



141 East Lancaster Ave.  
Downingtown, PA 19335

Phone: 610-873-1149 Shopping phone line: 484-237-8797  
Fax: 610-873-4711

Email: [Info@LordsPantryPa.org](mailto:Info@LordsPantryPa.org)

Website:  
[www.LordsPantryofDowningtown.org](http://www.LordsPantryofDowningtown.org)

Serving the supplemental food needs of  
Downingtown, Exton and Lionville  
residents.

Hours of Operation:  
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday  
10:00 a.m. –12:30 p.m.  
Thursday 6:00 p.m.—7:30 p.m.

Lord's Pantry is an Equal Opportunity Provider

NONPROFIT ORG.  
US POSTAGE PAID  
WEST CHESTER, PA  
PERMIT, NO. 354

CURRENT RESIDENT OR

Spring 2024

On a Wing  
and a Prayer



## From Jan's Desk

Our holiday season was busy as usual and we were able to give parents a gift card to shop for every one of our registered children and a holiday meal. In addition, we also gave each of our households without children a gift card and holiday meal. Working with gift cards is not our first choice, but we do our due diligence by requiring all recipients to submit receipts to insure the cards were spent properly. We appreciate all of the support from our donors that enables us to offer this program. Just a quick note ... your comments and well wishes sent with your donations are read and appreciated.

A big thank you to all of the donors that supported our \$10,000 Donor Challenge. This year, once again, our donor increased his matching donation to \$12,000 and we raised an additional \$29,315 !

The new year at the Pantry was filled with sadness, as four of our volunteers passed away in the first three months. Kurt Dadey, Barbara Luminella, Claire McGovern and Jack Moyer each brought their compassionate and dedicated service to the Pantry for many years and will be missed immensely by their Lord's Pantry family.

It is such a welcoming sight to see nature taking its course, brightening our surroundings with color and new life! It is a time when thoughts turn to summer vacations and enjoying the outdoors. Unfortunately, not all of our neighbors look forward to the same. Now that the weather is warming up the utility companies are less lenient toward overdue bills, issuing Shut Off Notices more readily. Utility bills, gas prices and food prices continue to rise relentlessly. Many of our clients are on fixed incomes that makes it very difficult to absorb these many increases. Our clients turn to us out of desperation with many different unmet needs. We receive calls on a daily basis requesting assistance with security deposits, rental assistance, cell phone and utility bills. A very small portion of our budget has been designated through the "Director's Fund" to aid our registered clients. By partnering with many other non-profit organizations, we are able to assist several of our clients. To qualify, they must meet certain requirements, such as being able to support these expenses in the future. If you would like to support this program, you may do so by designating "Directors Fund" in the memo of your check or online donation.

Listening to our clients' personal circumstances daily makes you realize how truly blessed you are. We sincerely thank you all for your kindness and generosity that allows us to continue our mission and serve our neighbors.

Wishing you all a very happy and safe summer.

Jan Leaf  
Executive Director

Volume 20, Issue 1

### Inside this issue:

Board Corner	2
In Loving Memory	2
Volunteer Spotlights	3
Special Requests	3
Sneaker Program	4

### Special Points of Interest:

- ◆ A Special thank you to Downingtown United Methodist Church for their generosity in providing Easter meals & monetary donations.
- ◆ Thank you to the Applecross Development for their Diwali food drive
- ◆ Many thanks to DASD for their large food collection!
- ◆ Thank you to Crop's Fresh Marketplace for their continued support!

## Sneakers for Children, Seniors & Veterans

**We provide a gift card to each registered Child, Senior & Veteran to purchase a pair of sneakers. Please consider a donation.**

**One pair of sneakers is \$75**

\_\_\_\_\_ **\$75**    \_\_\_\_\_ **\$150**    \_\_\_\_\_ **\$225**    \_\_\_\_\_ **Other**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Designate donation for "Sneaker Program"**

**Visit our website to donate online: [LordsPantryofDowningtown.org](http://LordsPantryofDowningtown.org)**

**or mail donations to:**

**Lord's Pantry, 141 East Lancaster Ave., Downingtown, PA 19335**

**We are a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization.**

**Thank you for your tax deductible donation!**



# Board Corner

As the weather warms, many of us begin to think about spring and summer plans. This may include vacations, "stay-cations", attending tournaments with our young athletes, or just getting outside to enjoy the weather.

