

May 2022

Food For Thought

"Lend a hand to help feed your fellow man"



806 Fayette Street • Bastrop, Texas 78602 | (512) 303-0033 | www.BastropFoodPantry.org



I hope you all are having a wonderful Spring season and enjoying the pleasant change in the weather lately. We are so appreciative of your valuable time that you devote to us at BCEFP! I hope you were able to see our Facebook and Instagram posts as well as local newspaper articles honoring you for Volunteer Appreciation Week.

In case you did not get a chance to see them, had two banners expressing our appreciation for you displayed in front of the Emergency Center and outside the Donation Center. Here is a pic of the banner displayed outside the Donation Center. Thank you for all you do for us and our neighbors needing help! YOU GUYS ARE THE BEST!!



OUR IMPACT

Volunteer Hours for the reporting month March 2022

Client Service Report Month Ending March 25th FY2022

Volunteer Hours: **419.65 hrs**

	# of Clients	Pounds of Food	Members in Household
NIBBLES	17	4295	0
Brown Bag	92	2319	131
Commodities	63	1798	88
Emergency Asst.	102	11159	266
Fresh Foods for Families	100	3331	192
Open Arms	3	57	4
Disaster Asst.	0	0	0
Pantry Express	1	197	3
Special Asst. Program	14	392	61
Senior Activity	0	0	0
Whole Grains	308	3948	439
TOTAL SERVED	700	27496	1184



05/02 - Mike Horton

05/20 - Jennifer Santana

05/28 - Charlotte Gilman

IMPORTANT DATES

5/5 1st Thurs. PANTRY EXPRESS 4:00 - 7:00 pm

5/20 3rd Friday FRESH FOOD FOR FAMILIES

9:00 - 11:00 am



Monday, May 30th

Sunday,
May 8th



*The pantry hours are Monday – Friday from 8:30am – 4:00pm.
We are CLOSED for lunch from 12:00pm – 1:00pm.*

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CENTRAL TEXAS FOOD BANK SPOTLIGHTS BCEFP

We are so grateful for the support we receive through the Central Texas Food Bank and various grants to help us fulfill our mission to meet the needs of our neighbors in crisis. Last summer BCEFP received a Capacity Building Grant from the Central Texas Food Bank to help expand and improve our ability to serve our neighbors. We were recently featured in their agency spotlight, and I have attached an excerpt from the article:

Food Bank Supports Bastrop County Emergency Food Pantry with Capacity Building Grant

Within the last few years, Central Texas has witnessed a tremendous amount of growth, even amidst a global pandemic and our own natural disasters. As folks continue to make their way to the region, counties struggle to keep up with infrastructure growth. As we have seen, this has led to an increase in need from folks that fall into vulnerable populations in our community. Bastrop County has been no exception. While COVID-19 brought about nearly insurmountable challenges for everyone, Bastrop was still recovering from the 2011 and 2015 fires. The 2011 fires alone destroyed just over 1,700 homes. While the community has worked to rebuild since then, the pandemic and last year's winter storm has continued to drain their resources.

A shining beacon of hope in all of this has been the Bastrop County Emergency Food Pantry, who, since 1987, continues to serve the basic needs of Bastrop County residents. Last summer, they received a Capacity Building Grant from the Central Texas Food Bank to help them expand and improve their ability to serve their neighbors.

Be sure to read the entire article at the attached link:

<https://www.centraltexasfoodbank.org/news/bastrop-county-spotlight>

GALAXY DIGITAL

Our new volunteer management software program Galaxy Digital is progressing nicely and will be going live very soon as we transition to this program for all aspects of volunteer opportunities.

In addition to that, active volunteers will also have access to a mobile app called CauseConnect that will allow them to search for and schedule volunteer opportunities, sign in and sign out of their volunteer shifts, track their volunteer hours, and have access to the volunteer calendar, and so much more all from their cell phone!

Volunteers will soon be receiving an email with more detailed information and instructions.

NOTE:

Pantry buildings MUST be vacated and ready to be locked by 11:30am. We appreciate how diligent our volunteers are in wanting to get tasks completed so we are asking that you be sure to be finished by 11:30am. Staff members have a number of duties that need to be attended to before they are able to close the pantry, so we ask that there be no volunteers in our program buildings after 11:30am.

