



Coldwater recognizes the importance of fulfilling needs in the Lee's Summit community.

Coldwater's Food Pantry & Clothes Closet are open 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. on the second and fourth Saturdays of each month at 1101 NE Independence Ave., Lee's Summit, Mo. (Community of Christ Church) During the holidays, the schedule may be adjusted.

Known as Friends Days, these Saturdays also include the **Senior Mobile Pantry** and a **Hot Lunch Program**.

Coldwater monitors needs in the Lee's Summit community, constantly expanding the services it provides on Friends Days and throughout the year.

FUNDRAISING

The Food Pantry & Clothes Closet are supported by two major Coldwater fundraisers during the year. Coldwater's annual Winterfest gala in February raises funds for all of the Coldwater programs. In August, Coldwater's Crank Out Hunger bike ride specifically raises funds for the Food Pantry & Clothes Closet. Please check out the Coldwater website (www.coldwater.me) for more information about these events.

**Fulfilling
needs in
Lee's Summit**



The Food Pantry was started in January 2009 by the founders of Coldwater with a few bags of groceries and a heart for serving a recognized need in Lee's Summit. Today, it distributes three bags of groceries to individuals every Friends Day. Every year the Food Pantry gives away more than 60,000 pounds of food. Coldwater purchases food for the pantry from Harvesters, where as little as \$5 can buy 50 pounds of food, equivalent to approximately six bags of groceries.

Volunteers come on the Friday before Friends Days to unload food deliveries and set up for the following day. On Friends Day, some 30 volunteers sort and bag food, welcome friends and carry out bags of food.

During the distribution time, friends and volunteers enjoy a meal, fellowship and children's activities.

At Christmastime, Coldwater volunteers also organize a Christmas Adoptions program. Almost 650 children are adopted each year by generous donors.

The Clothes Closet began with a handful of moms wanting to share their children's outgrown clothes as an act of service and outreach. They spread a few baskets of clothes out on tables in hopes someone would show up with a need.



Today, the Clothes Closet opens twice a month in conjunction with the Food Pantry, serving as many as 200 friends. Two baskets of clothes have now grown to more than 25 racks of clothing, shoes and linens.

As the program has grown, the leadership team has developed an organizational system for both the clothing and the many volunteers who are essential to the program. On days prior to the pantry, volunteers sort and then hang the clothes by size and gender. On Friends Days, volunteers check friends in and out, help them make selections and replenish racks.

The Closet distributes around 1,500 articles of clothing each Friends Day, yet there's always enough for the next time. The donations needed the most are children's clothing, new socks and underwear in all sizes, and gently used blankets, towels and bedding.



Senior Mobile Pantry serves shut-ins without transportation. Coldwater volunteer drivers deliver groceries and companionship on scheduled Friends Days. Between 35 and 50 seniors in Lee's Summit are served by the Senior Mobile Pantry. Delivery volunteers donate their time and resources to make these deliveries.



HOT LUNCH PROGRAM

A bond develops among those who sit down to share a meal. Coldwater's Hot Lunch Program provides an opportunity to build friendships by sharing a meal together. What started out as coffee and donuts for friends visiting the Food Pantry & Clothes Closet quickly evolved into a hot meal twice a month. As volunteers and Coldwater friends dine together, barriers come down and relationships form. Six to 12 volunteers help facilitate the meal program, in addition to those who visit with friends. In 2011, the Hot Lunch Program received the Harvesters Circle of Hope Award for its on-site meal program. About 150 meals are served each Friends Days.



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