RRVP Mission Statement:
Rock River Valley Pantry fights hunger in the community by providing food to those in urgent need.

RRVP: Respect, Responding, Valuing, Partnering!

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Call us at 815.965.2466.         Like us on Facebook!         Check out our website at www.rrvp.org.

It's Easy To Make a Difference- Become A Donor!
- Food donation
- Monitory gift (PB Endowment, Got Milk 4 Kids/Srs., Where needed)
- Volunteer
- Food Rescue
- Warehouse
- Client Intake
- Client Selection
- Garden
- Advocate

Did you know that you can make a gift through PayPal, credit card, ACH, cash, or check?
We are a 501c3 and acknowledge your donation for you to claim on your taxes.

2017 Peanut Butter Rally
Top 10 Reasons We Need Food Pantries
Healthy Food Is Our Focus
How YOU Can Help Us Now!
In this issue!
Spring 2017
Upcoming Events

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Peanut Butter (& Jelly) Rally!
Creamy or crunchy, jelly or jam?

It doesn’t matter to us as long as we have enough peanut butter and jelly for the kids this summer.

If you can help, then please consider one of the following:

• Hold a drive at church, work, school, or your service club meeting. Make it fun! Have a competition between creamy vs. crunchy peanut butter or grape vs. strawberry jelly.

• Purchase an extra jar or two next time you grocery shop and drop it off at the pantry.

• Attend the Peanut Butter Rally on June 9th, from 11:30-1:30 pm at the Loves Park and Rockford Gerber Collision & Glass stores. Donate to the rally, and stay for a free lunch!

WE NEED YOUR DONATIONS AS OUR GOAL IS 20,000 JARS BY JUNE 9TH!

Top 10 Reasons Why We Need Food Pantries!

1. Children living in poverty in Winnebago County is 19%.
   (U.S. Census Bureau, 2011-2015 American Community Survey)

2. Current rate of poverty in Rockford is 25%.
   (www.census.gov/quickfacts/table/INC110215/1765000)

3. Current rate of poverty in Winnebago County is 14.7%. (US Census 2015)

4. Unemployment rate in Winnebago County is 6.5% vs the 4.8% national rate.
   (www.ncsl.org/research/labor-and-.../national-employment-monthly-update.aspx)

5. Mentally-and-physically challenged people may live on fixed incomes and need help with acquiring enough food to sustain them.

6. Older adults outliving their savings and balancing housing, medical care, maintenance prescriptions, and food costs.

7. Working poor are one emergency away from being able to put food on the table. All it takes is one unexpected medical, auto, or home repair bill and your grocery list is cut in half.

8. Going to school to better yourself, or enrollment in a job training program, may impact your ability to work full time.

9. Service-sector jobs that pay minimum wage don’t keep up with actual cost of living.

10. Pantries exist to feed people who are food insecure. Why? Because it’s the right thing to do!

396 Gallons Of Milk Are Distributed Each Week!

Got Milk 4 Kids And Sr. Milk Program Are Meeting A Need!

Children who drink milk tend to eat healthier. Milk is a form of calcium and Vitamin D, much needed by all ages, but especially needed by adults over the age of 50. While the need for milk still exists, we have had tremendous support from the community for the milk program.

Eligible families and older adults receive a gallon of 1% milk when they receive their food allotment. This staple meets a basic need, and the health benefits are great!
Healthy Food Is Our Focus!

People who live at or below the poverty line struggle with making the decision to eat cheap empty calories, or eat healthier foods but consume less due to the cost. With the help of volunteers and an incredible food rescue program, we are able to design our food bags to meet the recommended daily amounts of fruits, vegetables, protein, and carbohydrates.

Volunteers like Barb sort through the donated produce to ensure that the quality of the food is acceptable. Our team of gardeners grow and distribute a fresh, healthy, and diverse offering of vegetables, fruit, and herbs in our garden at 421 S. Rockton Ave. Volunteers, like Dawn and Asha, registered dieticians, audit the food bags to make sure we meet the recommended daily amounts. Gardeners throughout the city also contribute to the nutritious bounty from their own gardens.

Upcoming Events To Have Fun, Do Good!

