

April 2023



KENAI PENINSULA



Food Bank

Food for Thought

THE SNOW MIGHT STILL BE HERE, BUT THERE'S SPRING IN THE AIR!

The snow is melting, bringing thoughts of spring and new growth, not just for the outdoors, but for the food bank too! Amidst the difficulties of food shortages, SNAP backlogs, increasing needs, and food insecurity, the food bank has grown to fill the gap. Like a plant sprouting new buds, the food bank is sprouting new programs and partners. With the assistance we've received through the Safe-D and EFSP grants, and generous donations from KPCCC, Deborah McCarthy, and donors like you, we've expanded our reach and increased the assistance we provide to Hope, Tyonek, Cooper Landing, Seward, Homer, Kenai, Soldotna, Sterling, Nikiski, and many more! None of this would be possible without your incredible support through volunteering, donating, hosting food drives, creating awareness, and offering words of encouragement. Thank you so much!

Despite the fast changes to get food to those in need as soon as possible, we need to remember that this is a marathon, not a sprint. The long-term solutions to the current shortages and increased needs are still in the future, which means the food bank and our partners will need to continue covering the gaps. While a daunting task, we know it's possible with your support. Thank you for all you do, and for partnering with us to keep our communities fed!



Kenai Kona taking a break in the lobby of the food bank

WHAT'S NEW?

Raffle Tickets

Spring Festival

Return of the Reds

+ReGroup Electronics Recycling Event

For sale now!

June 16th, 11 am - 3 pm

June 3rd

April 29th



Your gifts to our neighbors are amazing!



This year, your support has contributed so much to the over 200,000 pounds of food that has been distributed by the food bank so far this year! By sponsoring and hosting the 10 food

drives this year, and donating to fundraisers, you've also helped give almost 3,000 meals to our neighbors through the Fireweed Diner. Thank you to all our incredible hosts, donors, and sponsors! You have a tremendous impact on the success of our events and fundraisers as well. By supporting events, you're supporting our community!

Upcoming Events

Spring FESTIVAL

Join us at KPFB for our annual Spring Festival! There will be delicious food, interactive booths, and even a cake walk!

June 16th
11 am to 3 pm

33955 Community College Drive, Soldotna, Ak 99669



Challenger LEARNING CENTER ALASKA



Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program



Coca-Cola ALASKA
A SUBSIDIARY OF THE ODOM CORPORATION

Return of the Reds



Join the City of Kenai, KPFB, and others in celebrating the Return of the Reds! More information to come!

KENAI

June 3rd Kenai City Dock

Thank you for donating to March Match-ness

For years, KPFB has been helping ensure everyone on the Kenai Peninsula is fed during the year. This year has brought new challenges, especially with the current food shortages and increasing needs across the Kenai Peninsula. To respond to these needs, KPCCC generously donated a matching donation of \$20,000 to the Kenai Peninsula Food Bank. KPCCC then challenged the community to match the \$20,000 in giving for the month of March in a KPFB event called March Match-ness. During March Match-ness, the community not only matched the \$20,000, but exceeded it! Thank you all for donating to March Match-ness!

Spot on Recycling with +ReGroup!

Join +ReGroup for their Electronics Recycling Event on April 29th! Bring your old or unused electronics to recycle. For more information, visit the +ReGroup Facebook page.

Kenai Peninsula Food Bank holding 'matching' fundraisers in March

By Jack Dye Peninsula Observer
The Kenai Peninsula Food Bank is holding two fundraisers in March, one in partnership with the Kenai Peninsula Community Care Center and the other with Wilcoast. Both organizations have committed to matching donations through the end of the month.
"March Match-ness" with KPCCC is built on a pledge of matching donations of \$20,000. Each donation in March will be matched until the food bank can meet that goal.
Donations can be made online at the Kenai Peninsula Food Bank's website, by phone at 907-265-3111, or mail to the Kenai Peninsula Food Bank, 33955 Community College Drive, Soldotna, Alaska 99669. The one-pling system can be used on the website or through the Wilcoast app.
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To see the Kenai Peninsula Food Bank on your bestselling charity, visit www.wilcoast.com/99669.
For more information about the Kenai Peninsula Food Bank, these and other fundraisers, visit foodbank.org or facebook.com/foodbank.
Reach reporter Jack Dye at jddye@peninsulaobserver.com.

