

Food Pantry, LAX



COVID-19 Updates to Pantry Service

The coronavirus (Covid-19) and its associated shelter-in-place orders affected the Food Pantry LAX as it did the rest of the community, country, and world. When the orders came and the reality of the new world in which we were operating became obvious, we closed for a week to determine how to continue our operation. We had a concern for our older volunteers who we were told were most vulnerable to the virus. We had a concern for our clients and how to protect them from us, us from them, and them from each other in the

process of distributing food.

After a healthy discussion, we reduced the number of volunteers to a level that allowed reasonable social distancing. We all donned the now ubiquitous face masks. We became even more religious in wearing gloves. We took steps to accelerate the distribution of food so clients did not linger long at the Pantry and lines were kept short. We also stationed a volunteer outside the premises to inform clients about what we were doing and to encourage social distancing.



The number of clients rose sharply after we reopened later in March. We began emptying our shelves faster than we were filling them. Some of our food suppliers were also having trouble procuring as much as they once did. At about the same time, donors started coming forward unasked. St Jerome Parish made a significant donation as did the Inglewood Rotary Club. One woman drove in with a carload of fresh produce assuming we needed it, and we did.

We continue to be challenged, but we know with the help of the community and the perseverance of our volunteers we will weather this as we did the recession of 2008.



Food distribution at 355 E. Beach Avenue, Inglewood, CA 90302
Open for distribution on Tuesdays and Fridays from 10am-12pm
Contact us! (310) 677-5597 or via email at FoodPantryLAX@gmail.com
For more information visit FoodPantryLAX.org

We are very grateful to all who so generously donate to Food Pantry, LAX. Here are just a few of the donations we have received in the past few months.



The California Highway Patrol, pictured left, surprised us by delivering dozens of donuts and hot coffee to the pantry on April 17, to thank us for being on the front lines in serving the public (of course, the same could be said about them). Since our handful of volunteers could drink only a little coffee and eat only a few donuts, we gave most of the donation to our clients.



Chadwick School in Palos Verdes donated the food that had been collected for their senior class camping trip, which was called off because of the pandemic. Pictured above right is Becky Noble of the Chadwick School delivering the donation in April.



The Inglewood Rotary Club, photo left, has been very generous with donations both over the holidays and during this very challenging time. They recently made an additional \$500 donation to assist us in purchasing needed food goods which will go a long way towards helping our customers.

There are a few simple ways that you too can support Food Pantry, LAX:

1. Donate canned goods and/or homegrown produce. We are open Tuesday and Friday mornings and welcome donations of all kinds.
2. Sign up to support Food Pantry, LAX on Amazon Smile (Smile.Amazon.com) and Amazon will donate 0.5% of every purchase made on Amazon Smile to Food Pantry, LAX. Already a Ralphs Club or Food 4 Less Club member? Make Food Pantry, LAX your Community Rewards beneficiary via Ralphs.com and Ralphs will donate a percentage of every purchase you make to Food Pantry, LAX.
3. Monetary donations to help us feed the hungry are always welcome! Donate via PayPal on our website FoodPantryLAX.org or send checks to our mailing address: Food Pantry, LAX, 8726 S. Sepulveda Blvd. Suite D PMB 741, Westchester, CA 90045. As a 501c3 organization all donations are 100% tax deductible.