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To:

If you are getting duplicate newsletter, please call us today!

To Our Community Thank You

What A GREAT Success! \$25,000 Was Raised!

Because of awesome support from our community, our sponsors (Whitefish Ford, Kalispell Toyota and Ford, Performance Real Estate, Whitefish Community Foundation, Flathead Electric Coop), and Midway Rental, Celebrate, Fun Beverage and all our prize donors – \$25,000 was raised to fight hunger in Northwest Montana!



**It's All Happening Again!
Sunday, August 26th, 2018**

Without Food, It Is Difficult To Learn, Work, Be Healthy, Love The People You Love.

Our customers are making **HARD** decisions. **51%** of households had to pay for other necessities over food. **34%** of households had to pay for fuel for transportation instead of food. **37%** of households had to pay for utilities instead of food. **31%** of households had to pay for rent or mortgage instead of food. **53%** delayed medical care because they were unable to afford it. This is the reality of the food insecure we serve.

We have learned that the gift of food can transform a life, a family, a community, perhaps the world we live in. In 2016 - **51.5%** of our customers used our pantry only 3 times or less. **68.1%** of our customers used our pantry 6 times or less. Food has power, in that it provides individuals and families hope and the opportunity to make wise life changes that can transform their life and their world. That's many of our customer's choice and experience.

When we hear the challenging stories of those we serve, we cry. When we hear the transformational success stories of those we serve, we smile. Flathead Food Bank will never stop advocating for the needs of those we serve. Our heart to feed the hungry is simply who we are, it is what we do. Our sustainability doesn't happen with one gift, it happens with thousands of gifts, big and small, all year long.

For ALL YOU do, we are grateful!

- The Flathead Food Bank Team

Everyone Has A Story We Know Nothing About.

"You've helped keep my family's belly's full"

"If it wasn't for you, we wouldn't survive"

"I'm a young mom trying to feed a two year old, with a baby on the way. Thanks to the Food Bank, we don't go without."

"We are homeless and needed food to cook at a friends home. We ran out of food stamps."

"Every time we have ever been in need, you have been there without judgement and a smile on your face."

"I live on a small Social Security check. Thank you."
For Helping FFB To Create These Results, WOW!

Fall & Holiday Food Drives!

As an individual, a family, a business, an organization, FFB asks you to donate food or funds, or host a food drive to support our hunger relief programs.

Need creative ideas on how you can help us fight hunger? Call us today!



Featuring the Food Bank's mobile food pantry. The goal? To "Stuff The Bus" as many times as possible, collecting over 10,000 pounds of holiday food items!

Parked outside local stores to accept your donations Noon—6:00 PM each day!

Friday, November 3 at **Albertsons!**

Saturday, November 4 at **Kalispell Super One!**

Friday, November 10 at **Evergreen Super One!**

Saturday, November 11 at **Walmart!**

Saturday & Sunday, November 17 & 18 at **Smiths!**

Or drop off donations at the Food Bank!

Mondays & Wednesdays: 7:30 AM – 3:00 PM

Tuesdays & Thursdays: 7:30 AM – 5:45 PM

Fridays: 7:30 AM – 12:00 Noon

Needed: turkeys, sweet potatoes, clear jello, olives, gravy, pumpkin, hot chocolate, chicken broth, stuffing, canned cranberries, apple cider, and evaporated milk. ALL food products will be cheerfully accepted!

Your Donations Make The Holiday's Happen For Many! Thank You!



Food of the Month!
School Year—School Snacks
October—Canned Meat
November And December—Holiday Items

Walking Through The FFB Doors

When someone comes into one of the Flathead Food Bank Pantries we want to make sure that they are treated with respect and dignity. We want them to have a good experience and feel as comfortable as they can, in a situation that can have them very uncomfortable.

We strive to make our pantries as warm and inviting as possible, and our staff and volunteers are trained to help people feel comfortable and very welcome when they come through our doors for help.

When we moved into our current home in 2009, we worked really hard to remove the “food bank” stigma from anything we did. There are a few basic rules that we follow. The first one deals with sorting through the food that we get in every day. Basic rule: If you wouldn’t put it in your mouth, don’t put it out for anyone else. Period. We want the food we serve to be the best that it can be. The only other rule is that the people that come into our pantry are our customers. We don’t have “clients” because I feel that word client is sterile and impersonal and that is not who we are. People that come to the Flathead Food Bank are our customers, our friends and even our family! Our mission is to help hungry families in our community.

We do that in the best way we can and always hope that the people that come to see us leave feeling a bit better than when they came in. Sometimes, they will even get the latest update on what Bob’s mother-in-law is up to or a very, very funny joke from me!

We don’t have the ability to change the whole world, but we can sure make it better for the people that walk into our lives on a daily basis!

- Lori Botkin—Executive Director

An FFB Volunteers Tells Her Story!

“I became disabled and unable to work in 2009 due to a sudden illness onset. The illness was bad enough, but not being able to work was a huge shock! Instead of interacting with people on a daily basis, I sat at home feeling useless. I felt I no longer had anything to contribute to make the world a better place.

One day after dropping off some donations at Second Helpings Thrift Store, I asked my husband to stop at the Food Bank office. He asked why and I told him I wanted to ask about volunteering. The office staff was warm and welcoming and I felt right at home right away.

I now volunteer interviewing customers one three hour shift per week. I came to volunteer at the Food Bank to help others, instead I found I was really helping myself! I no longer feel useless. Thank you Flathead Food Bank!”



- Georgia Saverud

Yes, We Always NEED More Volunteers.

From people we can call on when extra help is sought; to individuals, families, and groups who will take regular scheduled times to sort and package food, stock shelves, interview and checkout customers, make up and deliver BackPacks,

And bag and deliver Senior Commodities.

You can also assist with the numerous volunteer opportunities at
Second Helpings Thrift Store!

Or, volunteer for a food drive shift or be a member Of the Events Committee. Call us **TODAY!**



“If you’re the kind of person who can spot a treasure from a mile away (or who just enjoys searching for them), you should explore some of Montana’s finest thrift stores. Here’s where to find some amazing (and affordable!) gems in the Treasure State.”

Second Helpings Thrift Store—Rated 7th BEST! Donate, Shop, Spread The Word! We’re turning your “stuff”, into sales, into food!



**Charitable Foundation
Invites You To Participate In The 16th Annual
Matching Funds Campaign For FFB!**

**“Be A Friend In Deed, Helping
Those In Need!”**

It’s Happening NOW Until November 30, 2017

Town Pump will match every dollar collected by FFB, up to \$20,000! All the funds collected, including the matching funds, are for us to use exclusively for our hunger relief programs, the individuals, children, families, and senior citizens we serve! Visit our local Town Pumps, or FFB to make your donation.



Second Helpings
thrift store

35% OFF

Your Total Purchase!

Valid in 2017. One Time Use.
Not To Be Used With Any Other Coupon.

1203 Hwy. 2 W, (406)752-SAVE
Open 10 AM - 5 PM Monday-Saturday