



Perry County Food Bank

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"All things change, and we change with them." — Chinese Proverb

The Chinese proverb above was certainly evident as we went through the month of July this year. It looked like a normal July month with blistering hot weather during a heat wave at the start. It looked like we were headed into a drought period as things dried out and then came the change. The skies opened up for a week and dumped rain, lots of rain, on us and we needed to change with the weather to deal with the water.

Just as we had to deal with the change in the weather in our lives in July, other changes happen that can side-track us as we have to stop and deal with them. We see people dealing with change everyday at the food bank. A spouse decides to leave the relationship and then you must deal with a dramatic change in your life. How will you make ends meet and how will you fill in the void that has opened up in your life? Change — most of us hate it and yet all of us have to deal with it on a regular basis.

At least in Perry County, a change in your life should not mean that you have no food. The Perry County Food Bank exists to help meet the food requirements of everyone in need within the county. There has been a lot of talk lately about seniors who are not getting Meals on Wheels here in the county and are without food. There is no reason why any low-income senior should be without food. If you or anyone you know is aware of any of these seniors who are struggling without food, you need to get them in touch with the Food Bank in New Bloomfield. We realize that transportation can be an issue and we can't deliver to homes, but if you can link them up with Rabbit Transit or, better yet, if you can arrange for, or provide transportation to our facility we can help to reverse this lack in their lives.

Just showing up at New Bloomfield to check on eligibility will get you food that day. We make every effort to be sure that anyone needing food gets food. The Central Pennsylvania Food Bank in Harrisburg has as its motto, "No One Should Be Hungry". We have appropriated that very motto for Perry County. No one should be hungry—period. It's the very reason that we exist. Our attitude of accepting the fact that hungry people exist and we can do nothing about it must change. We can do something. We can change and take responsibility for helping each other.

We are grateful to all of you for your support in helping to make all of this possible. Although we are the face of the food bank as people come in to shop, we are really acting on your behalf. Together we are working to make a change for the better for all of Perry County.

In the month of June, our numbers were 1,107 households with 30 considered new and 2,653 individuals with 79 being new. In July we served 1,002 households with 759 of them being new and 2,350 individuals with 1,841 being new.

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