

Marcia P. Coggs Human Service Center 1220 W. Vilet Street P.O. Box 05411 Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53205-0411

Change of address requested

If you have any comments or suggestions regarding this newsletter, please send to the above address or email: director@friedenspantry.org

www.friedenspantry.org











NOURISHING NEWS

December 2019



A NETWORK OF FOOD PANTRIES BUILDING LADDERS OF PEACE



We had the privilege of receiving a generous grant from AT&T through their Believe Milwaukee campaign to feed the hungry. This grant will enable us to expand our Despensa location and reach more of our community. We are incredibly excited about this partnership and seeing what we can accomplish together. Thank you AT&T for nourishing the community with us!



"Dignity"

written by Cheryl Ousely, Site Manager



"Everyday we encounter so many individuals who have been stripped of their sense of worthiness, robbed of the belief that they have value and purpose and it can be at once heartbreaking and humbling. The absence of dignity can make a person feel useless and bothersome. At Friedens, we are in a unique position where we can either be the catalyst for restoration of dignity or a reinforcement of what someone has been negatively led to believe about themselves.

Each day is a new day for us to be the best of ourselves and give the people in the communities where we live and serve the opportunity to feel the true measure of their worth as a person. We can choose to see someone based on their need but we look beyond the circumstances that placed them in this state and focus on the beauty that is their presence and purpose. Everyone has the right to retain dignity, even in the moments when it requires them to be humble and ask for a hand up."



Zion Rock

10230 W. Fond Du Lac Ave. Milwaukee, WI 53224

Hope House

209 W. Orchard St. Milwaukee, WI 53204

Despensa de la Paz

1615 S. 22nd St. Milwaukee, WI 53204

Coggs Center

1220 W. Vliet St. Milwaukee, Wi 53205



VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT:



"Everyone needs a hand, a friend, and to be understood."



Meet one of our all-star volunteers: Linda! She has become a natural leader at our Coggs pantry. She is a weekday warrior in pantry and a mother-figure for many of our staff and volunteers. She welcomes everyone with a listening ear and an open heart and has become someone community members, volunteers, and staff look forward to seeing everyday. In her free time, Linda enjoys drawing, writing and spending time with her grandchildren.

Her advice for new volunteers? "To bring with you love, patience, and an open heart as you will receive all of that in return. Everyone needs a hand, a friend, and to be understood."

Want to Help? Host a Drive!

Does your church, school, or business need a meaningful way to help those in need? Do you have an abundance of food, bags, or other items you would like to share? Consider partnering with us - we'll even come pick up!

Thank you to Life Creek Church, Zocalo Food Park, Fernwood Montessori School, and Rockwell Automation for hosting food drives for our organization!

If you would like to host a food drive for us, contact Sydney at volunteer@friedenspantry.org.



A small but mighty

Peace Builder...

- Sugar/Cream for our Hospitality Station
- Hygiene Items
- Winter Clothing Items
- Canned Protein

If you wish to donate, contact Cheryl at sitemgr@friedenspantry.org



Volunteers from Life Creek Church collected coats and passed them out at Despensa. Thank you!

Partnership Spotlight:Marquette Mobile Legal Clinic

Friedens and the Mobile Legal Clinic have been working together since 2017. They have been providing services at our Despensa de la Paz and our Hope House locations. This year alone, 25 community members were able to recieve free legal advice while visiting one of our pantries.

The clinic offers free legal advice to community members about issues involving Landlord/Tenant and Family Law. The clinic is also a mobile classroom where law students are able to learn what it means to help bridge the justice gap that many of their clients get lost in.

Megan Morrisey, the Legal Clinic Coordinator says:

"I have enjoyed working with Friedens immensely. I see the dedication that the Executive director, and all of the employees and volunteers put forth to help people feel welcome and appreciated. It is the basic human dignity and kindness that has impressed me the most about Friedens and it has complimented what I try to create with each and every one of our clients that sits and meets with our lawyers."

Friedens is lucky to have amazing partners that meet the needs of our community members!

Save the Date!

Despensa de la Paz Christmas Party Saturday, December 21st









Last year, over 250 children recieved toys!

Reflections from Zion Rock:



Cynthia Wilson (pictured above) has been the Site Manager at Zion Rock Food Pantry for the last two years. She's at the pantry every Tuesday night and Saturday morning.

"I knew that I wanted to do volunteer work after I retired from my job. I searched the web for volunteer work, but didn't see anything that I wanted to do. Three years ago, a church got to work opening up a food pantry in our church basement at Zion Rock Missionary Baptist church. I found my calling.

I love being a volunteer. I feel joyful, knowing that we are helping to feed children and adults who need food. We treat each patron with dignity and respect. We laugh, share stories, share recipes, and sometimes share a tear or two with someone who is really going through hard times. We're lucky at Zion Rock to have the best volunteers who go above and beyond to make our pantry a warm and friendly place. I asked the Lord to let me be a service to others and he has done that. I feel peace in my heart knowing that fewer people are going to bed hungry."

Fast Facts:

1. Friedens is now on the Board of the Milwaukee Food Council!

M L W A U K E E FOOD COUNCIL

2. We recently enjoyed having the opportunity to speak about our mission at The Howard Company, Eaton Corporation, Marquette University, and Fox6.

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