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 : Rio Rancho, NM 87124 :
 : **505-891-8075** :
 : **www.stfelixpantry.org** :
 : :

Taming our food deserts



St. Felix's new Mobile Pantry will deliver food to underserved Sandoval County communities

Can you imagine that the closest place to you to buy food is more than 50 miles away? That is a dilemma faced by many people who live in the most rural areas of Sandoval County.

From a food pantry's perspective, those places are known as "food deserts," and the people who live in those areas often are food insecure.

That condition exists when people lack sustainable physical or economic access to enough safe, nutritious and socially acceptable food to support a healthy and productive life.

Starting in January 2018, St. Felix Pantry will offer mobile food pantry services aimed at underserved residents throughout all five regions of Sandoval County.

This new and exciting endeavor is possible thanks to a grant from Sandoval County.

Without a doubt, a mobile pantry will increase access to food, especially for moderate-

low- and extremely low-income households. A targeted strategy will enlist help from organizations and churches in or near the food deserts.

A St. Felix mobile pantry will operate a food distribution outlet once weekly (Monday) from Sandoval County community centers and other participating partners.

Also, because the truck is refrigerated, nutritious perishable produce and proteins can be more easily distributed without spoiling.

St. Felix Pantry recognizes the vital role it can play in developing community wellness. We look forward to working in conjunction with Sandoval County and to becoming a key player in helping to make the county a healthier place for all to live.

St. Felix Pantry looks forward to a working partnership with the Sandoval County

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President's message

Our hopes for all people in this new year

Dear Friends,

All the staff, volunteers and board members of St. Felix Pantry wish you a happy, healthy New Year!

I wish I could share the feelings experienced as our Pantry guests so gratefully received the 1,071,452 meals we distributed during 2017.

I wish you could see how many of them helped one another by sharing rides or carrying bags, or how their faces lit up knowing that there was something in the meal that their grand-

Be guided by the simple words of St. Francis of Assisi:

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace;
 where there is hatred, let me sow love;
 where there is injury, pardon;
 where there is doubt, faith;
 where there is despair, hope;
 where there is darkness, light;
 and where there is sadness, joy.

children would enjoy.

I wish you could hear the words of kindness and

encouragement they offer each other during difficult times.

On behalf of all the families we have served in 2017, I thank you so much for your love and support.

May the world see more acts of peace and goodwill in 2018!

Let us be inspired and live to become servants to one another in 2018.

Deo Gratias!

**Sr. Mary Angela, CSSF
 president/CEO**



Sr. Mary Angela Parkins

From the board

John Schumann, a St. Felix Pantry board member and a Pantry volunteer, has a widely varied background.

He received a B.A. degree from Providence College in, Providence, RI, and Juris Doctor degree from Gonzaga University in Spokane, WA.

He served as an officer in the U.S. Army from 1969 to 1970 and received a Bronze Star for his service in the Republic of Vietnam.

John had a broad-based 40-year investment career. His responsibilities included oversight of a 10,000-acre citrus



grove and 2.5 million-box orange juice concentrate plant. He also developed and managed regional malls across the country. He finished his investment career advising and managing pension assets for publicly traded corporations, one

state and a large local of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW). He founded and edited a law journal.

His passion has been social justice, and he was named Connecticut Volunteer of the year for helping found The Holcomb Farm Learning Center in West Granby, CT.

In addition to his roles at St. Felix Pantry, John is on the board of the Corrales Cultural Arts Council and serves as its secretary.

He is a partner of New Life Church, Rio Rancho.

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RRPD delivers 3,000 pounds of food to Pantry

The Rio Rancho Police Department delivered to St. Felix Pantry more than 3,000 pounds of food that had been collected from city residents outside local supermarkets.

"We received things in which our clients could use to make on a large scale," said Sr. Mary Angela Parkins, President/CEO of St. Felix Pantry. "This helps to get them past the holidays and to keep them going throughout the year."

Every year our good friends at the police department collect canned goods and bring them to the Pantry.

Because of these fine men and women in blue, many families will have something to eat for the next several months.

The 3,000 pounds of food provides the equivalent of 1,500 meals.



Above: Pantry CEO and President Sr. Mary Angela accepts delivery of a trailer-load of canned food that has been collected by the Rio Rancho Police Department.





*St. Felix Pantry
New Year's Soup*

Ñ12 cups of joy
Ñ13 cups of cheer
Ñ11 Stir gently
Ñ11 Serve generously

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Feb. 14 2018

Valentine's Day dinner at McDonald's.

May 11 2018

8th annual golf tournament.



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John Barr stands beside the refrigerated truck he drives when it serves as the St. Felix Pantry mobile food pantry.

Nourishing people in food deserts

Continued from Page 1

Community Services Division's health outreach services. In fact, we will invite them to join us when they are able to at our established mobile food pantry distribution sites. They can set up an information booth offering a number of health-related topics to residents receiving food through the mobile pantry.

The Pantry strongly be-

lieves that the partnership with Sandoval County, representatives from participating agencies, local farmers and grocers will yield a successful program and will have a tremendous positive impact on hunger in the county, particularly in its food deserts.

This newly formed mobile food pantry initiative will deliver exceptional care and service throughout Sandoval County for years to come.

St. Felix Pantry HISET® to resume Jan. 15

Residents of Rio Rancho, NM, have a new resource to help prepare them to test for a high school equivalency diploma aimed at improving their quality of life.

St. Felix Pantry's opportunity for potential students resumes on Jan. 15.

The classes meet Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Pantry.

This program offers hope to many who have struggled over the years to obtain a GED.

For more information, please call Manuel at 505-270-1366, or via email: mca-sias@stfelixpantry.org.



Food for thought

In 2016, St. Felix Pantry provided 1,071,452 meals



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



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CONTRIBUTION OPTIONS

Mail this form: St. Felix Pantry,
4020 Barbara Loop,
Rio Rancho, NM 87124

Electronic: Donate via PayPal
at www.stfelixpantry.org

Bequest: Email to Manuel
at mcasias@stfelixpantry.org
or call 505-270-1366

I will contribute \$ _____
(Circle one: weekly, biweekly, monthly) until ____/____/____

I will make a one-time contribution of _____

Please print:

Name _____ Date _____

Address _____

E-mail _____ Phone _____

St. Felix Pantry Wish List

Currently Needed Items:

- New or lightly used fireproof file cabinet
- Outdoor donation collection bin
- 2 storage sheds 10- x 20-foot or larger

Donations needed:

- For Pantry utility bills
- For fuel for delivery trucks

Capital items needed:

- New delivery truck
- 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" or "use 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)

How you can help

Give a donation

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



Lend a hand

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

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.



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