3

THANK YOU EVENT SPONSORS!

Join our wonderful donors in supporting the food bank through sponsorships of our annual fundraisers! We have three sponsorship opportunities this year:

- Join CPH in supporting our Spring Festival on June 16th.
- Join CPH, CIRI, PCHS, Northrim Bank, Michael and Debbie Maddox, GLM Energy Services Inc., and Salamatof Native Association Inc., in supporting our Soup Supper this August 19th.
- Join CPH in sponsoring the It's Scary to be Hungry on October 31st.

1. DIAMOND



Michael and Debbie Maddox



4. SILVER



2. PLATINUM



ANNUAL RAFFLE TICKETS FOR SALE!

Here is your chance to win an incredible prize as well as help support the Kenai Peninsula Food Bank! We have three different raffles happening right now:

- 2 round trip tickets ANYWHERE Alaska Airlines flies \$100/Ticket
- Polaris Sportsman 570 4-Wheeler \$50/Ticket
- John Deere x350 Lawn Tractor (riding lawn mower) \$25/Ticket

If you would like to purchase a ticket or get more information please call 907-262-3111 or stop by the food bank!



Alaska Airlines



THANK YOU SO MUCH

TO ALL THE WONDERFUL VOLUNTEERS AND DONORS WHO HAVE HELPED THE FOOD BANK OVER THE PAST FEW MONTHS!



CREDIT UNION 1 OF SOLDOTNA HOSTED A CREATIVE FOOD DRIVE IN JANUARY AND DONATED 154 POUNDS OF FOOD



MARATHON EMPLOYEES DONATED THEIR TIME TO KPFB TO HELP US MAKE HUNDREDS OF FOOD BAGS FOR ANCHOR POINT



GIVING UNIVERSITY GENEROUSLY DONATED \$1,000 TO THE FOOD BANK IN FEBRUARY



JADEN GARNER AND JAYDEN SANDAHL FROM KENAI HIGH SCHOOL RAISED A COMBINED 364 POUNDS OF FOOD FOR A SENIOR CIVIC'S PROJECT AND DONATED IT TO THE FOOD BANK



CREDIT UNION 1 OF SOLDOTNA HOSTED ANOTHER FOOD DRIVE IN FEBRUARY, AND DONATED 68 POUNDS OF FOOD AND A MONETARY DONATION



KPCCC donated a matching donation of \$20,000 to spark March Match-ness and help feed the hungry on the Kenai Peninsula

K-BEACH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL HELD A FOOD DRIVE AND DONATED 289 POUNDS OF FOOD



MARCH Match-ness

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

COLLEGE HEIGHTS BAPTIST CHURCH YOUTH GROUP VOLUNTEERED THEIR TIME AND ENERGY AT KPFB



THE LOCAL BOY SCOUT TROOP HELPED SHOVEL SNOW AT KPFB DURING SPRING BREAK



THE KENAIZE INDIAN TRIBE YOUTH SERVICES VOLUNTEERED AT KPFB AND HELPED PUT TOGETHER ANIMAL FOOD BAGS AND CLEAN



5

FIREWEED DINER

Auctioned Dinner

At our 2022 Soup Supper, Chef Stephen auctioned off a special dinner at the Fireweed Diner, remodeled in 2020. On 3/4/23, the winning bidder and guests had their 5-course gourmet meal. The dinner showcased the skills of Chef Stephen and Sous Chef Christopher. If you missed out on this lovely meal, we're auctioning off another dinner at this year's Soup Supper!



