

upcoming events...



Tuesday, December 3
7 am—7 pm
wcnegives.org

Help support the WCFP! Donate online or in person. Listen to 97.3 FM for live updates.

Christmas for the Coat

Wednesday, December 4
6:30 am—9

Recipe Tasting

N EXTENSION



Monday, December 9
10:30 am—Noon

Registered Dietitian and Food, Nutrition & Health Extension Educator, Jordan Luxa, will be offering taste tests of ham and bean soup. Stop by for the recipe and additional nutrition information.

follow us on Facebook

www.josephscoat.org

WCFP Board of Directors: Kristina Churchill, Harriet Waite, LeAnn Quist, Jolien Maras, Mark Degner, Chris Jensen, Gregg Miller, Fred Otte, Scott Vanderschaaf, Kevin Willis, Mark Zano. WCFP Director of Pantry Operations: Denise Ray



Looking for a service project for your company or organization? Contact us! We can help you organize a food drive or provide you ideas for a community service project.



Want to hear more about what we do? We will speak at your group meeting. We also give tours of the pantry (please call ahead to schedule the time).

Joseph's Coat Holiday Hours

December 24—Open 10 am— 3 pm
December 25, 26 & 27—Closed
December 31—Open 10 am—Noon
January 1—Closed

in this issue >>>

From the Board of Directors
Eagle Scout Project
Ways to Donate
By the Numbers

the essentials

serving locally >>>

PANTRY Partners

The Washington County Food Pantry continues to grow and thrive because of all the generous people who support our mission. We often get asked, "How can I help?"

By becoming a Pantry Partner, we'll contact you quarterly so you can be sure your donations are fulfilling a current need.

Thank you to our December Pantry Partners—Living Savior, Cargill, Country Bible, Ft. Calhoun Presbyterian and First Lutheran for providing the following items to every pantry family:

- A large ham
- Ingredients to make a green bean casserole
- 5lb bag of potatoes & 1lb of carrots
- Flour, sugar, vanilla, baking soda, and chocolate chips
- Jello and gravy

Pantry Partners can also give monetary gifts if that is a better fit for your group or organization. Monetary donations will 100% be used to purchase food items at a reduced cost based on current pantry needs.

Contact Denise to be included in the quarterly email.
josephscoat@abbnebraska.com

WASHINGTON COUNTY FOOD PANTRY

at Joseph's Coat

Fall 2019

www.josephscoat.org



Wednesday, December 4

Christmas carols, holiday cheer, friends, family, Santa Claus and a hot breakfast buffet return to Blair once again this year.

The annual Christmas for the Coat fundraiser to benefit the Washington County Food Pantry will take place on Wednesday, December 4, at Fernando's downtown Blair. Breakfast will be served from 6:30 am to 9 am.

The food pantry operates solely on monetary and food donations from our community and sales of donated items at Joseph's Coat thrift store.

"The food pantry continues to see an increase in usage. We provided over 8,580 meals to our community in October alone. With the holiday season upon us, I expect that number to rise," commented Director of Pantry Operations, Denise Ray.

The event has something for everyone. Santa Claus will make an appearance. The Stangl family will provide the live entertainment. You'll have an opportunity to pick up a holiday gift if you win a raffle prize.

Major sponsors of this year's event at Sid Dillon Chevrolet and Woodhouse Auto Family.



Hundreds enjoy a hot breakfast at Christmas for the Coat. Pictured serving in 2018, L-R Pastor Andrew Anderson, BVFP Chief Joe Leonard, Police Chief Joe Lager, Randy Lock and Terry Dutton.

"This event brings the community together and raises awareness of the need for food, a basic necessity."

-Kristina Churchill,
President, WCFP Board of Directors

Ticket Information

\$10 now / \$15 at the door

Available thru Dec 2nd at
the Washington County Food
Pantry and Fernando's.

1737 Washington Street
Blair, NE 68008
402.426.0440

WASHINGTON COUNTY
FOOD PANTRY
at Joseph's Coat

from the board of directors >>>

The Many Faces of Hunger

Kristina Churchill
President of WCFP@JC



There are many faces of hunger that the Washington County Food Pantry sees on a daily basis.