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VOLUNTEER(S) OF THE MONTH IS: NANCY GRIZZAFFI and PAT WEBB

This month we are honoring our Monday Whole Grains Distribution Team, Nancy Grizzaffi and Pat Webb, as our Volunteer Team of the Month!

Nancy and Pat both began volunteering with us at BCEFP in November of 2021. They bring such joy, compassion, dedication, and fun to their volunteer shift and have a wonderful relationship with our clients and staff. They are always willing to do anything and everything to get the job done – despite our crazy weather and sometimes freezing temperatures!

Nancy was born and raised in Austin. She joined the airlines which helped her see and tour the world. She met her husband and moved from Austin to Sugarland, Texas where they had a ranch in Richmond/Columbus raising, breeding, and showing champion Miniature Horses for twenty years. They

eventually sold the ranch and retired to Cedar Creek... *"My husband of 43 years died of the COVID in 2021. Part of my healing, I volunteered at the Bastrop Food Pantry where I have been so fortunate to work around wonderful employees and volunteers. Thank you."*

Pat was born in Austin and lived in Texas until halfway through high school. She moved to the northeast and lived there for a long time with a couple of years in Switzerland thrown into the mix. She married young, raised three children, and then moved back to Texas. When the kids were all in school, she took the opportunity to go to college and earned her engineering degree from Texas A&M. She worked for two different companies over the next 25 years and since retiring has been involved in volunteering... *"I feel it's important to give back to the community. Having enough to eat is such a basic human need and volunteering at the food pantry allows me to feel like I'm helping in some way."*

CONGRATULATIONS NANCY AND PAT!
YOU GUYS ARE AWESOME AND WE APPRECIATE YOU SO VERY MUCH!

1. Sign **in and out** each time you volunteer here at the Bastrop County Emergency Food Pantry. (Your volunteer hours count in more ways than you know; they help provide matching dollars for grants!)
2. If you have symptoms of any contagious illness, a positive COVID test, exposure to someone with COVID-19 or any other contagious illness, please stay home.
3. Volunteers **MUST** wear volunteer badges during their volunteer shift.
4. Gloves must always be worn while handling food items.
5. Food items are never to be placed directly on the floor. Plastic tubs, bins, boxes, cases, etc. containing any food items are to be placed 6" above the floor on to pallets, risers, tables, chairs, etc.
6. Please contact Volunteer Coordinator, **Jody Wright directly** as soon as possible if you are not able to make your shift either by email at jwright@bastropfoodpantry.org or by phone at 512-303-0033 Ext 104.
7. Please do not bring friends or relatives to your volunteer shift who have not been cleared by Volunteer Coordinator, Jody Wright. All visitors must be cleared by the pantry staff and volunteers must have attended required orientation/training.

*Friendly
Reminders*

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CIVIL RIGHTS TRAINING REQUIRED BY ALL VOLUNTEERS

If you have not already done so, please complete the Civil Rights Training. This is required for all volunteers of the BCEFP. All volunteers are required to take the training, but the area you volunteer in will determine which training you are to take. If you have contact with any client personal information you will need to take the video training (Civil Rights Training - All Agencies). If you have questions about which training you are to do, please give me a call. If you do not have to access a computer or internet, please let me know and we can make arrangements to you to do the training here at the Pantry. The link is provided below:

<https://www.centraltexasfoodbank.org/agencies/resource-center>

- Civil Rights Training - All Agencies (**English** and **Spanish**)
- Limited Civil Rights Training (**English** and **Spanish**)

Thank you so much for taking the time to complete these necessary steps for BCEFP to remain in compliance with the Food Bank.

MASK POLICY

Per CDC guidelines in March 2022: "People may choose to mask at any time. People with symptoms, a positive test, or exposure to someone with COVID-19 should wear a mask."

BCEFP desires to keep everyone safe, so if you are **exhibiting symptoms** of COVID-19 or **any other contagious illness; have been exposed** to someone with COVID or any other contagious illness; or **if you are feeling ill**, please use caution and stay home until you are well and symptom free.

