

Lamoille Community Food Share

Established 1981

802.888.6550 www.lcfoodshare.org P.O. Box 173 Morrisville, VT 05661

FALL 2014

33 Years and Still Going Strong

Lamoille Community Food Share began in 1981, 33 years ago. A small group of caring people started the food shelf in the basement of **Purfer United Methodist Church**. Several churches were involved and the facility was called "The Ecumenical Food Shelf". In the early days, **Rev. Oren Lane** and Pastoral Assistant **Carol Olsen** from **Puffer** as well as **Rev. Lance Dallaire** from **The First Congregational Church** spearheaded the effort. At one point there was a suggestion to close the Food Shelf and turn it over to **Community Action**. Thankfully, **Elise Braun**, Deacon of **St. John's Episcopal Church** in **Stowe**, stepped in to help. She organized a volunteer group led by **Sonny** and **Ruth Hill** from **Elmore United Methodist Church**. **Rev. Jennifer Geary**, pastor of the **United Church of Christ** organized meetings for the present Food Shelf organization. All along the way, **Carol Olsen** supported people and the organization and acted as a "trouble shooter".

Many volunteers have served on the Board of Directors. **Mick Heller** (1918-2010) was responsible for our achieving 501(c)3 status. He also started the first newsletter. **Sara Babcock** served as President, then came back this past summer to work as Interim-Manager. **Caroline Ballard** was our longest serving President (she now serves as Vice-President). **Duncan Tingle** spearheaded the move to our present location on Harrel Street in 2006.

We now have two part-time paid employees: **Deb Krempecke** is our Manager and **Kevin Carter** our Assistant Manager.

We mainly serve our core towns of Morrisville, Stowe, Hyde Park, Elmore, Wolcott and Eden, but we don't turn people from other towns away empty-handed. We served almost 1,200 families last year.

Over the years our relationship with the **Vermont Foodbank** in Barre has evolved. In early 2000 we paid an annual fee of \$35. In 2008, it increased to \$500 a year. We now pay \$125 annually. They deliver government surplus food once a month and we purchase some foods from them. Most of the food (about 80%) on our shelves, however, is purchased locally by us for approximately \$100,000 a year.

We rely on cash and food donations, grants and fundraising projects to support the Food Share. Our managers and volunteers work hard to get this support.

We are a COMMUNITY organization celebrating 33 years and still going strong!

Lamoille Neighborhood Food Project Update

The **LNFP** is one year old and growing. We have signed up almost 100 donors who fill one of our green bags every two months to provide the pantry with a variety of items. Our **Neighborhood Coordinators** collect the bags on the second Saturday of every even month.

Don't feel up to filling a bag but want to help? How about donating \$15 and we will purchase the food for you! You can mail a check, drop it off at the pantry or go to our website www.lcfoodshare.org and click on the **LNFP** project tab and click on the Donate button. We will purchase \$15 worth of nutritious foods: applesauce cups, raisin boxes, Cheerios, Healthy Choice soup, pork and beans, peanut butter, tuna fish and apples.

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Our New Wish List: Raisins, Applesauce, Low-salt Soup, Cereal, Chicken (canned), Nuts, Peanut Butter, Tuna, Pork and Beans, Canned Fruit, Canned Vegetables, Spaghetti Sauce, Pasta, and Personal Items & Toiletries

For more information and collection box locations

please check us out on the web, drop us an email, or give us a call:

Our phone number is: **802-888-6550** Our email address is: lcfoodshare@gmail.com

If you'd like to be removed from our mailing list, please let us know!

Our mailing address is: **P.O. Box 173 Morrisville, VT 05661**

For pictures, stories, and the latest info visit us on the web at:

www.lcfoodshare.org or www.facebook.com/lcfoodshare

We are located at: **197 Harrel St. in Morrisville**, at the corner with Munson Ave.

