Volunteering at The Food Pantry

The Neighborhood Center at All Saints Parish

911 Dowling Blvd, San Leandro

(corner of East Merle next to Roosevelt School)

On the first Saturday of each month, food pantry volunteers warmly welcome anyone in need of food. Operations begin at 11:30am. In the parish hall, volunteers set up the market where our guests will gather their groceries. At 12:00, guests begin registering and gathering in the hospitality room. Here they can wait comfortably, enjoy snacks and drinks, and peruse information regarding other services if they wish.

Note that we also hold pantries on the third Saturday of November and December. Whole chickens are provided for each guest along with the usual variety of groceries.

During the 11:30am to 1:00pm set up, volunteer tasks include setting up tables, bringing food from storage to the tables, sorting food, helping with food preparation for the hospitality snacks, and welcoming guests in the hospitality room.

Distribution of free groceries is from 1:00 to 2:00pm. Volunteers hand out the groceries to the guests as they circle through the market, hopefully with one volunteer per food item. Other tasks include helping guests carry out their groceries and breaking down cardboard boxes.

Perhaps the most important element of volunteering at the pantry is maintaining the warm spirit of sharing. All are welcome at the pantry.

Regarding volunteer groups, we restrict participation to 6 volunteers at 11:30, and any additional 6 at 1:00. We are a small pantry, and with these restrictions, *every* volunteer can be productive.

You can also contribute by donating money or food to the pantry. Needed food items are canned vegetables, meat and fish, and dry goods. Call 569-7020 to arrange for a drop-off of food. The office is open Monday through Thursday from 10:00am to 2:00pm.

Thank you for your interest in the food pantry! For further information, contact Tom Breckenridge, Food Pantry Coordinator, tom.breckenridge@gmail.com.