Your Neighbors Are Hungry

FACTS ABOUT HUNGER IN OUR AREA:

- Palm Beach County has the highest percentage of food insecure individuals and children in South Florida, 15.1% of the population or 202,100 people.
- 23.6% of children in Palm Beach County are food insecure. 63,660 children go to bed hungry.
- 1 in 7 Floridians over the age of 60 are food insecure, according to National Foundation to End Senior Hunger. Food insecure seniors are: 60% more likely to experience depression; 53% more likely to report a heart attack; and 52% more likely to develop asthma.
- 69% of the food insecure population in Palm Beach County qualify for SNAP (Foods Stamps) and other federal nutrition programs. Therefore 31% do not and rely on emergency food assistance programs like JFS’ Jacobson Family Food Pantry to help them meet their basic needs.

FACTS ABOUT JFS’ JACOBSON FAMILY FOOD PANTRY

- This past year, JFS has distributed 175,000 pounds of food through the Jacobson Family Food Pantry.
- Through 140 food drives held throughout the year, 33,000 pounds of food was collected.
- The Jacobson Family Food Pantry currently serves over 600 households who either shop at the Pantry bi-weekly or receive bi-weekly home deliveries.
- Clients receive 10 non-perishable food items, a bag full of fresh produce, shelf stable milk, challah and paper products.

FAQ’s

- How does one qualify for the Jacobson Family Food Pantry?
  - Contact JFS at 561.852.3333 to receive an application and to find out more information. Recipients need to meet certain financial criteria in order to qualify.

- What is SNAP and how does one qualify?
  - The acronym SNAP stands for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, and offers nutrition assistance to millions of eligible, low-income individuals and families and provides economic benefits to communities. JFS can assist in completing an application. Call JFS 561.852.5048 to set up an appointment.

- What can I do to help?
  - Host a food drive - at your place of employment, in your neighborhood, with your club/organization, school. Contact Julie Weisberg at 561-852-3380 or juliew@ralesjfs.org.
  - Bag or deliver groceries. Request a volunteer application and get more details by contacting the JFS’ Belford Family Volunteer Department at 561-852-3333.
  - Help during Hurricane Season – Volunteers are needed to join the JFS Storm Alert Team who will check on Food Pantry clients and other seniors in our community who live alone before and after any major storm. Register on-line at www.ralesjfs.org/stormvol.