@centraltexasfoodbank.org

Kara Prior	Agency Relations Capacity Specialist	512-684-2508	kprior@centraltexasfoodbank.org
Tyler Markham	Agency Retail Coordinator	512-684-2523	tmarkham@centraltexasfoodbank.org
Karsten Darden	Agency Relations Compliance Specialist	512-684-2505	kdarden@centraltexasfoodbank.org
Jessica Buchoz	Agency Relations Compliance Coordinator	512-684-2513	jbuchoz@centraltexasfoodbank.org
Michelle White	Supply Chain Coordinator	512-684-2150	mwhite@centraltexasfoodbank.org
Vanessa Vela	Accounts Receivable Coordinator	512-684-2103	vvela@centraltexasfoodbank.org
Colleen Ketchum	Agency Relations Intern	512-684-2122	arintern@centraltexasfoodbank.org
