



Northeast Community Fund

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Decatur, Illinois 62523

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www.northeastcommunityfund.org

Mr. Jerome Pelz

Director

Mr. David Hinkle

Assistant Director

Mr. Jim German

Director of

Micro-Finance Program

Mrs. Gay Schmoldt

Director of

Food Operation

Mission Statement

*"To Assist the Needy
Families with the
Resources Available
in a Caring and
Christ-like Manner"*

Vision Statement

*"With the blessings the
Lord has given to us,
The Northeast Community
fund strives to be a
resource and conduit to
share those blessings
with people in need"*

Bible Verse for 2011

*"Look among the nations,
Observe! Be astonished!
And Wonder!
Because I am doing
something right now in
your time that you would
not believe even if I were
there to tell you"*
Habakkuk 1:5

Hours of Operation

Food Baskets are given out
Mon-Tues, Thurs-Fri
9:00 – 11:30, 12:30-2:00

Furniture Referrals
Wednesday – 9:00- 11:00

The Center is open:
Mon-Fri 8:00 – 4:30 p.m

APRIL NEWSLETTER

NECF FACTS

- 1,306 food baskets were given out in March
- We have given out 2,887 total food boxes so far in 2011
- So far we have helped 5,627 people with food baskets including 1,816 children
- We have assisted 200 new families with food that we have never seen before.
- Over 500 separate food or financial gifts have been given to us since January 1, 2011
- We have helped many families with furniture referrals each Wednesday
- We have helped 107 families with emergency financial assistance since January 1, 2011

We thank the Lord for blessing us so that we can be a blessing to so many people.

Gay Schmoldt is hired to be our new Director of Food Operations

Mrs. Schmoldt spent 27 years working with the Department of Human Services in the clerical department, as a case worker, a supervisor and as of the Director of Local Office Administrator. She retired and is now working with us part time as our Director of Food Operations. She will be a great addition to our team as the number of families we serve increases. She will keep all of our food organized, maintaining our food records, ordering food we need and also maintaining the food on the serving line. We are thrilled to have Gay working with us.

We're Back in Full Force

We presently have about 250 people weekly coming in to obtain free clothes. ADM has given us fantastic desks for both the food sign-in area as well as Jerry's office. J.C. Penny's gave us 10 clothing racks that we are using to display the clothes. Many of our clients come in and tell us how great the new areas look and we are thoroughly enjoying working with the new desks and all of the new items. The Lord has surely blessed us as since the fire. God has certainly put us on the "mountain top" after the fire we had on January 5th.

All of the major construction is completed and we have passed all of the inspections allowing us to have both the food and the clothing side open.

People have been bringing in donations daily. We take in donations Monday through Friday between 8:00 – 4:00.

I would encourage you to visit and see the Goodness of the Lord. We would love to give you a tour to show you our facility.

LETTER CARRIER FOOD DRIVE - MAY 14, 2011

Make sure you place some food out by your mailbox on this day. This project helps so many Food Pantries in the Decatur area and in turn will help so many families. We are blessed and let us share with those who need.

Praise Stories

1. We thank ADM for the wonderful “L” shaped desk that we’re using for the food sign-in area. What a blessing this is for us. Also ADM gave Jerry a desk and credenza for his new office. The contractors removed all of the office walls and rebuilt his office. It is great for us to have such a bright and clean workplace.

2. Thank you to J.C. Penny’s for giving us 10 clothes racks. These are functional and allow us to hang clothes in the free clothing room. This now makes the clothing room look very welcoming. What a blessing this is for us.

3. Thank you to the United Way for allowing us to share “our story” of The Northeast Community to the Decatur Labor Council at the IBEW Hall. This allows us to help even more people by telling this group as they take message back to their local unions.

4. Thank you to the many churches who have had food drives for us. That has made a huge difference as we continue to help so many families. In the March we helped 103 new families that we have never seen before.

5. In 2010 we received 830 separate food or financial gifts. So far in 2011 we have received 512 separate gifts of food or money with many people giving to us for the first time. We have even received gifts from some of our clients who come in and hand me a \$1 or \$5 bill. Knowing that many of them only get \$600-700 a month in total income - this means so much. God blesses in great ways

6. Thank you to the many individuals and families who bring food donations. All of the special donations add up to about 40% of everything we are able to hand out and this makes a significant difference in the lives of many families.

7. A mom came in telling me that her son couldn't go to school because he didn't have shoes. I called Sarah, the manager a new store at Hickory Point Mall. Sarah, gave the 13 yr boy 2 pairs of shoes for only \$36. - WOW! We paid the \$36 so this young man could get back in school. Thank you to Sarah for helping this young man -

The mom left us crying for joy.

Sarah wrote a note to us letting us know that she was thrilled to help us. “Thank you for giving me a chance to help this family. If you need anything else, I would be happy to help you again.”

God continues to bless!

8. A family came to us who didn't have didn't have a refrigerator or a stove for 6 months. They recently took in their daughter, her boyfriend, and their baby because they had nowhere to go. We learned they had been eating cold cans of vegetables, tuna & canned meat. We gave them a refrigerator, stove & kitchen items. They cried when it was delivered. They said they prayed thanking the Lord for allowing them to have their first hot meal in 6 months. We are blessed!

9. A case worker called and asked if we had a pair of steel toed work boots for a lady who just got a job. In order for her to start working that day, she needed a pair of work boots. We looked in the back and there was a pair of boots just her size - almost brand new. We also were able to give her heavy socks to go with in the boots for her. Again - God blesses! God is never late!

10. A man who lives in a tent and only has a Coleman stove. He just learned about NECF. He went through the food line came back and looked at me and asked "Do you give this much to everyone? This will last me 2-3 weeks." We gave him a homemade sleeping bag, hygiene items, can opener, and other items. Another testimony to how God blesses us to bless someone else

11. Thank you to the Methodist men for the 5,000 lbs of potatoes. We placed the potatoes in a big tote and let the families choose the amount that they could use for their family. What a tremendous blessing.

12. Thank you to the employees of Regions Bank for coming in and volunteering on our food line. They brought in much food and they took a collection Fridays that allows them to wear jeans. They donated of this money to us. We really enjoyed having all of them working with us.

God continues to pour out blessings on us so that we can bless other families. It is great!