



Perry County Food Bank

300A South Carlisle Street

New Bloomfield, PA 17068

Phone: 717-582-9978 • Fax: 717-582-9979

E-mail: pcfoodbank@perryco.org

Website: www.perrycountyfoodbank.org

Like us at [FaceBook.com/perrycountyfoodbank](https://www.facebook.com/perrycountyfoodbank)



August, 2016

“God’s dream is that you and I and all of us will realize that we are family, that we are made for togetherness, for goodness, and for compassion.” -- Desmond Tutu

For the month of June, we served 1,196 households and 2,969 individuals. We had 26 new households and 75 new individuals. In July, our numbers were 1,100 households with all of them new households and 2,647 individuals with all of them new because everyone needs to signup at the start of each fiscal year.

Summertime in Pennsylvania and the heat and humidity have arrived and settled in for, what appears to be, a very long stay. July disappeared in a quick mist as we renewed the paperwork for all of our clients. All-in-all, with the help from extra volunteers who arrived to work specifically with our clients in filling out their paperwork, things went pretty smoothly.

One of the things that we have needed is more parking. What looked like a large parking lot when our building opened in 2009 has become inadequate, and at times dangerous, as our client load has more than doubled. The county has graciously started to expand the parking available to us by providing new space located next to the prison that will allow our volunteers and employees to park there and free up closer parking spaces for clients. This has been an ongoing problem and this solution is an answer to prayer.

Last month we mentioned that we needed a chest freezer to replace the one we had that was no longer serviceable. We were hoping for an older freezer that was no longer in use, but God had other plans in mind. The day after our letter was read at the New Germantown United Methodist Church, church member Gloria Beaston called to tell us that the church had funds that they were wondering what God wanted them used for and believed that our freezer was the answer to their prayers. A new freezer was delivered on Friday, July 29th and has been in service since it arrived. Thank you to the parishioners at New Germantown for meeting our need.

In May, we received a check from the Perry County Community Foundation to upgrade our computer system. During the last weeks of June and the first week of July, our Information Technology specialist ordered and installed all new computers throughout our New Bloomfield facility. Our new hardware and software is amazing in comparison to the much older machines we have been using since the building opened in 2009. Thanks so much to the Perry County Community Foundation for graciously stepping in and filling this need for us.

The two of us have been spending a lot of time in the last months in meetings about getting people to use more nutritious foods, such as fresh vegetables, whole grains, low fat and low salt alternatives to some of the convenience foods which tend to tip the scales heavily with salt, fats, and sugars. We have been exploring an addition to our building, which would house a teaching kitchen where our clients could come for information about preparing healthy meals for their families using items from our store. That is the next big item on our wish list. Stacey Alcocer had started to explore funding sources for us before she passed away. It was a dream of ours, which she made her dream as well. We are sure that she would want us to continue to explore this dream and make it a reality.

Thank you for caring and for your support. Stay cool until fall arrives next month!

Linda Bates & John Kiner
Co-directors, Perry County Food Bank