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Wish List

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Canned corn• Cooking oil (vegetable)• Cranberry Sauce• Cream of Mushroom Soup• Syrup• Dry Cereals• Flour (small bags)• Hamburger Helper (Tuna and Chicken)• Jelly (in plastic containers)• Juices – 64 oz.• Soups – Broth & cream-based• Sugar (small bags)• Stuffing | <u>HYGIENE ITEMS:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bath Soap• Toilet Paper• Deodorant• Tooth Brushes• Laundry Soap |
|---|---|



Volunteer Opportunities

IMMEDIATE VOLUNTEER POSITIONS AVAILABLE ARE:

HEB PICK-UP: This involves picking up bread, produce and protein from HEB by 8:30am and dropping it off at our Support Center. We need volunteers for Thursday mornings and rotating every other Saturday morning.

NIBBLES PREP: This involves dating the food items that are to be placed in the Nibbles bags on build day. It takes place on Monday and Friday from 8:30-11:30 or 1:30-3:30 in the NIBBLES building.

NIBBLES BUILD: This involves placing items in bags which will be given to school children to take home, providing them with food to have over the weekend. We need teams of 3 every Wednesday from 8:30-11:30 (eventually to rotate every other week).

FRESH FOOD FOR FAMILIES: This involves setting up tables; sorting, weighing and bagging produce; greeting clients; distributing bags & boxes to clients; assisting clients to their cars when needed; cleaning up and taking down tables. This is a monthly event occurring on the 3rd Friday of each month from 9am-11am. This is an outdoor event that takes place rain or shine.

BUILDING EMERGENCY BOXES / STOCKING: This involves building boxes of food items for emergency clients as needed, as well as stocking and rotating inventory. Volunteers could be lifting 20-50 lbs. It takes place Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 8:30-11:30am and 1:30-3:30pm in the Emergency Services in the main building.

DONATION CENTER: This involves sorting, dating, packing boxes and moving them to the Emergency Pantry for distribution. This can be done Monday – Friday from 8:30-11:30am or 1:30-3:30pm, or on the 1st Thursday of the month from anytime between 1:30pm-6:30pm (on Pantry Express day).

GROUP VOLUNTEERS: There are many opportunities for church groups, school groups, families, civic clubs, workgroups, etc. to volunteer. The more the merrier!

Please apply with Jody Wright at Jwright@bastropfoodpantry.org or visit our website at www.BastropFoodPantry.org to get a Volunteer Application.

1. Sign into Amazon Smile at <http://smile.amazon.com> (you have to do this on a computer, it doesn't let you connect your Amazon account from a cell phone).
2. Sign in and select the Pantry as your nonprofit organization!
3. Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to BCEFP! And it adds up fast!!



VOLUNTEER SURVEY

Volunteers, please take a few minutes to fill out a quick survey to tell us how we are doing. The survey is completely anonymous and will help us improve our volunteer program! Link to survey: <https://bit.ly/BCEFPVolunteer>

Thank you for making our mission come to life!

