

Medfield Food

Volume 1, Issue 16

October 2007

Annual Meeting

Wednesday,

November 7, 2007

7:00 P.M.

Piano Bar at Master's
Touch

Please plan to join us.

All are welcome



2006-2007 – The Year In Review

What a year this has been. While we haven't experienced totally empty shelves, we've worked consistently to maintain enough inventory to meet the needs of the Medfield residents we serve. There are a number of ways we've spread the word of our needs: newspaper articles, monthly email request lists to the local churches, speaking engagements at the schools, churches and community organizations, and even a segment on Cable 8, where the goal was to raise the awareness of the Food Cupboard and its services.

With the tremendous support of Medfield residents (and even some out-of-towners), we continued to service our clients every other week, providing canned goods, meats, fresh produce, breads, paper goods and beauty aids. We were able to continue distribution once a month in the summer, and supplemented our items with Shaw's SCRIP. We were even able to provide CVS gift cards once. The distribution process allows our clients to do their own shopping from an array of products we offer, and the clients have had the opportunity to select only the products they want and need. In addition to the "standard fare", we have also offered "selects" for them to choose from - items that are one of a kind or specialty items. We work to meet special dietary needs, and if necessary, we have arranged for an occasional early pick-up or home delivery.

We have been very fortunate to have the residents of Medfield supporting our efforts. Without the individuals, organizations, and businesses that donate food and provide monetary support, we simply could not meet the needs of our clients. We have been able to supplement the canned food donations with perishable items purchased through monetary and SCRIP donations. This enables the Food Cupboard to ensure that our clients receive a full range of nourishing foods. In addition, there are groups in town who provide special products for our clients, including: Easter dinner baskets, Valentine's Day goodies, pies, birthday gifts for the children and Christmas trees.

We are continually amazed at the creativity and generosity of Medfield residents as they find new ways to support our efforts as we work to meet the needs of the Food Cupboard clients.

Thank you for your continued support!

Holiday Schedule

Thanksgiving

Thursday, November 15

Christmas

Thursday, December 20

Cupboard Closed:

12/21-1/2

Reopening January 3

Many Thanks to:

SCRIP

The Medfield Schools

Blue Moon

Donut Express

Shaw's

Roche Brothers

United Church of Christ

Boy Scouts

Girl Scouts

Church of the Advent

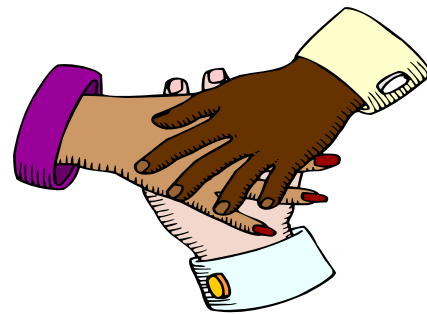
St. Edward's Church

Medfield Lions Club

First Baptist Church

Together We Make It Happen

The Medfield Food Cupboard works because of the efforts of many people and organizations in town. Each individual or group contributes a “piece of the whole” that is the Food Cupboard, and together, we make it work for the Medfield Community.



Medfield churches are one of the lynchpins of the Food Cupboard. Many thanks to the United Church of Christ—the Food Cupboard home! The UCC has provided us with much needed space and access so that we can have collection, shelving and distribution space. St. Edward’s has sponsored bag collection Sundays, where parishioners have filled grocery bags with needed items and dropped them off before services. In addition, a dozen people participated in St. Edward’s Community Service Day at the Food Cupboard, and spent their hours cleaning our bins and shelves, helping sort canned goods by expiration date, and packing for our next distribution. All of the Medfield churches support our pantry with food drives, special collections, providing holiday meals and gifts, and responding generously when we’ve asked for extra help.

The Medfield Lions’ Club has made it a point to support us by continuing their “Cupboard is Bare” campaign for foodstuffs, donating Christmas trees for our clients, and offering a coupon to each tree purchaser to designate a \$5 donation to the Medfield Food Cupboard. The Norfolk County Commissioners made a donation to the Cupboard for us to continue our efforts. Girl Scouts and Brownie troops made donations, the Boy Scouts had a food drive, and our clients had fresh produce all summer long, thanks to donations from Powisset Farm. The Postal Drive continues to be one of our largest food drives.

