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PapasPantry.org
TheMastersTrainingCenter.com

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*"The mission of Papa's
Pantry is to help
individuals and families
re-establish stability and
self-reliance by offering a
variety of programs
including immediate
food assistance,
employment strategies,
and life skills through
hands-on support and
ongoing training."*

Have a Heart for the Hungry

**"Almost 1 out of 3 children in Georgia live in food-insecure households.
1 out of 6 Americans are hungry. "** (Feeding America Study)

Dear Friends of Papa's Pantry,

We are excited to seek your support for this year's ***"Have a Heart for the Hungry"*** ***campaign!*** Our goal is to raise **\$10,000** to ensure we are able to purchase nutritious perishable food items and provide necessary stability training for our clients who work hard to get back on their feet. **WE ARE ASKING FOR YOUR HELP** to achieve this ambitious goal.

Why is this so important???

Last year Papa's Pantry provided over 27,000 pounds of food to 500 families, of which more than 40% had children under the age of 18 in their household. **Hunger and the lack of food are in our back yards!** Although we cannot show their pictures or share real names, **here are some of the individuals' stories who came seeking assistance during the first month of this year:**

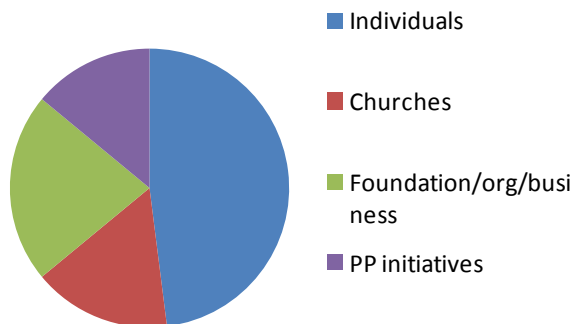
- ***A desperate 'Catherine' cried, "I have already been put in jail for stealing food to feed my family."***
- ***'Leah' and her husband have a 2 year old daughter. Through tears she shared, "My husband and I are veterans and just trying to get started again. I won't take food for us, but our baby needs to eat."***
- ***'Gerry', a 73 year old man on Social Security is struggling to support himself and his 16 year old grandson***
- ***'Joan' is a wife and mother of 2 teenagers and although she and her husband are working together their wages cannot cover the bills***
- ***'Sarah', a 55 year old woman who once was a top sales woman, lost her job, is caregiver to her diabetic husband and caught between finding work and the needs of assuming care at home***

We are trying to meet the needs of our community but we need your help!

Here are some ways **YOU** can share your **Heart** for the work of Papa's Pantry and assist us in feeding those who are hungry!

- Host a gathering in your home; invite your friends and provide information about Papa's Pantry. (Please call if you would like someone from Papa's to share.)
- Ask your church to announce our campaign goal and encourage them to become a monthly supporter of the Papa's Pantry ministry
- Take up a special collection in your church, Sunday School class, workplace to donate to Papa's Pantry
- Encourage friends on your social media outlets (Facebook, twitter, etc.) to contribute through our website www.papaspantry.org
- See if your place of employment has matching gifts programs; Papa's tax I.D number is 58-2471596
- Make a check out today for Papa's Pantry
- Commit to making a monthly donation to Papa's Pantry
- Increase your monthly pledge by 10% this year!

2011 Papa's Pantry Income



- 48%: Almost one-half of our annual income came from individuals like you!
- 22%: Foundations, businesses and local organizations
- 16%: local churches
- 14%: Papa's Pantry fundraising initiatives

If you are already a monthly supporter, we thank you wholeheartedly! If you are not yet, we ask that you become one. Of course funds are necessary to keep the doors open and lights on. However, it takes much more to provide the many components which help families truly reach stability. Below are some of our costs that go into helping families:

- **\$50 provides necessary perishable groceries for the average family for one month at the pantry**
- **\$75 covers the cost of seeds for the organic garden for one growing season**
- **\$89 provides one scholarship for the Employment Strategies Core Concepts class to assist those in the job search**
- **\$300 (average cost) provides comprehensive stability training for each adult which assists in helping them get on their feet.** (Employment Strategies: core and advanced classes, Budgeting, Goal Setting & Time Management, Couponing, and Nutrition.) (Not included in this cost are computer classes, GED 1:1's, organic gardening, bible studies, and after school tutoring.)
- **\$400 monthly utilities**
- **\$1,500 monthly rent**

Please pray for our ministry and help us reach our goal.

We accept checks, Paypal, (through papaspantry.org) Visa, or Master Card. Please indicate that your donation is for the **"Have a Heart for the Hungry"** campaign. **Your tax-deductible donation of any size will help our mission considerably!**

Please call or email if you have any further questions.

Love and Blessings,
Lynne Saunders, Founder and Executive Director
Sandi Harding, Resource Manager

P.S. Remember, our goal is to raise \$10,000 for the Hungry. We cannot do it without you!

December Success Story

We were living the American dream; we owned a great business, a beautiful house, money saved, and had a lot of friends. Then it was all gone in the blink of an eye. We lost everything we had. How did that happen?

I was very fortunate to have been a stay at home mom to all three of my children. For 12 years I was able to be involved in their schools and the community. Now I was in need of a job because we were losing our business and our house. No one really knew what was going on but we were falling quickly. We began using our savings to pay the bills at home and at the business and although I found a job, it did not pay enough, so we had to leave our house and find a rental. That was very hard. I really don't remember much at that house; it's all a blur.

With the business gone, my husband began collecting about \$175 a week in unemployment pay. How does a family of 5 live on that? We went from spending that much a day to living on that for a week!! We applied for food stamps and borrowed money from everyone we could to try make ends meet. By September, we had gone through all our savings; sold everything we could; pawned things to get money for gas or food. Then we left the rental house, our community and moved in with my in-laws adding 5 people and 3 dogs to their household.



Due to the distance of the move, I had to leave my job. So now I was in desperate need of a new job. Every day I would apply for anything I found. One day in my many hours of searching on line, I decide to go on Facebook. I was looking at an old friend's "profile" and I found a link to Papa's Pantry. I thought, "What could it hurt?" So I emailed and asked how I could get food for my family. They contacted me and made an appointment.

Sitting with a mentor was the first time that I REALLY talked about what happened to my family. I broke down and cried. It's hard to face the facts, and it's much easier to live the "lie" that everything is okay. I got some food and they asked if I wanted to come to a "training class." Sure, what could it hurt?

So I spent the next three days "learning" employment strategies, resume writing, and how to interview. All those previous applications had not panned out but within one week of the classes, I had a job interview!! I was definitely more confident than I was before. The interview went great **AND I GOT THE JOB!!**

When I began going to Papa's Pantry, I thought it was just going to be a place to get some food for my family. I soon found out, it's much more than that. It's a place I can continue to go and feel welcomed and talk about the things that have happened. I don't feel judged or looked down upon. Each person is truly an angel. These wonderful people were put into my life for a reason. They have helped me through the toughest part of my life. This situation has brought my family closer together!

There is hope in every situation. You just have to believe.
Jessica Williams