



lakeview pantry

EMERGENCY FOOD DISTRIBUTION SINCE 1970

Lakeview Pantry

Lakeview Pantry, founded in 1970, distributes over one million pounds of food each year to individuals in need in the Lakeview community. In addition to providing groceries, we help clients address the issues which often lead to food insecurity, such as unemployment and housing instability. Every month over 2,600 individuals are served through its two distribution centers, home delivery program, case management services, and clothing distribution.

Please see below for more facts about our **services**, our **clients**, and **how to help**.

General Facts:

- Lakeview Pantry operates from two sites:

Lakeview Pantry (East)

3831 N. Broadway

773-525-1777

Distribution on M, W, F afternoons

Lakeview Pantry (West)

1414 West Oakdale

773-404-6333

Distribution on T, R evenings; Sat. mornings

- Lakeview Pantry is a non-profit organization with the mission of eliminating hunger in our community by: providing food to fill the basic need of hungry people, increasing the independence of our clients through self-help initiatives and other innovative programs, and raising awareness of poverty and its solutions.
- Lakeview Pantry is seen as a model organization in the food security industry. In 2007 we received the “Outstanding Agency Award” from the Greater Chicago Food Depository. The award recognizes excellence in five key areas: client services, operational processes, staff and volunteer development, financial management, and community outreach.
- In 2009 we distributed over 1.1 million pounds of food through more than 30,000 visits by people in need.
- Each month an average of 2,600 clients visit our sites and 180 disabled or homebound clients receive food through our Home Delivery Program.
- We provide food distribution and case management services to anyone in need between Irving Park Road and Fullerton Ave., and from Damen Ave. to Lake Michigan. If a visitor lives outside these boundaries, we will serve them once and refer them to a food pantry closer to their home.
- We provide individuals and families with enough food to last approximately two weeks. They receive this allotment once a month. In addition, they are welcome to return once a week to pick up fresh bread and produce to supplement their meals.
- Our food comes from several sources:
 - Approximately 50% of our food comes from the Greater Chicago Food Depository. They charge us \$.08 per pound.

- We utilize donations from local stores, including Trader Joes, Whole Foods, and 7-11, among many others. They provide us with the food items that would otherwise be thrown away. Some convenience stores give us pre-packaged sandwiches and other items appropriate for our “no-cook” bags given to homeless clients.
- In addition to these donations, we purchase specific, highly nutritious food ourselves to ensure that clients get variety and a good nutritional balance. The money for direct purchases comes primarily from foundation grants, individual donations, and a small federal grant.
- Individuals and community groups donate food directly or host food drives for our benefit.
- Less than 3% of our \$1,030,000 annual budget is provided by government funding.
- In 2009, approximately 67% of our donations came from individuals, and 31% came from local businesses, community groups, religious organizations, and corporate and philanthropic foundations.

Our Services

- We provide on-site food distribution, a home delivery service for disabled clients, distribute free clothing, and have a case management program to help clients connect with other services they may need to address the root issues leading to hunger.
- Lakeview Pantry was one of the first pantries in the city to offer food distribution to the homeless. To serve these individuals, we purchase or obtain donations of specially packaged foods that do not require a refrigerator, can-opener, or storage.
- We also provide clothing, hygiene products, and other household items which cannot be purchased with food stamps.
- Lakeview Pantry provides case management services through the Bootstraps program to help clients address urgent issues such as employment, housing, and health problems.
 - The Bootstraps program offers small grants to select individuals facing an urgent problem. For example, this program might be used to help a homeless client provide a security deposit on an apartment.
 - In 2007 we launched the Job Search Support Program. Participants work closely with the Director of Client Services to find stable employment. They are given pre-paid cell phones and CTA cards to aid their search and have access to a Lakeview Pantry client computer for online job searching and applications.
- In addition to on-site distribution of food, Lakeview Pantry operates a Home Delivery Program for elderly or disabled clients. We are one of the only pantries in the region which offer this service.

- We deliver groceries to an average of 180 elderly and disabled clients every month. Three Saturdays per month, 30 to 40 volunteers help with the process of packing and delivering food to these individuals.
- We depend on the kindness of volunteers to operate our food programs. We currently have over 400 active volunteers who assist with food distribution, home delivery, and picking up donations from local grocery stores. We would have to hire nine additional full-time staff to accomplish the work our volunteers do.

Our Clients

- Those we see are of every race, religion, age, nationality, and background.
- The average monthly income for our clients is less than \$750.
- 35.5% of our clients are seniors; 4% are homeless; 14% are veterans; approximately 52% live with physical or mental illness.

How to Help

- Those interested in supporting Lakeview Pantry can bring donations of food, clothing, or hygiene and household products to 3831 North Broadway Monday through Friday from 9am - 5pm. In addition, donations can be made at 1414 West Oakdale on Tuesday and Thursday evenings 6:30pm – 8pm, and Saturdays 11:30am-1pm. For more information on donations of food or clothing, contact Jenny Dwyer at 773-525-1777 x.12 or jenny@lakeviewpantry.org.
- Monetary donations can be sent to 3831 North Broadway, or made via secure payment online. We are also able to assist with employer matching gifts, planned gifts, and gifts of stock.
- Many volunteer opportunities are available to fit any interest and schedule. Daytime and evening positions are available 6 days a week. For more information contact Erin Stephens, Director of Volunteers, at 773-525-1777 x.15 or erin@lakeviewpantry.org.