Hours of Operation: M-F 9:00-11:30 Sat 9:30-11:00

"Don't judge each day by the harvest you reap but by the seeds you plant" ~R.L. Stevenson





Abigail's Sister

After Carol Benson performed as a homeless woman in the one-woman play "Open Me Last" by Maura Campbell, she wanted to share her understanding of need in a useful way. Having heard of folks randomly giving cash to people at Christmas, she decided to give Lamoille Community Food Share several envelopes each containing \$5. These were to be given out as our manager saw fit, telling the recipients that it is a gift from Abigail's sister.

Some recipients had tears because they felt that someone cared. Others were particularly touched realizing that, even though they need food, they have homes.

Carol continues to supply the Food Share with her \$5 envelopes year-round.

Morrisville resident, Carol Benson, portraying "Abigail's sister" in a one-woman show about a homeless woman.

"With every deed you are sowing a seed, though the harvest you may not see."
~Ella Wheeler Wilcox

Thanksgiving by Caroline Ballard

My first experience as a pantry volunteer was during Thanksgiving 2002. We were still known as The Ecumenical Food Shelf and were located in the basement of the **Purfer United Methodist Church**. As I recall we gave out fewer than 100 baskets that year. Now fast forward to 2013 when we gave out 544 baskets serving 2,114 people!

Thanksgiving is a special time at LCFS. The logistics involved in giving out so many baskets are daunting. **Kevin** and **Deb** start shopping in August. In October **Roland Lajoie** and **Dominique Couture** rev up **Chris' Challenge** - asking businesses and individuals to donate turkeys for LCFS and other non-profits to distribute. **Elise Braun** spearheads **The Turkey Challenge** asking the faith community of Stowe to contribute funds to purchase all of the ingredients. It all comes together in the week before Thanksgiving when Deb, Kevin and many volunteers collect the turkeys from storage all over town, put together boxes and give them to clients.

My favorite memory is from several years ago. I was carrying probably my thirtieth turkey out to a client's car. I gave her the turkey and said "Have a Happy Thanksgiving!" She looked me straight in the face and said, very seriously, "We will now, thanks to your help." Yes, it is a big project, but it can make a big difference in our neighbor's holiday.

Our Board of Directors: Caroline Ballard, Betty Bevans, Heather Bradley, Joan Greene, Pam Hammel, Karen Loh, Jan Trichansky, Ellen Waldman, Tom Younkman
Newsletter Editor: Pete Brown
Food Share Manager: Deb Krempecke
Assistant Manager: Kevin Carter
IT Guru: Ken Kleinman

Goodbye to a Great Volunteer

It was sad when we said "good-bye" to **Chris Hobein** this summer. Chris, a pilot with **JetBlue**, has relocated to Boston. He was not only one of our favorite volunteers, he provided LCFS with **JetBlue** tickets for our raffle earlier this year. The two round-trip tickets went to **Maggie Morrissey** of Stowe. Lucky for us, before he left for Boston Chris volunteered 50 hours at the party, so we will be having another raffle! Tickets will go on sale early next year for our **JetBlue Raffle** with the winner drawn on April 15. Watch our website and Facebook page for more details!

Thank you Chris for all of your hard work in making this possible. We miss you and wish you the best of luck in Boston!



"Earth is here so kind, that you just tickle her with a hoe and she laughs with a harvest"
~Douglas Jerrold

Amazon Smiles On LCFS

For those of you who shop on Amazon, consider using Amazon Smile. When you want to shop, go to amazon.smile.com. Once there, you can pick from among many deserving charities. (We would love for you to choose **Lamoille Community Food Share**, but that is up to you.) Then go ahead and shop as usual. Amazon will donate .5% of your purchase price to your charity. It is that easy! There is no extra charge to you, the funds come from Amazon.



Meaghan Monogue donates cabbage from the **Stowe Community Gardens**.
If you have any spare produce from your garden, you can always drop it off at the Food Share!



Many thanks again to **John Clark of The UPS Store in Stowe** for his continuing generosity in printing our newsletters free of charge so that other donations can go directly to helping our clients. Thanks, John!