



Perry County Food Bank

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“And can the liberties of a nation be thought secure when we have removed their only firm basis, a conviction in the minds of the people that these liberties are of the gift of God—that they are not to be violated but with his wrath? Indeed I tremble for my country when I reflect that God is just: that his justice cannot sleep forever.”

- Thomas Jefferson

On Monday, January 6, 1941, then President Franklin D. Roosevelt gave an address known as the Four Freedoms speech. In it, he listed four fundamental freedoms that every person should be able to enjoy—*Freedom of Speech; Freedom of Worship; Freedom from Want; and Freedom from Fear*. Included in the *Freedom from Want* is *Freedom from Hunger*. As we celebrate the freedoms that we enjoy in America this 4th of July, we can certainly celebrate *Freedom from Hunger* in Perry County because of what all of you do to make that happen by volunteering your time and the sharing of your resources with others. Thank you for providing this fundamental freedom to all who need it and want it.

A lot of people have now read the article in the Perry County newspapers about the addition that is planned for the Food Bank. In our February newsletter we talked about the project and why we were looking into doing it. We spoke with The Partnership for Better Health in Carlisle and they were very interested in the idea and interested in helping to get it built. At that time, the next grant opportunity was in August so we started to gather our materials for a grant application with August in mind. They contacted us at the end of April and asked if we could get the information together in time for a meeting that they were having in mid-May. They were hoping to help us get things moving quickly.

We were informed at the beginning of June that a grant for \$50,000 was approved with the hope that we could use that to encourage others to invest in this opportunity since they were firmly behind the project. Currently we are actively looking for funding. We will not start the project until we have enough money available to finish it.

The growing season is upon us and we have had several people ask about the possibility of donating food from their gardens. We will gladly accept any excess produce that you may have that you would like to give to the needy here in Perry County. Our hours for donations are 7:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. on Monday and Wednesday and until 1:00 p.m. on Friday.

July is also the month that we are required to do all new paperwork for all of our clients. At the end of June, all of our client files are purged from our system and we begin all over again. It is time consuming but necessary and requires a lot of patience on our client's part as they fill in the paperwork and on our staff's part as they enter the information and bring our computer files up to date.

In the month of June, our numbers were 1,107 households with 30 considered new and 2,653 individuals with 79 being new. In May we served 1,160 households with 20 of them being new and 2,734 individuals and 48 were new.

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