

berkshire foodproject



Berkshire Food Project
Contact Information:

www.berkshirefoodproject.org

Executive Director

Kim McMann

kim@berkshirefoodproject.org

cell 518-805-9066

Kitchen Manager

Darlene Ellis

Darlene@berkshirefoodproject.org

Kitchen Assistant

Eric Engel

Temporary Kitchen Assistant

Bob Simons

413-664-7378

134 Main Street

PO Box 1651

North Adams, MA 01247

The Berkshire Food Project seeks to alleviate hunger, food insecurity, and social isolation by serving healthy and dignified noontime meals every weekday, by providing education in making good nutritional choices and by helping people access available food resources.

The Volunteers' Update December 2017/January 2018

A Season of Giving

Throughout the year the Berkshire Food Project is generously supported by the local community – businesses, institutions and individuals all donate time, food and funding to ensure we are able to serve nutritious and delicious meals every week day. During the winter holidays, the support grows – here are just a few of the many ways the BFP received support during the holidays.

On December 10 the North County Chorale and the All Saints Bell Choir performed a beautiful Christmas concert at the First Congregational Church of North Adams. Mike Daunis directed and Scott Bailey was the guest accompanist. This holiday tradition is truly a feast for your ears and your soul! This year \$1,500 was raised in the goodwill offering during the concert and donated to the Berkshire Food Project. Thank you to all involved!



On Christmas Eve the kind bartenders at Bright Ideas Brewing donated all



tips from that day to the Berkshire Food Project.



The Giving continued between Christmas and New Year's when some kind women from the Greylock Insurance Agency stopped in to present us with a donation.

Change is Good

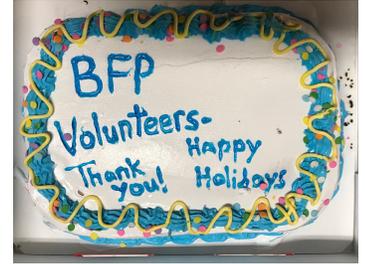
You have probably noticed the new freezers by now – part of a long term project of cleaning and organizing the kitchen that will continue during the next



month or two. One of the other changes you will be noticing is the new volunteer log in sheet. We would like to be able to tally the number of volunteer hours that keep things running smoothly at the BFP. This can help with some grant applications as well as planning. Please pick a single way to sign in each time you volunteer. If you don't wish to use your name, use a nickname or other word/number that you are sure you will remember. That way we can track not only the total number of volunteer hours, but also the total number of volunteers. And, during January you won't see much of Eric Engel, the BFP Kitchen Assistant, as he's going to be taking a course to become an EMT. We'll miss him but look forward to the added benefit of having a certified EMT in the kitchen! While Eric is on leave, Bob (in photo with a new freezer) will be picking up a few hours of the kitchen assistant duties.

Volunteer Celebration

Volunteers are a key to the Berkshire Food Project's longevity and success. It's amazing that we are able to serve as many lunches as we do, day after day, treating our diners with dignity and kindness, while also keeping the kitchen and dining room clean and safe, the food donations and deliveries processed – so much gets done thanks to you amazing volunteers!



We will take time to gather regularly, to hear from you and learn from you and celebrate your dedication to the BFP. Our most recent gathering was a holiday celebration on December 19 – thank you to all who joined us for some good food, fun and socializing.

Opportunities to Join Us

January 15 is Martin Luther King Jr. Day and in northern Berkshire County that means a day of opportunities to serve, learn and celebrate. The BFP participates in the community events that day and welcome volunteers to join us. See Kim or Darlene if you want to be part of our activities that day.

The following Sunday, January 21 (in the afternoon), we have plans to continue with the cleaning and organizing of the kitchen. A group of college students will be joining us that day and we have room for a few others – again, let Kim or Darlene know if you'd like to join us.

PLEASE KEEP US INFORMED!

Do you see room for improvement? Do you see something not working? Let us know! With your insight and our collective brain power, we can make things better than ever!

THANK YOU and Happy New Year to YOU!

