



Mission: *The Mission of The Green Apple is to provide healthy food options by feeding our neighbors today while empowering them for tomorrow.*

Vision: *At The Green Apple we seek to improve the lives of our community, by providing nourishment to our neighbors in need, supplying them with healthy food and personal item; as well as tools of empowerment. Our goal is to assist our neighbors in nourishing them in mind, body and soul.*

Food for Thought: News from The Pantry

January 2020

Happy 2020

What's new at The Green Apple

Lots....

First lets start with our *new name*. As many of you already know we are now using the name **The Green Apple**. The board applied to the State of Michigan last summer to do business as *The Green Apple* and we have their approval. The reasoning was that *The Pantry* was too specific for our community. We wanted a name that included all of the services and programs we provide. Since the green apple was in our logo it seemed to be the obvious choice. The board is currently working with a free lance artist to make the necessary changes. We plan to keep the green and orange color scheme and will have new brochure and stationery by the first of February.

Next came a new vision and mission statement. See above.

We have a new team! Nancy Cromley became our new Executive Director in July, next came Lauren Wyngarden, she is our Marketing Coordinator, and finally this month Karen Chaffee, who is our new Fresh Market Coordinator. Thankfully Yoli has remained constant. She is the glue that binds this team together.

Stop in to see the changes in our Fresh Market. I believe it is much more inviting. This has been well received and our neighbors are shopping there more often. Neighbors remember, stop at the Fresh Market before heading to the grocery store. We feature local, in season produce at half the retail price.

During the Holiday break we re-arranged our furniture! We wanted to showcase our beautiful mural and lessen the clutter that was seen when first entering the building. If you haven't already, stop in and take a peek...I think you will like the change.

We now have a new pantry van, due to a generous donation from 2 community members. **Thank you!** Our van was a 2008 and the box truck was a 2000. Thankfully we no longer have to worry about the condition of our vehicles.



A Heartfelt Thank You!

The holidays are now behind us, and we are focused on the new year, new programming, new staff, and new ideas. However we are very thankful for all of the great things that happened during the past 2 holiday months. Thank you to everyone, every church, every business and organization who contributed to the success of the past holiday season. Your generous contributions went a long way in insuring that our neighbors had a wonderful holiday season. We received 150 turkeys and enough holiday food to make a difference in the lives of the neighbors that we serve.

Thank you

The Pantry's Staff

Executive Director: Nancy Cromely
NancyCromley@thepantry.gr

Pantry Manager: Yoli Fuentes
YoliFuentes@thepantry.gr

Market Coordinator: Karen Chaffee
KarenChaffee@thepantry.gr

Marketing Coordinator: Lauren Wyngarden
LaurenWyngarden@thepantry.gr

The Pantry's Board Members

President: George Guyott (First Advantage Realty)

Vice President: Karen Kania (Retired)

Treasurer: Christine Hugmeyer (Flagstar Bank)

Secretary: Toni TerMolen (Retired)

Members: Su Hood (Catholic Theological Union)
Katie Lawrence (Kent District Library)
Molly Hackman (Blue Cross Blue Shield)
John Berigan (Retired)

Who Do We Serve?

The Pantry serves a 45-square-mile area in southern Kent County where **ONE in SEVEN residents face hunger** every-day.

Most pantry users are employed, yet living below the Federal Poverty guidelines.

Last year, The Pantry provided nearly half-a-million meals to 10,000 neighbors.

Neighbors are eligible to visit the pantry every 4 weeks.

The Fresh Market provides increased access to locally grown produce at affordable costs for neighbors to shop as often as they need. Consider shopping at the Fresh Market before buying produce at the grocery

We offer two Senior Pantries monthly.

Quarterly Commodities. March, June Sept. and Dec.

Save the Date

Wednesday Feb 12

4-7 pm

Women's Evening

In partnership with **I Support The Girls**, we will be hosting a opportunity to pamper the women in our neighborhood. This is chance to obtain health and beauty items as well as bras and undergarments.

Tuesday March 24

4-7pm

Open House

Please join us for a visit, tour, and light appetizers to see how far we have come in the past 12 month. We are very excited about the future of The Green Apple and would love to have you share in our excitement with you.

Tuesday, April 12

Fundraising Luncheon At Kentwood Christian Church on Kalamazoo Ave.

Sponsorships, and tickets will be available later in the spring.
More details to follow.

Walk for Good Food

Sponsored by Access Sunday May 3

More details to follow.

Why it Matters:

How your contributions are making a difference.

Kent CountyPoverty Rate:	10.4%
Food Insecurity Rate:	11.3%
Child Food Insecurity Rate:	12.8%
# of Food Insecure People:	71,970

In 2019: We served an average of 375 families each month.
We served an average of 220 seniors each month, and of 230 children each month.
Each quarter our USDA commodities increased by 200 individuals served. In Dec. we served almost 500 individuals.



I SUPPORT THE GIRLS

The Green Apple is hosting a for women only event

On Wednesday Feb. 12 from 4-7pm

This event is an opportunity to support the women of this community. We are in need of clean, gently used and new bras, *new* underwear, and health and beauty items. Please consider making a donation. Donations can be dropped of at The Pantry during regular hours.

Please see, email or call Nancy for further details.



Contact Us

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