



# ProVisions

Spring 2020

*The Quarterly Newsletter of the Auburn Food Bank*

---

*From the editor:* ProVisions welcomes your comments and suggestions. Please send them to:

The Auburn Food Bank  
P.O. Box 464  
Auburn, Washington 98071-0464

253-833-8925  
e-mail: [debbiec@theauburnfoodbank.org](mailto:debbiec@theauburnfoodbank.org)

Reproduction of ProVisions in part or in whole without permission of The Auburn Food Bank is prohibited.

*Dedicated to Helping People in Need by Collecting and Distributing Basic Resources*



Return Service Requested

Non-profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Auburn, WA  
Permit # 596

*The Auburn Food Bank*  
930 18th Place NE  
P.O. Box 464  
Auburn, Washington 98071-0464



**We need any and all donations but do have a list of requests.**

**Canned meats  
Canned meals  
Boxed meals  
Soups**

**Diapers – sizes 3 – 4 – 5 – 6**

*We don't give up in Auburn and together, we will take care of each other and  
**WE WILL GET THROUGH THIS!***



## Mission Statement

The Auburn Food Bank provides food, referrals and emergency assistance to those in need within The Auburn School District

## Officers

### President

Dana Hinman

### Vice-President

Laura Kniss

### Secretary

Chris Farrell

### Treasurer

Jamie Bothell

### Immediate Past President

Terri Herren

### Executive Director

Debbie Christian

## Board of Directors

Ann Beurskens

Tracie Bryant

Mane Cervantes

Chuck Folsom

Dennis Grad

Sandi Green

Carol Greiling

John Gustafson

Craig Koester

Lois McCrabb

Antonio Mendoza

Tracy Radcliff

Cyndi Rapier

Nichole Thomas

## Advisors

Leila Booth

Sue Bregel

David Jarvey

Robert Klontz

Jack Laverty

Pete Lewis

Peter LaPointe

Jeani Rottle

JoAnn Swanson

# Director's Report

## Who knew life would change so drastically?!

COVID19 has certainly thrown a wrench into our everyday life! Here at the food bank, we feel like we have gone back 10 years in our mode of operation! Sadly, we are back to "pre-bagging" food, rather than our shopping model which we were just able to start 18 months ago. This is hard on all of us – more labor on our part and less food to the homes.

We lost our "seasoned" volunteers who we are so dependent upon – but in their place came those who lost their work and want to stay busy! We can't wait to see our "seasoned" group back (as they are family to us) but we are so grateful to the "new family" that have joined our ranks! We truly thank each and every person and company that has stepped up to volunteer!

I think the biggest struggle we have seen is the anxiety everyone has over their jobs. Those that work – have never been home this long without pay. High anxiety and fear are ruling their daily life. Add to that – homeschooling kids! (There is a reason some of us are not teachers!) While we are working desperately to make sure they have food, almost every phone call is for financial help. True – they can't be evicted and their utility bills are suspended. But...other bills are still coming in! And landlords and companies are still sending out notices of bills due. And we all know that at the end of COVID19 – what will face them daily – is the stack of bills that now have to be paid. But with what? They (we) have been home without income. How does one magically come up with 3-4 months worth of income to now pay all those bills that "weren't due" – until they are?

YOU are their hope! YOU are the answer to their anxiety! YOU never disappoint!

I love the quote: Never give up - Never surrender!

We won't as long as we have YOU!



*Debbie Christian,  
Executive Director*

## Our Empty Bowls are truly empty this year but the needs of the Auburn Community are overflowing!



Our nation and our community of Auburn are experiencing something we could never have imagined! Businesses are closed, small business is suffering, people are laid off and furloughed, all causing the need for help. The Auburn Food Bank remains open during this time to get food to the people who need it. A big THANK YOU to all the Food Bank employees and to ALL of our volunteers who have opened their hearts and walked through our doors to help. We are taking precautions to reduce the risk of the spread of COVID 19 by limiting the number of clients in the building at one time, giving them a squirt of hand sanitizer and going back to supplying a premade box of food and supplies.

Unfortunately some key fundraiser events that support the Food Bank have needed to be canceled due to social distancing requirements.

Here is a list of the losses

Auburn School District Food Drive -Loss of approximately \$100,000 in food and cash donations

Empty Bowls - Loss of approximately \$15,000 in cash donations

Postal Carriers Food Drive - 35,000 pounds in donations

Scouting for Hunger – 3,000 pounds in donations

We want to give a special shout out to the Auburn School District where many teachers donated the amount of a day's pay to us and raised approximately \$68,000!

Also a big thank you to Hunting for Hunger in Lakeland Hills, and the Food Drive at the Outlet Collection on April 18th. These two events brought in \$9300 and 5200 in pounds

Many other businesses and individuals have donated during this time and ALL is greatly appreciated! Your continued support to make a difference in the lives of others – does not go unnoticed!