We all should be particularly proud of the Medfield youth. Four young boys in the Indian Hill area organized their own food drive for the Cupboard, and collected over 20 bags of non-perishable items, along with cash donations. We were the beneficiary of a Medfield girl’s 16th birthday party, where her guests donated the money they would have spent on birthday presents. Eagle Scout candidate and Food Cupboard volunteer Jason Thole built the sturdy wooden bins to be used at Shaw’s for collection, and also built storage bins for use in the Cupboard. The students of the Medfield Schools have participated in a number of projects benefiting the Food Cupboard. The Beacon Project at Dale Street provides specifically requested items for our shelves on a regular basis. Food drives have been conducted in both the Middle and High School through the Student Council and Public Service Clubs. This past year the High School students again donated over 1000 items!

Shaw’s and Roche Brothers supermarkets are extremely helpful by offering savings, pre-packaging meats, and even volunteering. Shaw’s personnel came to the Cupboard one day and worked with our volunteers to organize the shelves and monitor expiration dates. And so many Medfield residents donated their Shaw’s points that we were able to do a lot of shopping “for free”.

Thanks to everyone—Medfield proves that together we can make it happen!

Snow Policy



If school is dismissed early or cancelled due to the weather, the Food Cupboard will be open the next day (Friday) at the same hours.

Volunteers Make the Difference

Food Cupboard volunteers take on a variety of jobs. Those who shelve are responsible for checking expiration dates, sorting the items and shelving the products for easy retrieval by the packers. Volunteers are typically busier in the fall and winter, as there are several large food drives by school groups, civic organizations and businesses. Our shoppers head to the grocery store with coupons, sale flyers and SCRIP to pick up the perishable items. (We do utilize the Greater Boston Food Bank on occasion to supplement items of canned goods, frozen meats, cheese, cereals and juices at greatly reduced prices.) Packers are responsible for packing the bins of food to be carried up to the distribution center for client selection. Those who volunteer in distribution oversee the client selection process on Thursday afternoons.



These individuals have a good relationship with our clients, making the Medfield Food Cupboard a comfortable place to visit. Our volunteers also conduct tours, speak at the schools and for local groups, coordinate special drives/donations, and in general, work together to provide for our clients. It's a lot of work, but everyone seems to enjoy working at the Food Cupboard. Our volunteers are a tremendous group of people, and to them we say **"THANK YOU! You make a difference in Medfield."**

There are many ways you can help the Food Cupboard: volunteer your time, organize a food drive at your school, church, or social group, make a contribution. If you are interested in helping us continue to serve the residents of Medfield, please fill out the form below and return it to: Medfield Food Cupboard, PO Box 172 , Medfield, MA.

YES, I want to help the Medfield Food Cupboard in the following way:

___ I am interested in volunteering as a: shopper shelper packer

___ I would like to organize an event to benefit the Food Cupboard. (Please describe)

___ I wish to make a contribution in the amount of \$ _____.

___ Other (Please describe) _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Please return this form to Medfield Food Cupboard, PO Box 172, Medfield, MA 02052

2007-2008 Steering Committee

Below is the slate of officers for the Medfield Food Cupboard Steering Committee for 2007-2008. The term of office is one year, and elections will be held at the Annual Meeting on November 7, 2007, which is open to the public. Please plan to attend.

President: Beth Eby

Vice President: Caren McElhenny

Recording Secretary: Martha Sherman

Treasurer: Liz Quinn

Corresponding Secretary: Polly Hayes

Distribution: Jeanne Sullivan/Mary Ann McCarthy

Packing: Ruth Luecke

Shelving: Betty Sanders

Shopping Coordinator: Kathie Patterson

The Steering Committee meets regularly throughout the year to conduct the business of the Medfield Food Cupboard. If you are interested in serving on the Steering Committee in the future, please contact Beth Eby.

Medfield Food Cupboard

P.O. Box 172

Medfield, MA 02052