Warmer temperatures also bring out the gardener in many of us. As you are planning and planting your summer garden, please remember that we welcome your donations of fresh produce. These items are expensive to purchase and out of reach for many families. The Pantry provides fresh produce with each distribution. Your donations allow us to offer even more produce, which is so appreciated by our clients!

Additionally, school will be out shortly and without breakfast and lunch provided at school, food insecurity concerns often escalate. We provide supplemental, kid-friendly food for numerous families to help bridge the gap. Our community is incredibly generous, especially during the holiday season, but the need is year-round. I hope you will consider a donation to help fund our summer food program.

I would like to welcome our newest board member Sean Zelig and his professional experience.

Thank you for your continued support of the Lord's Pantry of Downingtown.

Sandy D'Amico  
Board President

## Volunteer Spotlights

We asked the following volunteers how long they have volunteered & what they like most about volunteering.

Sandy Byron is a 19 year volunteer and previously worked for an insurance company. She likes the many friendly volunteers and dedicated leadership at the Pantry. Sandy appreciates the large variety of healthy food choice items the Pantry has to offer to those less fortunate.

Kathy Robinson is a 15 year volunteer and retired from teaching in the Downingtown School District. She wanted to give back to the community from where she worked for 30 years. Kathy says, "I've always felt that when there is a need in this world, those that can help should. I feel honored to say I am part of the Lord's Pantry."

Kevin Zeeger is a 20 year volunteer and a former food facility inspector and home health assessor for the Chester County Health Department. He likes getting to know the clients and catching up on family and life events during their monthly visits. Kevin says, "Any good I've done for others has been returned to me tenfold by those I serve and serve with."

Cindy Britton is a 15 year volunteer and previously worked as an Executive Assistant for Sunoco. She enjoys talking with the clients, and sympathizes with many of them who are struggling, both physically and financially. Working with those less fortunate makes her feel truly blessed.

Mary Delgrande is a 7 year volunteer and a former teacher. When she decided to volunteer she wanted to make good use of her time and talents after she retired from teaching. Mary said, "I wanted to find a way to give back to my community, but what I have received in return is the love and gratitude of the people we serve."

Al Brady has been a volunteer for 22 years. In his working life he was a lawyer / businessman and has been retired for over 20 years. The Lord's Pantry mission is summarized in the statement that, No One Should Suffer from Hunger. Al says, "it has been my pleasure and privilege to have played a role in fulfilling that mission."

## Special Requests

**Fluent Spanish Speaking Volunteers needed—please email or call if available.**  
**info@Lordspantrypa.org or 610-873-1149**

**We welcome the surplus vegetables from your garden!**

**Personal care items (toothpaste, toothbrushes, shampoo, conditioner, deodorant & feminine products), cleaning supplies are greatly appreciated!**

**Our Back-to-School Distribution in August needs New Large Backpacks for Middle and High School students.**

**Backpacks and monetary donations should be submitted to the Pantry by July 25th and designated "Back-to-School."**

*"Over 50 Years of Service to the Community"*



In Loving Memory of Our Dedicated Volunteers  
Kurt Dadey  
Barbara Luminella  
Claire McGovern  
Jack Moyer

- Board Members
- Sandy D'Amico - *President*
  - Darla Dadey - *Secretary*
  - Linda McAssey - *Treasurer*
  - Karl Fetscher
  - Jan Leaf
  - Randy Longo
  - Lee Wallace
  - Kevin Zeeger
  - Sean Zelig

### Special Thanks

*We would like to recognize the following for donating to the Lord's Pantry:*

*Acme B.J.'s Crop's Giant  
Snyder's Target Wegmans*