

Woodstock Pantry ENews Brief

23 July 2023

35 volunteers offered their contributions to serve 278 people this week. Thank you, everyone, for a wonderful weekend! And thank you for your patience with the parking lot repair process!

GEARING UP THE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE

The first meeting of our Community Engagement Committee (CEC) is this week! The purposes of the CEC are: 1) to establish the WP as a sustainable food source for our community; 2) develop community resilience through collective action to build the WP; and 3) deepen our community identity as a place and people who care for each other.

The committee will do its work through three subcommittees, i.e., Volunteer Workday, Engaging Our Social Network and Nurturing Our Community. If the CEC sounds interesting to you, if you have questions or if you'd like to help on the subcommittees, let me know. There's always room for you!

[Community Engagement Planning Committee Charter.docx](#)

SIGN UP FOR JULY/AUGUST SHIFTS

There's a new sign-up sheet for July/August. The old one is closed.

Please sign up for your shifts. Remember to sign up for the weekend by the prior Thursday so we can plan. And if you can't come, please contact me right away so that I can get others to fill your position. Many thanks!

[WP Sign Up July/August](#)

ANNUAL PROGRAM EVALUATION & PLAN

We are midway through the annual program evaluation and planning process. We have finalized the [Customer Survey Report](#) and the [Volunteer Survey Report](#). In the first part of August, we will get the final piece of data, i.e., the OFB site review.

Once we have all the data in hand, we will develop our Annual Plan for next year. For now, explore the reports. As you review them, look for themes and patterns and opportunities for improvement. Send me your observations.

PRINCIPLES & PROCESSES

We enter this new year in a strong position. We worked hard to develop systems and processes to do our work. And they have helped us improve our work and our services.

Now, here's the thing about systems. Their purpose is to assist us to do our work in the most effective (not just efficient) way possible. Left unattended, they have the propensity to solidify into rigid, bureaucratic red tape.

Systems need to be durable to withstand natural entropy and shocks, e.g., sink holes. And they need to be malleable, i.e., flexible to change when they no longer meet the intended purpose or if they aren't effective.

All this to say... We have great systems and processes. And the data from our program evaluation is challenging us to reconsider some of those systems...whether they are serving the purpose for which they were designed, if they could be improved to better

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meet that purpose, etc. If we approach this data thoughtfully and with our vision guiding us, we can grow our program to the next level of excellence. Our vision?

Our community identifies as a place and people who care for each other and who demonstrate that care through collaboration and collective action to fight food insecurity.

HOT MEALS VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Hey everyone, as you know, we serve hot meals to our neighbors every Saturday. **We are looking for volunteers to fill our teams.** Each team works one Saturday each month. Currently, we are looking for volunteers for our 3rd, 4th and 5th Saturdays. The shift runs on Saturday from 9:30-12:30 and it's a load of fun! Please let me know if you have questions or are interested!

TRAINING

Training is an annual requirement for all volunteers.

1. Seasoned Volunteers - it's time to renew your training!
2. New Volunteers - Please complete your training prior to your shift.
3. New Volunteers who have already completed training - Please complete the FIFO training.

I updated all the Shift Instructions. **We all need to read them and sign off** (see *First-In, First-Out* training below). Please work to integrate the new/improved practices into your routine. Building a practice requires conscious effort. Click on the links to get to the training. After you complete the training, click on the [Volunteer Training Log](#) link to document that you have completed the training.

1. People working **all shifts** need to view the [Oregon Food Bank Food Safety Video](#) (16 minutes).
2. People who work the **Distribution shift** need to view the [Client Civil Rights & Confidentiality Video](#) (20 minutes).
3. Everyone needs to complete **First-In-First-Out** training for the shifts you work. They are included in the Shift Instructions. You will find links to your Shift Instructions on the [Volunteer Training Log](#). (10 minutes).

Celebrate...

It Takes a Community, And We Are It!