



The Cape Henlopen Food Basket (CHFBI) is the local food bank located in Rehoboth Beach, Delaware, serving the residents of the Cape Henlopen School District.

God Provides and So Does the USDA

In early 2013, a serendipitous and ultimately lucrative meeting occurred between our President, Jon DeVoll, and Steve Smith who was in charge of the Christian Storehouse in Millsboro, an Indian River District food bank. His wife, Joy Smith, was on our CHFBI Board of Directors at the time and she urged the meeting. Steve explained to Jon that the Christian Storehouse procured the bulk of their food from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) in Delaware City, DE because they do not charge for the food they provide. The USDA provides a menu of food each month from which we pick. The kinds of food usually available are frozen chickens and ham, canned stews, veggies, fruit and soup, spaghetti, noodles, rice, etc. Jon and the CHFBI Board explored this option and its requirements. One was that we ask our clients annually to verify in writing that their family gross income is below a particular level specified by the USDA; hence, the ***Income Verification Form*** we now use in our client intake process. We began our association with the USDA in October, 2013. They deliver to the Food Basket once a month and a group of

strong and hardworking CHFBI volunteers unload the payload from the trucks.

The USDA has had a powerful impact on our ministry. The annual CHFBI budget is over \$100,000 serving more than 2,500 households and about 6,500 to 8,500 individuals annually in recent years. Approximately \$60,000 is needed through our fundraising to cover food and support costs for the Food Basket and another \$42,000 or so in-kind food comes from USDA. CHFBI fundraising to meet our \$60,000 annual budget comes from private donations, individual church donations of funds and food, and from grants. In 2015, because of our USDA partnership and the generous donations of time and money to our all-volunteer organization, the CHFBI has not had to accept money from our sponsoring organization, the Lewes-Rehoboth Association of Churches (LRAC), to support our food ministry, as we have always had to do in the past. Therefore, LRAC can keep more funds to support and expand its other needed ministries in the Cape District, such as the Community Resource Center (CRC). God does provide, and so does the USDA!

**From the Cape Henlopen Food Basket, we say to our donors and volunteers,
*THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!***

Your Generosity and Good Works Acknowledged

From time to time, Food Basket patrons share with us what our ministry means to them:

"This is the only way I get food to help feed my family of five. I work two jobs and do not qualify for food stamps. I still have children at home that do not understand empty refrigerators and why. I have to pay gas for work instead of food for them, so I can go to work to pay the bills to keep them safe."

"This program ... seriously helps in a major way and allows us to have good, healthy meals that are hot. We appreciate this program and the workers that serve."

"I am on a fixed income and at the end of the month I need help with food. The program helps me so much."

"Without you we would not have milk, eggs, bread or margarine from Safeway. It seems like everything started going downhill about 5-6 years ago. Everything we receive from the Cape Henlopen Food Basket we are so grateful for!!! Thank you and God bless you!"

Did you know?

The **Rehoboth Beach Farmers' Market** **donated 866 lbs** of seasonal produce to CHFB from May through October, 2015.



"Humbled at 60 years of age. Raised a son alone. Worked hard ALL my life since 14 years old. Find myself here – hours reduced, hard to find additional work and to make ends meet. I am grateful and will continue paying it forward."

"We are homeless and glad you are around to help us out."

"This program has been a life saver for me. If it had not been for them, I would not have had food to feed my family this winter. Thank God for this program."

"Great help for me and my family as no job for a while and little income at this time of year."

"After 26 years as a clinical microbiologist, schizophrenia and depression ended my career. I waited two years for Social Security Disability. I refused to steal and ate grass and leaves. After psychiatric meds and costs of life, without this help I would give up life. I saved hundreds of lives in my career and am glad this is available."

Time to Give to Those Who Might Not Have As Much

If you are considering charities to support as this year ends, think of making a tax deductible donation to our 501 (C) 3 organization, the **Cape Henlopen Food Basket, 37510 Oyster House Road, Rehoboth Beach, DE 19971**. Or, if prefer to contribute in-kind, you may drop off food donations directly to the Food Basket.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!