

Spring/Summer 2016

Spotlight on: Renovations to the pantry and its impact on our services

**Bienvenidos
Outreach, Inc.
A Food Pantry**

Volume 4, Issue 1

Thanks to a generous couple who started a \$30,000.00 Matching Challenge, we were able to start on renovations to our food pantry in February.

With over \$71,000.00 raised and one-third of the money earmarked for renovations, we replaced 9 household-style refrigerators and freezers with 2 new commercial freezers and 1 new commercial refrigerator. We also purchased 8 stainless steel food-grade work tables and 6 more food-grade shelving systems. We are now in the middle of repainting the entire office and putting in a more secure half-wall between the waiting area and food box preparation station.

The renovations are important to our mission for a number of reasons. By using only commercial refrigeration, we will experience less breakdowns of equipment (household refrigeration systems are not made to be opened and closed numerous times daily). We are also saving money in energy costs (last month's electricity bill was \$200.00 less than the prior month), and are able to keep perishable foods fresher and at safe temperatures for our clients. The savings in our electric bill will allow us to purchase more food, which, of course, is what we

prefer to do!

Reducing the amount of refrigerator systems and redesigning our back room for food storage opens up work space, which makes for a safer environment for our volunteers and better inventory control.

The final stages of our renovations are the completion of the half-wall and painting of the walls. This will probably take another month to do as we are committed to keeping the pantry open for our clients while we worked on our project.

We want to thank everyone who donated to the Challenge and the volunteers helping with the renovations. We also extend an invitation to everyone to visit us and see for yourself the wonderful changes happening at the pantry!

We couldn't do it without you!



Photo above: commercial freezers in the box prep area. **Photo right:** The new food storage area. **Photo below:** new stainless steel tables and a fresh coat of paint in our food box prep area.



FY2015-2016 Totals: (as of 3/31/16)

<i>New applications</i>	429
<i>Boxes given out</i>	10,953
<i>Lunches handed out</i>	10,531
<i>Visits to clothing room</i>	4,595
<i>Volunteer hours donated</i>	10,518
<i>Number of seniors served</i>	590
<i>Number of children served</i>	1,534

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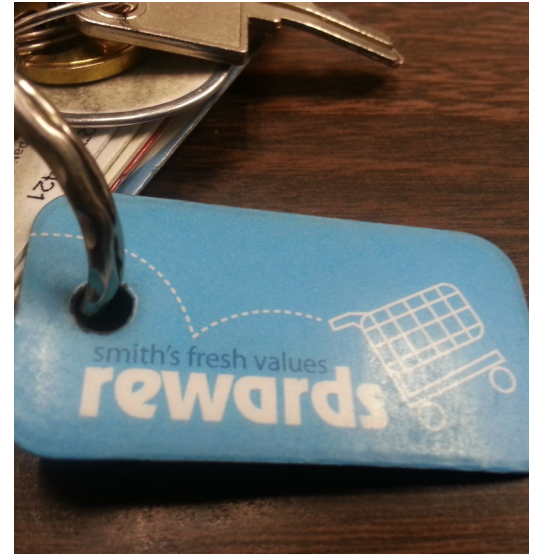
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- 1) Visit www.smithscommunityrewards.com
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You'll start earning rewards for our organization right away on qualifying purchases made using your Smith's rewards Card!

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Eldorado Farmers' Market 2016 Season To Begin June 3, 2016

Now entering our eighth season as the operators of the market, we wish to extend a big thank you to all our vendors and shoppers who have consistently made the Eldorado Farmers' Market a huge success.

Located at La Tienda at Eldorado, the convenience of its location, easy access parking and weekly drawing for the chance to win a basket full of items sold at the market has become a favorite Friday afternoon destination for all who attend.

The market is a fundraiser for Bienvenidos Outreach through collection



of stall fees, sales of hot dogs and sausages, and selected arts and crafts donated by generous locals. Funds received from the market go towards buying healthy food for our clients, with a heavy emphasis on nutritious breakfast food and snacks for children.

The market also serves as a drop off

spot for donations of food, clothing, personal care items and of course, monetary donations are gladly accepted, too.

We'd love to have you join us at the market and please, make sure and stop by the Bienvenidos Outreach table to find out more about our various programs. Interested in volunteering at the market? Call us or drop by the market and find out more!

This year, our new hours of operation are 3:30pm-6:30pm every Friday, June 3-October 14, 2016.

See you at the market!

(photo left: Eldorado Farmers' Market—center court of market)

HONOR SOMEONE SPECIAL IN YOUR LIFE WITH A DONATION TO BIENVENIDOS

OUTREACH IN THEIR NAME: This is a great gift for the person who has everything or for someone who loves to give back to their community. We will send out a lovely card to your honoree (all cards are made by local artists) and send you a notification when it goes out. Send us your information on the honoree (name and address) along with your check or give us a call at the number below to use a credit card.

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