There's the child who has a difficult time learning, and developing, because the only balanced meal is the one that they get each day at school. We have working adults who can barely make ends meet, after paying their rent and bills, they have very little left for the food they need to feed their families. Then we have senior citizens on fixed incomes that must make a difficult decision, to choose between their utility bills and the medicine they need to live, and the food they need to survive. The Washington County Food Pantry at Joseph's Coat offers our patrons a wide variety of nutritious food selections every month to help them feed themselves and their families. We also make every effort to help them with other basic needs they may have.

There are several ways that YOU can help. Consider a tax deductible financial donation to WCFP. We also need volunteers. Volunteers in the pantry/thrift store are an important part of fulfilling our mission. A few hours a week, or a month makes a big impact. Our thrift store accepts donations of gently used clothes and goods. Proceeds from the thrift store support the food pantry. Please stop by and shop in our store this holiday season. We have lots of holiday decor and fun gifts for people of all ages. You'll be surprised at the many gems you can find!

We invite you to join us for "Christmas for the Coat". This is one of two large fundraisers we have each year. Proceeds from this event helps with the purchasing of food to fill our pantry shelves throughout the year. Enjoy a wonderful breakfast buffet, some Christmas music, beautiful raffle items and a visit from Santa at Fernando's Dec. 4, 2019 from 6:30 - 9:00am.

Our Board of Directors and our staff are very grateful to the many businesses, churches, organizations, and individuals in Washington County that support us throughout the year. As we are approaching our 25th year of the Washington County Food Pantry, we say thank you for your continued support.

Have a Blessed Holiday Season!



Gobble Wobble

The first Gobble Wobble Family Fun Run & Food Drive was held on November 9th.

Thank you to everyone who took part and donated food!



community involvement>>>

Eagle Scout Project Nets 939lb Donation to Pantry

Blair High School junior, Roy Brown, picked quite an endeavor for his eagle scout service project. "I wanted to make it memorable so I choose to help other families get food on their tables," explained Brown.

The project took several months to complete and wasn't without difficulties.

"Organizing the event and talking to businesses to put donation boxes there and transportation were my biggest obstacles. Taking it down and bringing it to the food pantry was the easiest part," Brown said.

Brown joined boy scouts many years ago because a friend of his was in scouts. His friend soon dropped out, but Roy enjoyed it and now looks forward to his Court of Honors ceremony in December.

Brown's favorite school subject is math, and he is involved in show choir, band, choir and was in the fall musical. His future plans are undecided but believes he may study culinary arts, mechanical engineering or auto mechanics.

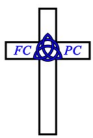


Roy Brown in front of his donations.

"The biggest thing I learned is that hard work does pay off."



Thank you for supporting the Washington County Food Pantry!



how to donate >>>

We are a 501(c)(3) organization. All gifts are tax deductible.

- 1 **Joseph's Coat**—please give gently used clothing, toys, household items and small furniture and appliances.
- 2 **Direct Your Dollars**—bring us your receipts from Family Fare. For every \$150,000 of receipts, Family Fare donates \$1,000 to the WCFP.
- 3 The **AmazonSmile Foundation** will donate 0.5% of the purchase price from your AmazonSmile purchases.
- 4 **PayPal**-donations are accepted online at www.josephscoat.org/support.
- 5 **Monetary Donations** are always accepted in person or by mail.

Washington County Food Pantry
1737 Washington Street, Blair, NE 68008



By the Numbers

In an average month we serve

- **150 FAMILIES**
- **376 INDIVIDUALS**
- **7,896 MEALS**

We help 12 new families each month

In 2018 we distributed 250,904 pounds of food to families, seniors and children struggling with hunger in our community.

\$20 provides dinner for a family for 1 week

Items needed this season: gravy mix, cream of mushroom and cream of chicken soup, butter, stuffing mix, boxed jello, cereal, and toilet paper.