

ROTARY CLUB OF SOUTH SHORE P.O. BOX 061068 • STATEN ISLAND, NY 10306-0011

January 13, 2023

Project P-4530 - New Lane Housing Project Food – Interim Report

The New Lane Housing Project Food Pantry is operational and on target to be completed on time. However the intent is to continue beyond the end of the District Grant cycle and via additional sources of funding making this an ongoing South Shore Rotary project.

After securing the necessary approvals, the first food distribution was held on November 1, 2022. Food distribution days are the first Tuesday and the third Tuesday of each month. This coincides with securing food supplies from City Harvest. In addition to the City Harvest food donations our Club secured additional food supplies from club member food collections as well as the five Rotary Clubs of Staten Island Thanksgiving Dinner program.

Since this we our first foray into running a food pantry we decided to start small and work out the kinks in the process. Additionally during the holiday period many people and organizations are cheerful givers to this type of program, but that ends with the end of the season. Yet people still need to eat after the trees are down and lights are turned off.

In the last two months of 2022 we slowly saw the number of people coming to the pantry for food increase. It started with 70 and has grown to between 110 and 115. This translates to over 150 being helped with food at the housing project.

For the remainder of the grant period we will expand what we supply the seniors. Canned vegetables and can fish and meats will be provided along with fresh produce and possibly baked goods.

Club members on a rotating basis pick up the U-Haul truck, go for the food, deliver the food, set up the tables, distribute the food, breakdown the food distribution area and sweep it clean leaving it as we found it.

The feedback that we have gotten for the seniors has been heartwarming and our club members realize that their efforts are making an impact in the recipient's lives.

Submitted by: Michael Kormanik Project Chair

