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 : **St. Felix Pantry Inc.** :
 : Call us at :
 : **505-891-8075** :
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 : **www.stfelixpantry.org** :
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Anniversary Message from a Felician Sister-Witness

St. Felix Pantry was incorporated in 1992 and so is celebrating 25 years as a nonprofit entity. But the origin of St. Felix Pantry actually goes back to the early 1980s.

That's when Sister Mary Genevieve Ryskiewicz (in image above), started a back-door outreach to the poor from the kitchen pantry of the Assumption of Blessed Mary Convent, where day-old bread and produce donated by local markets were distributed to the needy.

Provincial Minister Sister Rosemarie Goins CSSF and her administration were instrumental in the incorporation of St. Felix Pantry and the move to the present location. Most Reverend Michael Sheehan, archbishop of Santa Fe, presided at the dedication and blessing on Aug. 8, 1995. The Honorable Thomas Swisstack, mayor of Rio Rancho, was present.

Graced, I have been a sister-witness to all these wonderful events.

In my recent stint of assisting in Sister

Claire's Christmas Store and in the clothing department in the Pantry before Christmas, amidst the movement of donated goods to the racks and bins for client pick-up, I was again a witness — a witness in awe of the generosity of benefactors, the dedication of committed staff, volunteers and board members. I witnessed the joy and deep appreciation of the client guests of St. Felix Pantry.



SM Dorothy Young

Our Christmas homilist, provincial minister Friar Jack Clark Robinson OFM, reminded us that God comes to us, as we are, to awaken Love. Truly every day at St. Felix Pantry, God comes to us, as we are, *to awaken Love – people helping people.*

You also can be an active witness of this Love being awakened in one person at a time, one family at a time: become a mission collaborator of St. Felix Pantry.

What better way to celebrate 25 years of existence – ensure the next 25 years of awakening Love!

**Our Core Values: Respect for Human Dignity, Compassion, Transformation, Solidarity with the Poor, Justice and Peace
 A Felician-Sponsored Ministry**

Message from the President/CEO

It's hard to believe that another year has gone by so quickly. But I like to think about how blessed I am to have lived through another year and take a moment to pause and reflect.

This year there were many changes, opportunities and graces in my personal life, and I imagine any one of you could say the same thing. So as I reflect on 2016, I realize both the blessings and opportunities helped me to grow as I prepare to embrace the new year.

I am grateful to God for all the many blessings he has given my family and me, including the opportunity to work at St. Felix Pantry. I never take for granted the commitment of the Felician Sisters to take care of the less-fortunate. And I especially appreciate Sister Genevieve, who started the Pantry 25 years ago.

I am also blessed with and wish to thank our staff, interns and volunteers who work tirelessly at the Pantry and are all conscious of the mission that was the foundation of the Pantry.

This year marks 25 years that St. Felix Pantry has been in operation.

In 2017 we will continue to feel Sister Genevieve's presence and the prayers of



Deacon Steve Rangel



the Felician Sisters, Felician Services and board members as we seek ways to better serve our clients.

I wish everyone of you a wonderful New Year, and I hope and pray for God's blessings on you and your families.

Boeing New Mexico, St. Felix Pantry partner to end hunger in New Mexico

When most people think of Boeing they think of the aircraft industry giant in Washington state and hardly give thought to a Boeing presence in Albuquerque, NM.

St. Felix Pantry is very aware of the company's presence locally and has come to enjoy a wonderful relationship with the employees of Boeing.



Over the years, Boeing employees have donated grant funding to the Pantry, including the delivery of more than 200 pounds of nonperishable food items that were almost immediately distributed to nearly 200 families.

Today, Boeing brought the Pantry another gift: a \$5,000 check to assist the Pantry with its daily operations. We simply cannot thank our friends at Boeing enough for their generosity.

Boeing employee advisory boards distribute combined employee donations – which are made through recurring payroll deductions or one-time gifts – to nonprofits in their communities. Boeing pays all administrative costs so that 100 percent of every employee dollar helps to strengthen the local communities.



From left to right: Intel Encore Fellow Karen Brozouski, St. Felix Pantry Vice President of Development Manuel Casias and Jonathan Gallegos of Boeing.

This newsletter is sponsored by:





Feb. 14, 2017

McDonald's Valentine's Day Benefit Dinner.



