

### CORALVILLE COMMUNITY FOOD PANTRY NEWSLETTER

THE PANTRY IS LOCATED AT 1002 5TH STREET IN CORALVILLE

**JULY 2021** 

#### FROM THE DIRECTOR

I was lucky enough to spend some quality time with family over the July 4th weekend. This included a visit from my cousin Ryan from Indiana.

Ryan has severe underlying health conditions, but is fully vaccinated and was able to stay at my place for a few nights. We have not seen each other for two years--you could say we made up for lost time! Together we played mini golf, went bowling, kayaked at MacBride, ate out at restaurants, went out for coffee, played video games, and even putzed around some shops. These are all activities I never dreamed we would be doing together just a few months ago.

It almost felt like things were...I hate to say it...back to normal?

For Ryan and me, they might be. But for far too many people, life is still growing progressively scarier and stressful. Unemployment benefits are running out, SNAP benefits have been greatly reduced, many still cannot get vaccinated, and countless families will soon face the risk of eviction & homelessness.

Before we pre-maturely celebrate a blissful return to normalcy (I'm preaching to myself too!), let's not forget how broken our society is and then do something about it. Let's make sure we leave no one behind.

John Boller Executive Director

#### **JUNE 2021 STATISTICS**

Total Visits/Deliveries: 731 Families Served: 340 Individuals Served: 1,522 Food Distributed: 48,750 LBS

This organization is an equal opportunity provider.

# We welcome you back inside the pantry!

BEGINNING

Tuesday, July 13



Over 16 months ago, everything changed.

As news of COVID-19 began to roll out in early March 2020, our staff met to quickly devise a thorough contingency plan to determine how we would respond to different levels of disruption. Our hypothetical "worst case scenario" became a reality much more quickly than anticipated. With some advance planning in place and a commitment to remaining nimble, we were able to successfully adapt our food assistance services to the rapidly changing public health guidance.

You know the rest of the story. The food pantry--thanks to its staff, volunteers, and supporters--stood strong as an essential safety net for thousands of our neighbors.

We are now on the cusp of finally re-opening our building for in-person services. Tuesday, July 13 will be the first day we welcome back members inside. We will take extra precautions to ensure the safety of our members, staff, and volunteers. All visitors, regardless of vaccination status, will be required to wear a mask. We will limit the number of individuals inside the building at a given time. To reduce the amount of time visitors spend in the building, we are taking other measures, including: streamlining the check-in process, encouraging members to bring reusable bags and pack items as they go, strategically placing items on the shelves in categories that flow, and allowing members to take their cart outside to load up when they are finished.

Though drive-thru services will end and in-person shopping will recommence, we will continue and expand our increasingly popular home delivery services. Currently, we are averaging nearly 80 deliveries per week! We just hired a permanent Home Delivery Coordinator to steward and sustain this important new program. We are excited about the future of this option.

Due to spatial constraints and limited humanpower, the only **donated items we are accepting** include: cash, diapers, feminine hygiene products, toilet paper, soap, shampoo, laundry detergent, and pet food.

We are in the process of training volunteers and reconfiguring the pantry in preparation of stepping into this "new normal." We will need an influx of volunteers in the coming months as we anticipate another surge in our numbers. If you are interested in lending your time, please reach out to our Programs Coordinator at paola@coralvillefoodpantry.org.

We look forward to this new chapter and hope you will continue to help us build a stronger, healthier, and hunger-free Coralville community.

#### MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Every \$1 donated to the Coralville Community Food Pantry becomes 5+ pounds of food. Help transform Coralville into a hunger-free community by making a financial gift today. Thank you for your support!

DONATIONS CAN BE SENT TO OUR MAILING ADDRESS AT:

CORALVILLE COMMUNITY FOOD PANTRY
PO Box 5523
CORALVILLE, IA 52241

Secure donations can also be made online at <a href="https://www.coralvillefoodpantry.org">www.coralvillefoodpantry.org</a>
We are a 501(c)(3) organization (Tax ID #: 47-3509757)





## Tee Off Against Hunger

Charity Golf Tournament for the Coralville Community Food Pantry

### Friday, September 17 | 8am **Brown Deer Golf Club**

Presented by



**GM** lowa's Best Choice BUICK GMC DEALERS

Billion Buick GMC of Iowa City

Presented by



REGISTER TODAY!

www.teeoffagainsthunger.org

REGISTER TODAY!

#### "Food Is Everywhere" Foraging Walks

We recently held two "Food is Everywhere" foraging walks. These walks--organized by our Community Projects Coordinator and in-house food foraging and nature enthusiast, Hai Huynh--are designed to provide our neighbors with a free opportunity to learn more about the edible abundance available around us in public locations such as trails, woods, and parks.

Our first event, held in early May, filled at max capacity with 20 people in attendance and was livestreamed on Facebook. This one focused on tasty greens such as nettle, garlic mustard, ramps and flowers such as Spring Beauties, violets, and red bud. We combined these ingredients for a delicious egg cake (frittata) placed on top of toast. Our second event, held on blistering 95° morning in June, highlighted the Juneberry (or serviceberry). We cooked them down to make a delectable compote to be topped over vanilla ice cream. Follow us on Facebook to learn about the next free foraging event. All are welcome!

www.facebook.com/coralvillefoodpantry



DONATION FORM						
Every \$1 donated to the Coralville Community Food Pantry becomes 5+ pounds of food.						
Name:						
Address:						
Address:						
Сіту:						
EMAIL ADDRESS:						
Your contribution:	□\$5	□\$10	□ \$25	□ \$50	Amount	