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MAY 2022

BCEFP VOLUNTEER CALENDAR

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat/Sun
<p>2 WGD 8:30-11:30 Pat W, Nancy G</p> <p>NIBBLES PREP 9:00-11:30 Colony Prep Grp—Barbara C</p> <p>1:30-3:30 Build—Dee, Sarah, Janessa</p> <p>DC 1:30-3:30 Cassandra's Grp (8)</p>	<p>3 Admin 9-11:30 Chris</p> <p>DC 9:00-11:30 Mary W</p> <p>DC 1:30-3:30 Charles, Cindy</p> <p>NIBBLES BLD 9:00 -11:30</p> <p>Colony Build Grp—Barbara C</p>	<p>4 WGD 8:30-11:30 <u>Need 2 Volunteers</u></p> <p>DC 9-11:30 Charlotte</p> <p>EB 8:30-11:30 Martha, Trida</p> <p>NIBBLES BLD 1:30-3:30</p> <p>N/A today</p>	<p>5 Admin 9-11:30 Chris A</p> <p>DC/10-11:30 Richard, Karyn</p> <p>PE 4-7 —Kala, Tyler Beauchamp, Kevin & Scout troop (+/-3)</p>	<p>6 WGD 8:30-11:30 <u>Need 2 Volunteers</u></p> <p>NIBBLES PREP 1:30—3:30</p> <p>Estelle, Sarah, Janessa</p>	<p>7 HEB: SAT: Kala</p> <p>8 HEB: SUN: Mike A & Chris</p>
<p>9 WGD 8:30-11:30 Pat W, Nancy G</p> <p>NIBBLES PREP 1:30-3:30</p> <p>Dee, Sarah, Janessa</p> <p>DC 1:30-3:30 Cassandra's Grp</p>	<p>10 Admin 9-11:30 Chris</p> <p>DC 9:00-11:30 Mary W</p> <p>DC 1:30-3:30 Charles, Cindy</p> <p>NIBBLES BLD 9:00-11:30</p> <p>Carolyn, Esther, Mary R</p>	<p>11 WGD & COMMODITY BOXES 8:30-11:30</p> <p>Lisa G, Pat W</p> <p>DC 9-11:30 Charlotte</p> <p>EB 8:30-11:30 Martha, Trida</p> <p>NIBBLES BLD 1:30-3:30</p> <p>Sarah, Janessa</p>	<p>12 Admin 9-11:30 Chris A</p> <p>DC/10-11:30 Richard, Karyn</p>	<p>13 WGD 8:30-11:30</p> <p>Lisa G, <u>Need 1 Volunteer</u></p> <p>NIBBLES PREP 1:30—3:30</p> <p>Estelle, Sarah, Janessa</p>	<p>14 HEB: SAT: Kala</p> <p>15 HEB: SUN: Tom & Sue</p>
<p>16 WGD 8:30-11:30 Pat W, Nancy G</p> <p>NIBBLES PREP 1:30-3:30</p> <p>Dee, Sarah, Janessa</p> <p>DC 1:30-3:30 Cassandra's Grp</p>	<p>17 Admin—Need Volunteer</p> <p>BB PREP 9-11:00 Beverly, Chris</p> <p>DC 9:00-11:30 Mary W</p> <p>DC 1:30-3:30 Charles, Cindy</p> <p>NIBBLES BLD 9:00-11:30</p> <p>KOCA Group Kathy K</p>	<p>18 NO WGD</p> <p>BB DEL—Sandra</p> <p>EB 8:30-11:30 Martha, Trida</p> <p>NIBBLES BLD 1:30-3:30</p> <p>Sarah, Janessa</p>	<p>19 Admin—9-11:30</p> <p>Need Volunteer</p> <p>BB DIST 10-2 Diana, Chris</p> <p>DC/10-11:30 Richard, Karyn</p>	<p>20 NO WGD</p> <p>FF 9-11-Need Volunteers</p> <p>NIBBLES PREP 1:30—3:30</p> <p>Estelle, Sarah, Janessa</p>	<p>21 HEB: SAT: Kala</p> <p>22 HEB: SUN: Mike A & Chris</p>
<p>23 WGD 8:30-11:30 Pat W, Nancy G</p> <p>NIBBLES BUILD 1:30-3:30</p> <p>Dee, Sarah, Janessa</p> <p>DC 1:30-3:30 Cassandra's Grp</p>	<p>24 Admin 9-11:30 Chris</p> <p>DC 9:00-11:30 Mary W</p> <p>DC 1:30-3:30 Charles, Cindy</p> <p>NIBBLES BLD 9:00-11:30</p> <p>Carolyn, Esther, Mary R</p>	<p>25 WGD 8:30-11:30 <u>Diana, Need 1 Volunteer</u></p> <p>DC 9-11:30 Charlotte</p> <p>EB 8:30-11:30 Martha</p>	<p>26 Admin 9-11:30 Chris A</p> <p>DC/10-11:30 Richard, Karyn</p>	<p>27 WGD 8:30-11:30 <u>Diana, Need 1 Volunteer</u></p>	<p>28 HEB: SAT: Kala</p> <p>29 HEB: SUN: Tom & Sue</p>
<p>30 CLOSED</p>	<p>31 Admin 9-11:30 Chris</p> <p>DC 9:00-11:30 Mary W</p> <p>DC 1:30-3:30 Charles, Cindy</p>				