Our Staff

Chef Stephen graduated from Shasta College culinary school in 2003. Throughout his career, he's worked in restaurants, casinos, fine dining, and more. He fell in love with Alaska in 2011, while here for a seasonal position, and moved here in 2020.

He chose KPFB, to help those in need and be creative. Sous Chef Christopher has been training with Chef Stephen for a couple of years, and intends to attend CIA culinary school.

Our Mission

The vision for the Fireweed Diner is for people to feel comfortable dining here, and to not just feed people, but to feed them well. It's more than a soup kitchen; it's delicious food for FREE for ALL!

WAREHOUSE REMODEL

Warehouse Remodel

In 2022, KPFB was awarded an infrastructure grant from Food Bank of Alaska to remodel our building. So far, the warehouse has installed new refrigeration, painted, put up signage, and rearranged the layout.

These improvements have enhanced the experience of our neighbors and partner agencies. A grant from Kroger is even able to cover rebuilding the hoop-house that caved in this winter. We have more to do and can't wait to share the finished product with you!

Our Staff

Linda, Carolyn, Calvin, Nathan, Steven, and Bradley are dedicated, hard workers, seeking every day to help each person who walks through the doors of the warehouse. Each member has ample experience in their field, and brings the best to their position. They work tirelessly to ensure both our neighbors and partner agencies are able to receive the help they need.

Our Mission

The vision for our distribution services is for our neighbors and partner agencies to be able to receive help in a nurturing environment. No one is turned away, because nobody deserves to be hungry!



DO YOU LIKE TO



NOW, YOU CAN GIVE BACK WHILE YOU SHOP FOR EVERY DAY GROCERIES!



THREE WAYS TO GIVE BACK:

Walmart

Save money. Live better.

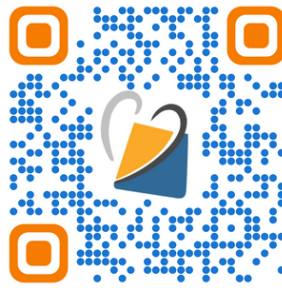
You can support KPFB by donating spare change by rounding up your orders to the nearest dollar on the Walmart website or app! You can also check out KPFB's registries during events to donate items! Designate KPFB as your charity today by following the link or QR code below:



www.walmart.com/nonprofits/ebe51e67-f029-4305-bd0e-91ed7522bea7/profile

ShopRaise

You can support KPFB by shopping at your favorite stores online through the ShopRaise app or browser extension at no additional cost to you! Turn your everyday shopping into support for KPFB today by following the link or QR code below:



shopraise.com/support/kpfoodbank

Fred Meyer

If you have a Fred Meyer Rewards Card, you can donate to KPFB without spending any extra money! Turn your everyday shopping into support for KPFB today! Follow the link or QR code below, log into your account, click My Account, then Community Rewards, then Enroll, and use the NPO# 83575:



www.fredmeyer.com/signin



KENAI PENINSULA
FoodBank
33955 Community College Drive
Soldotna, AK 99669
907-262-3111

**THIS INSTITUTION IS AN
EQUAL OPPORTUNITY
PROVIDER.**

Please consider giving to the organization(s) that you feel compelled to support. Pick Click Give approved organizations all strive to make our communities better places for everyone to live. All donations are tax deductible and donors will receive tax documentation from the State once the donation has been processed. Permanent Fund Dividend applications are available until March 31, though Alaskans can choose to add or adjust their pledges online until August 31. File for your PDF or add a pledge at pfd.alaska.gov

Have you considered?

Email communication helps to reduce postage costs, and can be fiscally and environmentally responsible. We try to communicate with donors through email as much as possible. If you aren't receiving emails from us, but would like to, please contact lmurray@kpfoodbank.org

Visit our website and social media pages!

Twitter: @KPFoodBank
Instagram: @kenaipenisulafoodbank
Facebook: facebook.com/kpfoodbank
Website: kpfoodbank.org

