Emergency Food Box Program

God’s Pantry Food Bank’s Mission
God’s Pantry Food Bank is dedicated to reducing hunger in Kentucky through community cooperation making the best possible use of all available resources. God’s Pantry works with 350 programs in 49 counties of central and eastern Kentucky as a member of America’s Second Harvest, the Nation’s Food Bank Network. Since 1955, God’s Pantry has been serving Fayette County families in need through the Emergency Food Box Program.

About the Survey
From January 20 to February 2, 2005, a team of board members, volunteers, and staff interviewed more than 400 clients visiting our five pantry locations. This fourth annual survey gathered important data on Fayette County emergency food box recipients. Thank you to the survey team, pantry volunteers, and most importantly, the clients who made this study possible. This study is our attempt to gather more accurate information on those we serve. Please recognize that information was compiled by volunteers and staff and could reflect inaccuracies due to human error.

Pantry Locations
- Broadway Christian Church
  187 N. Broadway, 40508
- Central Christian Church
  219 E. Short St., 40507
- Nathaniel Mission
  616 DeRoode St., 40508
- Pilgrim Baptist Church
  541 Jefferson St., 40508
- St. Luke United Methodist Church
  2351 Alumni Dr., 40517

Pantries are open Monday - Friday. Four sites operate during the afternoon and one during the evening to accommodate working clients.

Transportation
- 55% rely on family and friends or use public transportation to get to a pantry
- 29% of clients own their own car
- 13% of clients walk to a pantry

58,000 pounds of food is needed monthly to stock our 5 food pantries

Referring Agencies
Almost 200 social service agencies refer clients to God’s Pantry for service. By requiring a referral, this process eliminates duplication of service and links clients with other forms of assistance. The following are a few of these referring agencies:

- Community Action
- Salvation Army
- Cabinet for Health & Family Services
- LFUCG Adult Services
- Central Christian Church
- St. Vincent de Paul Society
- Hope Center/Hopemobile
- FCPS Family Resource & Youth Service Centers
- Health Department
- CompCare
- Center for Women, Children and Families
- FCPS Migrant Program
- Manchester Center

What’s in a food box?
- 2 packages meat (ground beef, hot dogs, etc.)
- 1 dozen eggs
- 23 cans of vegetables, fruit, & soup
- 11 units of pasta, cereal, rice, flour, & dry beans
- 2 each of available USDA commodities: (juice; vegetables; canned fruit; canned pork, chicken, salmon or beef stew; rice; instant potatoes; dry beans)
- 2 packages dry milk
- 1 pound margarine
- 6 extras (condiments, coffee/tea, cookies, etc.)
- bread (as needed)
- baby food (jars, cereal, formula) (as needed)
- fresh fruits and vegetables

Food Box for a Family of Four
(total estimated value = $106)

Clients say their food box lasts an average of 12 days.
Who is Hungry in Fayette County?

**Health Status**
When clients were asked about their health status, over one-third of the adults needing assistance identified themselves as disabled or in poor health.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Adults</th>
<th>Children</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Good health</td>
<td>63%</td>
<td>93%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poor health</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disabled</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Income**
Average yearly household income is $7,803. Seventy-three percent of households needing assistance have annual incomes below $10,000.

**Employment**
Twenty-eight percent of adults are employed full or part-time.

**Ethnicity**
- White, not Hispanic: 51%
- Black, not Hispanic: 33%
- Hispanic: 9%
- American Indian: 3%
- Other: 4%

**Children**
One in two people eating from an emergency food box is a child. Access to nutritious food is critical to the development of healthy growing children.

**The typical person** visiting a pantry is a white female in her 40's with a family of three. She has a high school education and is currently unemployed but looking for work. She doesn't own a car so she must walk, ride a bus, or arrange for a ride to the pantry with family or friends.

**Zip Codes**

**Education**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Adults</th>
<th>Children</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Less than High School</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>39%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High School or GED</td>
<td>39%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trade/Tech School</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Some College</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College Graduate</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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57% of parents needing assistance skip meals so that their children can eat.

Financial, health, and employment issues are the top three reasons families need assistance.

Difficult Choices
46% had to choose between paying for food and paying their rent or mortgage in the last year.
47% had to choose between paying for food and paying for heat or utilities.
35% of clients had to choose between paying for food and paying for medicine or medical care.

51% of those surveyed said they came to God's Pantry for the first time last year.

You Can Help!

For every $1 donated God's Pantry Food Bank distributes $10 worth of food. A donation of $10.60 can provide a 12 day food supply for a family of four.