- **Mon., July 17 at Rockford County Club** - Volunteers are needed to help with the parking at the ProAm Golfing event.

- **Fri., July 28 City Market, in Rockford** - We’ll be at the Kid’s Activity Booth with great activities and a mechanical cow to be milked!

- **Fri., Sept. 22, 2017** - Join us for our annual fall fundraiser, Round Up for Hunger-Rock & Roll! Great food, music, auctions, raffles.

- **Thurs., Oct. 26 at the RRVP 421 S. Rockton location** - we will host the Chamber After Hours, sponsored by Associated Bank. Facility tours, music featuring Harlan Jefferson, drawings, and seasonal appetizers are part of the fun!

PB Endowment

The Gift That Lasts Forever.

Whether you are remembering a loved one or celebrating an event, making a donation to the Peanut Butter Endowment means that gift will last forever. Your gift is held in a restricted, endowed fund and only a small percentage of the interest earned is used to purchase food. Currently the fund is being used to underwrite the Sr. Milk program, a much needed and appreciated program for adults 65 and older. Contact us today for more information or to make a donation.

Client Feedback

The Pantry helps me with food and treats me with respect. The volunteers are so friendly and helpful. - Mary

I have three kids and they are growing like weeds. Thank goodness for the Pantry! - Christine

I’ve been out of work for a while and this Pantry has helped me several times with food. God bless. - Tom

I’m looking forward to the garden opening up. Last year the gardener gave me some seeds and a couple of plants, including raspberry canes. This year maybe I’ll be able to eat some of my own raspberries. - Donny
Teamwork Is Everything!

Being a member of the Board of Directors for the Rock River Valley Pantry is easy. Really! That’s because we happen to have a Director and staff that make it possible. Our mission, “Rock River Valley Pantry fights hunger in the community by providing food to those in urgent need,” could not be carried out if it weren’t for the leadership provided by our Director and our incredible staff. Kim, Tina, Ann, Jim, Jessica, Darrell, and Garrett, along with 90 generous volunteers, are the reason that the Board can do its job.

The Board meets monthly to determine the needs of our clients and make any necessary changes, brainstorm new and dynamic ways to fundraise, and discuss ways to educate others about our role in the community. Most importantly, we keep our eye on the bottom line so that 96 cents of every dollar is used for program services. Subcommittees of the Board also meet monthly to tackle projects pertaining to their committee work. However, we would not be a successful working Board if Kim and her staff didn’t see to it that our ideas are put into action.

We are always on the hunt for new volunteers to join our RRVP family. If you have a morning or afternoon to devote to helping others, give us a call and we will give you a tour. If you work for a local company that encourages community involvement, consider donating your time and effort to help us carry out our mission. We welcome new energy and new ideas!

Nonie Broski
Rock River Valley Pantry, Board President

Do You Know Someone That Needs our Help?
We offer hunger relief Mon - Fri from two locations, including morning and afternoon distribution times. Once a family or individual is registered, which is a short process, they will leave with 4 days of food and a resource list.

Want to Help Those Needing Assistance?
Donate or volunteer today! Host a food drive; send a donation to feed a family or volunteer at one of our events, in our garden, or at the pantry. Monetary gifts allow us to purchase what we are in urgent need of and 96 cents of every dollar is spent on program services.

Local Grants Make The Difference!
As a community food pantry we couldn’t fulfill our mission without help from the community. Listed below are some of the grantors from this past year. Thank you to all that donate, and for fighting hunger in our community. Ninety-six cents of every dollar goes to program services!

Woodward Charitable Trust
Westminster Presbyterian Church
Associated Bank
BMO Harris Bank
TJX Foundation
Walmart Foundation
UTC Aerospace Systems
A. E. Peterson Anderson Family Foundation
Community Foundation of Northern IL – Community Grants
AARP

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Yes, I want to make a difference and fight hunger in my community!

Please Respond Today!

Amount $__________  

___Check/Money Order/ Credit Card  
___Bequests  
___Installment Giving  
___PayPal  
___Payroll deduction with employer match  
___EFT or ACH

Name ________________________________
Address ________________________________
ZIP Code ________________________________
Email ________________________________
Credit Card # ________________________________
CVS_______________  Expiration _____________
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