Treat your sweetheart to a romantic evening with candlelight, flowers and tableside service, and show your love for the Pantry. Tuesday, Feb. 14, 6-8:30 p.m. **Tickets:** \$50 each. **Reservation:** call 505-891-8075.

March 17, 2017

St. Patrick's Day Corned Beef Dinner: St.

Felix Pantry and The Brothers of the Good Shepherd have partnered and both will benefit from one of New Mexico's most famous events. Location: St. Pius High School located at 5301 Saint Joseph's Drive NW, Albuquerque, NM 87120. **Sponsorship and ticket information,** contact Manuel at 505-270-1366 or via email: mcasias@stfelixpantry.org.



May 19, 2017

St. Felix Pantry's 7th Annual Golf Tournament:

Location: Santa Ana Golf Club, 288 Prairie Star Road, Santa Ana Pueblo, NM 87004. **Sponsorship opportunities and team information,** contact Manuel at 505-270-1366 or via email: mcasias@stfelixpantry.org.



Helping feed people in need

Just over one year ago, a Chick-fil-A restaurant opened a short distance from St. Felix Pantry. Recently, in the spirit of the holidays, Chick-fil-A representatives visited the Pantry and distributed more than 200 free hot chicken sandwiches and an equal number of bags of potato chips to Pantry clients.

Owner/Operator Bridget Alcalá said, "Giving back to our community is a great thing to do and we couldn't think of a better place to do it than at St. Felix Pantry, especially during the holidays."

Pantry clients were very happy to receive the sandwich and chips.

From donating surplus food to local shelters and soup kitchens through its Chick-fil-A Shared Table program, to feeding victims and first responders after a disaster, the company's restaurant operators give away food all year long to those who need it most.



From left to right: Chick-fil-A franchise owner/operator Bridget Alcalá, associates Loren Blatt and Natalia Ubeyvolk flanking The Cow, and Pantry President/CEO Deacon Steve Rangel.

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LEGACY

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My goal is to help you get a home to suit your needs, whether it's your first home, a downsized home, a home to accommodate a growing family or a property to help you achieve your financial goals through real estate investment. If you are relocating out of New Mexico, I can assist by selling your current house at the top dollar value and accommodating you within our nationwide network of realtors.

Packing Food for Kidz

Child-care food programs play a vital role in improving the quality of life for children by helping to make nutritious meals more accessible for many low-income families.

Every year, St. Felix Pantry helps thousands of children and families acquire nutritious food. However, we don't do it alone. Such an effort "takes a village," as the saying goes.

We are proud to partner with St. Pius X High School in Albuquerque in their Food for Kidz program, which students at St. Pius plan every year.

This year, four pallets of food were donated to the Pantry, to be distributed to hungry children. It seems like a lot of food and certainly is a big project. However, when you consider the number of families with children visiting the pantry every week, we will be lucky if it lasts three months.

We are very grateful to our friends and partners at St. Pius X High School for their concern and very big hearts. Together we all make a huge difference in feeding the hungry.



One of four pallets full of boxes of food assembled by St. Pius X students.



Students, faculty and staff members of St. Pius X High School in Albuquerque assemble Food for Kidz packages.

Food for thought

In 2015, St. Felix Pantry provided 62,400 boxes of food



The Pantry provides food to more than 1,000 families and individuals each week



New Mexico is ranked #2 in childhood hunger nationwide

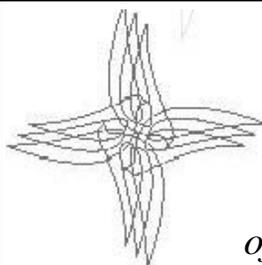
There is no charge for food or clothing at St. Felix Pantry

18.6% of New Mexicans don't know where their next meal will come from

1 in 3 kids in New Mexico is hungry



This newsletter is sponsored by:



Felician Services Inc.

Congratulates St. Felix Pantry in observing the 25th Anniversary of its founding, and a quarter century of helping to feed those in need in New Mexico



How you can help

Organize a food drive

St. Felix Pantry distributes nearly 2 million pounds of food every year, thereby providing 62,400 boxes of food to New Mexicans in need.



Give us a donation

Your tax-deductible financial gifts help make our mission possible. Eight-eight cents of every dollar donated to the Pantry goes to feed the hungry.



