

RELIGIOUS COUNCIL NEWS

DES MOINES AREA RELIGIOUS COUNCIL



RESOLUTION ON EMERGENCY FOOD PANTRY AS RECOMMENDED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF CROP AND OTHER HUMAN NEEDS OF THE DES MOINES AREA RELIGIOUS COUNCIL.

WHEREAS there are strong efforts by public and private agencies dealing with root causes of hunger in the Des Moines Area, and

WHEREAS there seems to be a real need for emergency food distribution and also a great need for centralizing and coordinating the reception and distribution of food supplies, and

WHEREAS it appears that the unemployment-recession status of the economy will continue for an undefined period of time, and

WHEREAS people get hungry twelve months of the year and not just at Thanksgiving and Christmas --

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED: That

The Department of CROP and other Human Needs of the Des Moines Area Religious Council will meet the above need to the best of its ability by:

- 1) establishing in the basement of Kirkside, 3807 Grand Avenue, a center for reception and storage of canned and packaged foods,
- 2) promoting one week a month as food pantry week throughout the Religious Community of the Greater Des Moines Area,
- 3) and promoting cooperation of West Des Moines Opportunity Center and Bidwell-Riverside Center as existing food pantries and establishing at least three new food pantry outlets in other areas of the city, strategically located in relation to the need.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

* That if this resolution is adopted by the Administrative Cabinet of the Des Moines Area Religious Council, the Department of CROP and other Human Needs of the DMARC be empowered to implement the project.

* Adopted unanimously by the Administrative Cabinet of the Des Moines Area Religious Council on February 17, 1976

GUIDELINES FOR THE DES MOINES AREA EMERGENCY FOOD PANTRY

- 1) The purposes of the Emergency Food Pantry are: (a) to help persons to be free from hunger, but also to free them from dependency upon agencies. (b) to provide help for short term emergencies only, with on-going needs the responsibility of the Department of Social Services.
- 2) When persons request services from a center outside the area in which they reside, the center serving the area will be informed. All centers will keep accurate records of services rendered on the agreed upon forms.
- 3) Per Day Need: The Extension Service will be requested to provide recommended nutritious food lists that include ethnic diet preferences. The DMARC will encourage cash gifts also to help fill the gap in availability of essential foods.
- 4) If family management problems are indicated, follow-up by the neighborhood center staff must be made before further assistance is given. Cooperation will be sought with other agencies such as Extension Service, Family Services and others.
- 5) Efforts will be made for after hour help when needed.
- 6) Definition of Emergency: (a) Permanence of the agencies makes that determination somewhat automatic. (b) When a need is validated and the necessary resources are not available to that person or family, an emergency is established. (c) The length of an emergency period will be limited to four or five days, depending upon circumstances such as weekends, holidays, etc. (d) There will be flexibility in administering these guidelines for special circumstances of need, such as some elderly living alone on very limited incomes.

* * * * *

SEVEN COOPERATING AGENCIES AND THEIR DIRECTORS

✓ 1) Bidwell - Riverside Center	Robert C. Johnson	1203 Hartford	244-6251
→ 2) Chesterfield Center	William C. Brewton	2744 Maury	265-5336
✓ 3) Delaware <u>Community</u> Center	Sharon E. Brooks	2666 N.E. Broadway	265-5357
✓ 4) Logan Opportunity Center	Marcus Aurelius	1725 E. University	265-5691
✓ 5) Salvation Army Temple Corps Community Center	David Grindle	1330 - 6th Ave.	282-3422
✓ 6) West D.M. Opportunity Center	Barbara Long	612 Walnut WDM	255-1131
× 7) Woodland- <u>Oakridge</u> Center	Lena Smith	905 - 18th St.	288-6900

SUGGESTED DONATIONS TO THE DES MOINES AREA EMERGENCY FOOD PANTRY

NOTE: NO home canned food is acceptable due to regulations set by the Department of Health.

Foods should be canned or packaged with good "shelf life" since we don't know the time span within which they will be used.

FOODS

- Fruit juices (including Tang)
- Dry Cereal, Oatmeal, Cracked Wheat
- Milk (Powered)
- Crackers (graham, soda)
- Soups
- Canned Meat (chicken, tuna, etc.)
- Peanut butter
- Canned fruits

FOODS

- Canned Vegetables
- Casserole in packages
- Sugar
- Coffee - Tea
- Rice - Beans
- Bisquick
- Shortening

EMERGENCY FOOD PANTRY LAUNCH WEEK

May 10 - 16, 1976

Gathering of foods in any and all Worship Services

5/16
- MON - SUN

FROM JUNE ON, EMERGENCY FOOD WEEK WILL BEGIN THE 2nd MONDAY THROUGH THE 3rd SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH

WHERE TO BRING FOODS - 3807 Grand Avenue, Kirkside-home of the Des Moines Area Religious Council (for delivery purpose only)--enter driveway and go to rear of Kirkside, deliver Emergency Foods through designated door.

WHEN TO BRING FOODS?

LAUNCH PERIOD - Monday and Tuesday, May 17 - 18

8:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon

6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

THEREAFTER: the Monday and Tuesday following each Emergency Food Pantry Week

SUGGESTION: when possible team up with neighborhood synagogues and churches to avoid unnecessary driving.

WILL YOU HELP STAMP OUT HUNGER RIGHT HERE AT HOME??

The preceding three pages tell the story of a new opportunity we have in the Des Moines area of trying to be sure that no person need go hungry again. We are challenging the entire religious community, Catholic, Jewish, Protestant, Orthodox, and any other groups to join hands in providing canned and packaged foods as indicated on the preceding pages to be distributed through the seven public and private agencies committed to being channels through which food will reach those with emergency needs. The Launch Period and the ongoing monthly emergency food pantry ingathering are all spelled out in detail, along with the specific times when foods are to be brought to Kirkside. The enclosed "guidelines" were agreed to by the directors of the seven participating agencies as they met several times to put together this whole opportunity.

The preceding three pages of information were presented to 48 persons from 28 congregations representing 15 denominational families that attended the emergency food pantry launch at Central Un. Presbyterian Church on April 19. Also this same information was presented to the 70 registrants representing 36 congregations and groups at the Spring Delegate Assembly of the DMARC at Grace Un. Methodist Church on April 26.

If each person or family participating in a worship experience at any time during midweek services, synagogue services, Saturday worship and Mass services, and Sunday worship, would bring just one canned or packaged food item per month, the resources would be adequate to care for every emergency food need. Do YOU care that much about hunger right here at home?? We are sure you do.