# Saint Patrick's

# Newsletter



Holiday Food Donations Program Highlight Introducing Elizabeth Sanon Employee Appreciation at the Food Bank of Delaware Annual Fund Drive Health Expo Welcoming New Board Members

Wish List/Volunteering

Since January, St. Patrick's Center has more than doubled the amount of food we distribute. The need has grown from an average of 28 people to 78 people standing in the food line each day. We anticipate this need will continue to grow as inflation continues to impact those we serve. Thanks to our supporters, devoted staff, and other community partners, St. Patrick's Center continues to meet the needs of our neighbors.

As the weather becomes colder and we begin preparing for Thanksgiving and the winter holidays, let us find warmth in our reflections of gratitude. Recent highlights include welcoming our new Food Program Director, Elizabeth Sanon, celebrating our magnificent employees at an event hosted by one of our invaluable partners, the Food Bank of Delaware, hosting a Health Expo attended by Congresswoman Lisa Blunt Rochester, gaining the commitment of three new board members, Marian E. Burt, Christine M. Dougherty, and the Very Reverend Joseph W. McQuaide, IV.

We couldn't do this work without your support. Together, we aim to assist our neighbors as they continue working toward overcoming everyday challenges.

Sincerely,

Peter Slattery, Executive Director peter.slattery@stpatrickscenter.org 302-652-6219





#### **Holiday Food Donations**

Thanksgiving is just around the corner. We really appreciate your donations and offers of support. It would be most beneficial to our neighbors if we could receive your Thanksgiving Food Donations by Friday, November 11.

#### Most requested items include:

- Smaller turkeys (less than 12 pounds)
- 🗱 Corn bread mix
- Macaroni
- Canned green beans, peas, and corn
- Stovetop stuffing
- Canned cranberry sauce
- Fresh potatoes, sweet potatoes, and yams
- Instant potatoes
- Small boxes of rice
- Cans of soup
- Fresh fruit: apples, oranges, and pears



Please contact our Food Program Director, Elizabeth Sanon, at <u>elizabeth.sanon@stpatrickscenter.org</u> if you have any questions or are interested in finding out about other ways you can help provide food to our neighbors.

## **Program Highlight: Providing Food**

St. Patrick's Center provides at least four days' worth of groceries and a hot breakfast to our neighbors five days a week.

#### Free Groceries from our Food Pantry

Monday through Friday from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm, and one Saturday a month from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm. Please bring a bag.

#### **Hot Breakfast**

Monday through Friday from 9:00 am to 10:30 am.

#### **Upcoming Saturday Food Distributions**

November 19, December 17.

#### Introducing Elizabeth Sanon, Food Program Director

St. Patrick's Center is delighted to introduce our Food Program Director, Elizabeth Sanon. She began directing our food program at the end of April and leads our dedicated food distribution team. Her extensive background in food procurement and food sourcing leadership has already made a tremendous impact here at St. Patrick's Center, strengthening partnerships and increasing the amount and variety of foods provided to our neighbors.

Prior to expanding the food distribution program at St. Patrick's Center, Elizabeth directed strategy for food sourcing, built partnerships with vendors, and led procurement efforts at Philabundance in Philadelphia. She began her career in food banking in 2013 in the greater Pittsburgh area when she served AmeriCorps VISTA, a national service program designed to alleviate poverty.

Elizabeth said, "It's a pleasure working with the talented staff at St. Patrick's Center and discovering new ways to better serve our neighbors." A resident of Wilmington, Elizabeth enjoys working closer to home.

For information about donating food items or hosting a food drive to benefit St. Patrick's Center, please contact Elizabeth Sanon, Food Program Director, at <u>elizabeth.sanon@stpatrickscenter.org</u>.

#### **Employee Appreciation**

On September 13, St. Patrick's Center celebrated our dedicated and talented employees at the Food Bank of Delaware. This fun celebration was hosted by the Food Bank of Delaware's job training program in culinary arts.

#### **Annual Fund Drive**

As our community faces the challenges of inflation and strives to recover from the impacts of COVID-19, requests for support are outpacing our resources. Our food lines are getting longer each week. Please consider donating to our annual fund, which runs through 12/31/2022. All gifts are welcome, and we appreciate your generosity.

#### **Health Expo**

Congresswoman Lisa Blunt Rochester attended and spoke at the Health Expo at St. Patrick's Center on 9/17. This event helped connect community service providers to neighborhood seniors. A member of our senior center, Marian Burt, organized and managed this exciting event, which showcased 18 vendors.

#### Welcome Our New Board Members

Our work wouldn't be possible without the leadership and support of our devoted board of directors. On September 20, we welcomed three new board members!

**Marian E. Burt** is an active member of our Senior Center. Her background includes a career in insurance and community leadership experience in the areas of early childhood education and breast cancer awareness. She was the first President of the Metropolitan Wilmington Urban League Gild and currently serves as their Treasurer. Marian describes St. Patrick's Center as "a hidden gem" and is looking forward to helping us strengthen our efforts in community service education, communications, fundraising, diversity and inclusion, outreach, program evaluation, and event planning.

**Christine M. Dougherty** offers an extensive background in marketing. She is passionate about our mission of building community, addressing poverty, and restoring hope by meeting basic needs with respect and dignity. Christine is eager to support the board's marketing committee and share her insight and experience to help us bridge our work with public awareness and fundraising plans.

**The Very Reverend Joseph W. McQuaide, IV** is the Rector of the Cathedral of Saint Peter and Pastor of Saint Mary of the Immaculate Conception and Saint Patrick Parishes. As our next-door neighbor, Father McQuaide serves our community every day. He is interested in helping us deepen our connections with community and enhancing a range of areas in communications, human resources, program evaluation, and policy development.

#### **In-Demand Items**

We appreciate all clothing and food donations. Aside from our specific holiday needs, there are items we need every day. Below is a list of items that are currently in higher demand.

#### Groceries

Canned Fruit	/Vegetables	Canned Soup (Pull-Tab Preferred)	Peanut Butter & Jelly
Canned Chic	ken	Pasta	Ramen Noodles
Canned Tuna	3	Spaghetti Sauce	Cereal
Clothing			
Boys & Girls	Clothes	New Towels	Wallets
Belts		New Socks	Purses & Jewelry
Women's Int	terview Outfits	Shoes (Sneakers, Work Boots)	Coats
New Linens		Hats, Gloves, Scarves	Blankets
Other			
A Commerci	al Coffee Grinder	Laundry Detergent	Can Openers
Disposable F	lazors	Toothbrushes & Toothpaste	Deodorant
Folding Shop	oping Carts	Sanitary Products	Body Wash
Insulated Fo	od Bags	Used Glasses & Sunglasses (Prescription or Reading)	

## **Volunteer Opportunities**

**Clothes Sorting** 

Food Distribution

Senior Activities

St. Patrick's Center is always looking for individuals, families, or groups to help support our mission. Please call us at 302-652-6219 for more information.



St. Patrick's Center is an independent 501c3 nonprofit organization. Donations are tax-deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law.

#### www.stpatrickscenter.org

#### Board of Directors

Joseph L Yacyshyn, Chairman • Theresa Young, Vice-Chairman • RT Christopher, Treasurer • Nancy W Law, Secretary Kay F Anderson • Rev Chris Baretta OSFS • Marian E Burt • Christine M Dougherty • Joe P Farley, Jr • Winifred Gray-Payne Joseph P Hickey • Carvella Jackson • Dr Stephen T Lawless • Michael McDermott • Fr Joseph W McQuaide, IV