Lend a hand

The Pantry offers a variety of individual volunteer opportunities. We also can accommodate groups of up to 20 volunteers.



General Mills employees with Deacon Steve Rangel, center, the Pantry's president and CEO; and Pantry Manager Mauro Torrez-Ginez.

General Mills makes a huge difference volunteering at Pantry

General Mills has a production facility in Albuquerque, NM, that is just 13 miles from St. Felix Pantry. A group of friends called The Community Action Council advocates on the Pantry's behalf for funding.



The Council program is an important part of General Mills' commitment to the communities in which their business operates. Community Action Councils are groups of General Mills employees who

volunteer their time to help the company give back both financially and through volunteer efforts to their local manufacturing communities.

They also make foundation grant recommendations and organize volunteer opportunities in their manufacturing communities.

We are so grateful for their continuing support of St. Felix Pantry and the significant impact they are having throughout New Mexico.

This newsletter is sponsored by:



Congratulations to St. Felix Pantry, which is observing the 25th Anniversary of its ministry born of the motivation to erase hunger in New Mexico



U.S. Bank Foundation takes pride in its ongoing support

It was as though Sister Genevieve, founder of St. Felix Pantry, was looking down from Heaven smiling with gratitude and approval for the U.S. Bank Foundation's generosity.

Over the years, the foundation has generously donated funding to the Pantry, helping us to continue our mission to restore hope to individuals and families by providing them with food, clothing and referral services. Our friends and wonderful corporate neighbors at U.S. Bank really do care about this community.

"We enjoy our partnership with St. Felix Pantry," said Veronica Montoya, assistant vice president of the Southern and

Unser branch of U.S. Bank. "We take pride in giving back to the community, and this is one way we can demonstrate that."

The U.S. Bank Foundation believes that strong communities are built upon strong foundations. To build those strong foundations, U.S. Bank invests in innovative programs designed to serve local community needs. In addition, they



Standing before a picture of St. Felix Pantry founder Sister Genevieve, U.S. Bank Assistant Vice President Veronica Montoya, left, and U.S. Bank Small Business Specialist David Frederickson, right, present a \$2,500 donation check to Deacon Steve Rangel, president of St. Felix Pantry.

believe that in doing so they are adding strength and vitality to our communities.

It is a certainty that U.S. Bank is making a tremendous

difference in the Rio Rancho community, especially in the lives of the Pantry's 1,000 client/households looking for hope every week.

St. Felix Pantry Wish List

Currently Needed Items:

- ✓ New or slightly used fireproof file cabinet
- ✓ Outdoor donation collection bin
- ✓ Two storage sheds 10-foot by 20-foot or larger

Capital items needed:

- ✓ New delivery truck
- ✓ Parking lot repaved and striped
- ✓ Exterior of building repainted
- ✓ Covered portal to protect clients from rain and sun
- ✓ New signage for the Pantry

Food and supplies:

(Please, no cans/boxes of food that are a year beyond "sell by" date, because of health/food safety liability)

- ✓ Fresh fruits and vegetables
- ✓ Macaroni & cheese mixes
- ✓ Canned foods, such as vegetables, beans, stews, soups, tuna, chicken and ham
- ✓ Turkeys and hams for Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays
- ✓ Jellies, jams and peanut butter
- ✓ Cereals, rice, pasta, dried beans

- ✓ Pies, cakes, pudding cups and other dessert items
- ✓ Children-friendly food (granola bars, crackers, cookies and candies)
- ✓ Toys for children and youths
- ✓ Dog food, cat food and pet treats
- ✓ Baby products (diapers, moist wipes, formula, infant foods, lotions and powders)

Paper and household items we can ALWAYS use include:

- ✓ Toilet and facial tissue
- ✓ Aluminum foil
- ✓ Food storage bags
- ✓ Paper towels
- ✓ Bar soap and liquid hand soap
- ✓ Liquid laundry soap and bleach
- ✓ Household cleaning products
- ✓ Shampoo/conditioner

- ✓ Toothpaste
- ✓ Coffee and tea
- ✓ Cooking oil, etc.

The Pantry also welcomes:

Donations of frozen foods, fresh produce, lunch meats, cheese, eggs, milk, juices, yogurts, butter or margarine, and other perishable food items, including grocery store-prepared meals





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