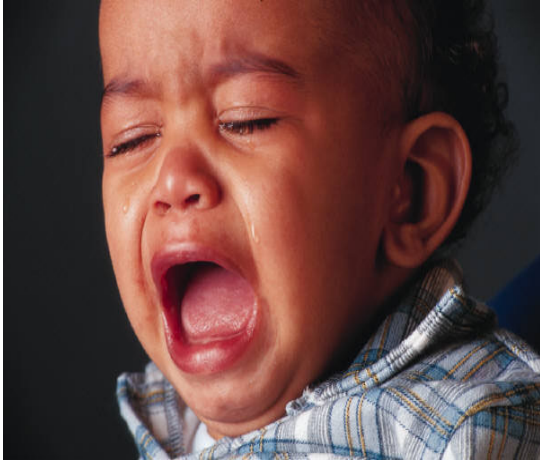


Black Rock Food Pantry Bulletin

[April 2009 Newsletter Supplement]

Meals Delivered 11-08 (3027) 12-08 (5103) 1-09 (5256) 2-09 (5166) 3-09 (6030)

- The first Spring Issue of “Black Rock Food Pantry Newsletter” is available on the WEB @ www.blackrockfoodpantry.com. It features a letter from Pantry President Dr. Gery Habansky and short pieces on our functioning pantry at the corner of Fairfield Avenue and Princeton Street.
- 100% of all donations to the Pantry are used to purchase food or some personal care items for children or infants. Rest assured that all contributions, check or food, or personal care items, are applied to our primary mission.
- **BRFP** is interested in serving homebound seniors. Black Rock seniors who qualify for Meals on Wheels fall under this program. We are positioning ourselves to deliver emergency boxes containing food and selected personal care items. Call our appointment line [522-6617] if you know of a Black Rock resident who would benefit from this service.
- **Pantry volunteers** and this “Newsletter Supplement” would love to hear from our clients in two ways: How can we better serve you? What are your needs? In other words, what would make it easier for you to shop at the pantry? Or is there a product that you would like to see on our shelves that you have yet to find? Understand that there are limitations, but some things are possible. Leave us a note the next time you register with the receptionist.
- **As revealed** months ago when we started our conversation about BRFP, we mentioned the possibility of making some basic medical services to be made available to our clients. Please know that discussions are currently underway to provide these basic medical services. More will be posted as plans solidify.
- **Bread for the stomach, books for the mind:** As an experiment a few weeks ago, we placed a box of children’s books on the shelf near the tote bags. There are many great services one can provide for children. One of these has great value. It is to read to them and with them, and, in the process to help them to read for themselves. And so we invite Black Rock moms whose young children are ready to give up their own, lovely books to think of the Pantry, for there are children out there who are ready for their first book and all those books that will surely follow.



- What is given away every Saturday from the abundance we manage to shelve and refrigerate within the four walls of our small Pantry is truly remarkable. Last Saturday morning clients were again able to select frozen chicken breast from one freezer and, surprise, there were cartons of eggs in the refrigerator and a variety of cuts of beef in that

refrigerator's freezer. Further down the aisle they had available fresh California strawberries in one-pound baskets. Other choices included peanut butter and rice and canned vegetables and a variety of beans. On other shelves, one could select from one-of-a-kind donated products: olives, salsa, condiments, tea, catsup, cookies, and artichokes. There was flour and canned orange and grapefruit juice, soups, and canned potatoes. Those of us who wait on clients never fail to realize a special gift in return. It is the feeling of having done something worthwhile. We thank

God for His bounty and pray that He continue to watch over us.



- Thinking about a visit to the Black Rock Food Pantry? Consider this: You are eligible if your household income is \$22,490.00 or less

a year. No proof of income is required. Add \$7,661.00 for each family member to the base income to see how larger family groups may qualify. There are many other ways to qualify. For example, you qualify if your children receive school meals or if you receive housing assistance. If you decide to come to the Pantry, call for an appointment [522-6647]. Bring photo identification and proof of address within the 06605 Zip Code. Give us a call.

- We at the Black Rock Food Pantry owe much to Elder Clifton Jones.