Letter from the President
Kelley Housman

THIS FALL marks the Pantry’s 28th year serving neighbors in need. What has changed since we began operating out of the little schoolhouse on Moore Avenue? We have gone from providing groceries to eight families, to having 300 households visit the Pantry each week. We have seen the addition of numerous complementary programs and services, from our holiday turkey distribution, to free health screenings, cooking demonstrations, and food preparation and nutrition classes. As we identify needs in our community, we respond with innovative, targeted programs.

This summer we introduced our newest initiative, the School’s Out Supplement. We recognized that children face greater risk of hunger during the summer when free school lunches are not available, and we responded by providing additional healthy lunch-friendly items for families with school children.

What else is new? This summer we began making affordable shopping trolleys available to our clients, to help them transport the heavy grocery and produce bags they receive from us. This was particularly helpful for senior and mobility-challenged clients. One happy guest shared that now she never needs to take a taxi home from the Pantry when she has heavy bags!

We just concluded our 3rd annual Hunger Awareness Week, bringing attention to some who participated in a food drive, did some Laps for Lunches, “Sparkled” with us at the Kittle House, or frequented our merchant partners. Your support helps bring our mission to life, and ensures that we can continue to serve for as long as we are needed.

The Pantry’s 3rd Annual Hunger Awareness Campaign

Thank you for your special support!

CRABTREE’S KITTLE HOUSE
EXIT 4 FOOD HALL
LEONARD PARK WINES & SPIRITS
MARDINO’S ITALIAN CUISINE
MIMI’S COFFEE HOUSE
MOUNT KISCO SEAFOOD
PURE BARRE
RIPPOWAM CISQUA SCHOOL

Thank you for your food drives!

DECICCO & SONS, Armonk
SHOPRITE, Bedford Hills
STOP & SHOP, Mt. Kisco
OUR CONGREGATIONS

A Special Week of Neighbors Helping Neighbors

Area restaurants held a special 10% Tuesday on September 17 to kick off Hunger Awareness Week—giving patrons discounts and donating to the Pantry! The Pantry held Hunger Awareness food drives on September 21 at ShopRite, Stop & Shop, and DeCicco & Sons.

Families gathered once again to support the Pantry at the Laps for Lunches fundraiser on September 21 (above and left).

On September 24, supporters enjoyed a delightful “Sparkle” evening in Amy’s Garden (top) at Crabtree’s Kittle House.

In 2019, the Pantry served 300 families each week, helping 42,000 people. Our Pantry helped clients make nearly 600,000 meals!

(SOS, continued from page 1)

Research Action Center, low-income children are at risk of returning to school further behind their peers academically without summer nutrition programs. Our program volunteers were happy to show our clients how to make the most of their supplements with some lunch options. For instance, many families were unfamiliar with rice cakes, but once Pantry volunteers suggested spreading peanut butter on them, they became a big hit!

Clients were delighted by the new SOS program. “I work, but I do not earn enough to feed my family during the summer without the school lunches,” one mom explained. “This program has been a tremendous help for my children.”

A Tasty Announcement

Pantry clients recently enjoyed a wonderful surprise. As part of their Silver Award project, Chappaqua Girls Scouts Leena Young and Sara Kockler created colorful, bilingual cookbooklets with recipes made with Pantry staples. On a recent visit to the Pantry, these energetic, creative young women distributed the cookbooklets and tasty sample treats to all the clients visiting that day. Awesome! Thank You!

Harvest of Love

During Hunger Awareness Week, the Mount Kisco Elementary School’s first grade classes brought us 22 pounds of eggplants, peppers, and tomatoes from their own garden.

Thank you all!

Photos: Rhonda Spevak

Page 3     Fall | Winter 2020
Please send your gift to:  
MKIFP  
P.O. Box 834  
Mount Kisco, NY 10549  

Please make checks payable to:  
The Mount Kisco Interfaith Food Pantry  

To donate on-line:  
www.mountkiscofoodpantry.org  

The Food Pantry is a 501(c)(3) non-profit. Your gift is tax deductible.

Yes, I want to make a tax-deductible contribution!  

Name(s):  

Street Address:  

City/State/Zip:  

Email:  

Amount:  ● $50  ● $100  ● $250  ● $500  ● Other:  

This is a gift in honor, memory, or support of  
Honoree’s Name:  

Amount:  ● $25  ● $50  ● $100  ● $150  ● $250  ● Other:  

Our Mission  
The Mount Kisco Interfaith Food Pantry is an affiliation of faith-based congregations dedicated to providing supplemental food to underserved residents of northern Westchester. We are committed to creating a healthier and stronger community. Our volunteer efforts respect the dignity of those we serve and are an expression of the spiritual mission of our sponsoring congregations.

THE MOUNT KISCO INTERFAITH FOOD PANTRY  

Location  
United Methodist Church  
300 East Main Street  
Mount Kisco, NY 10549  

Hours  
Tuesdays, 5:00–7:00 pm  
Wednesdays, 9:30–11:30 am  

Contact us  
914-610-5187  
director@mountkiscofoodpantry.org  

We offer  
Home deliveries  
Nutrition classes  
Health screenings  
SNAP and WIC support  

Sponsoring Congregations  
Bedford Presbyterian Church  
Bet Torah Synagogue  
Iglesia Apostolica Marie de San  
Lutheran Church of the Resurrection  
Presbyterian Church of Mount Kisco  
St. Francis of Assisi Church  
St. Mark’s Episcopal Church  
St. Matthew’s Episcopal Church  
St. Stephen’s Episcopal Church  
Temple Shaaray Tefila  
United Universities Fellowship  
of Northern Westchester  
United Methodist Church  
of Mount Kisco  
Westchester Family Church  

www.mountkiscofoodpantry.org  

Fall | Winter 2020  

Summertime is Lunchtime at the Pantry!  
by Erica Dunne, Our Teen Reporter  

Summer can be a time of food insecurity for low-income families who rely on free or reduced-cost lunches for their children during the school year. But thanks to a new Pantry initiative, this past summer clients with school-aged children had the opportunity to select additional lunch food items to help bridge the nutritional gap that can occur. The new ten-week program, called the “School’s Out Supplement” (SOS), served an average of 290 children from 160 families each week. These families, often visiting the Pantry with their children, chose extra helpings from an array of kid-friendly, nutritious offerings including peanut butter and jelly, macaroni and cheese, milk, and fresh fruit.

There was a need in the community for this, explains Roberta Horowitz, Director of Operations and Programs for the Pantry. This past school year, 39 percent of the children in the Bedford Central School District qualified for free or reduced lunches. “While some school districts offer supplements during the summer,” says Horowitz, “Bedford does not. We saw a way to make a real difference for these kids.” Summer supplement programs provide benefits beyond just food. According to a recent Summer Nutrition Status Report published by the Food (See SOS, continued on page 2)