

HELP END HUNGER IN FLORENCE



Florence Food Share Facts

Who we are and What we do:

The mission of Florence Food Share is to alleviate hunger in Western Lane County, and we do this by distributing emergency food boxes to those in need. Our 250 square mile service area includes approximately 10,000 residents, of which an average of 1,750 individuals per month are Food Share clients. What this equates to is distributing close to 50,000 pounds of food each month.

An average of 25% of our clients are under the age of 18 and an average of 28% of our clients are seniors, many of whom are on a fixed income.

Food Share has a very small staff, and an all volunteer board that works many hours each month on behalf of Food Share. We also are blessed to have the help of 125 volunteers, who in 2014 contributed over 11,000 hours of their time to help our organization.

One of the highlights of our food pantry is our 15,000 square foot (non-certified) organic garden, with 52 raised vegetable beds and 2 High Tunnel greenhouses. It is now affectionately called Food

Share Farm, as it is much more than a garden. From our mini-farm, we distributed 9,745 lbs. of produce to our clients in 2015.

What we Need:

Approximately 40% of the food we distribute is purchased from our county food bank in Eugene, Food for Lane County. Because we are able to purchase food from them at a deep discount, we are able to access and distribute 65 pounds of food for every dollar donation we receive. For this reason, it is much better for us to receive cash instead of canned food.

Having said that, there are a few items that FFLC rarely offers. These are: canned tuna, chili, beef stew, peanut butter, mac-n-cheese, tomato products, spaghetti sauce and toilet paper.

There are several ways anyone can help Food Share, which cost nothing. One program is called the Amazon Smile program. Through a program that Amazon.com has set up, a portion of every

purchase you make goes directly to Food Share, at no cost to you. Go to www.smile.amazon.com

Another program that sends a portion of your purchase directly to Food Share, is the Fred Meyer Community Rewards Program. At no cost to you, a portion of your purchase is donated to Food Share. Go to: <https://www.fredmeyer.com/topic/community-rewards-4>

WISHING EVERYONE A VERY HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON!!!

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