Dear friend,

We would like to take a moment to share with you a message of hope—to let you know the good we have seen during this stressful time and take a moment to reflect upon our amazing community.

The rainbow of hope is shining bright in our community and at Franklin Community Center. Everyday what we have seen has been remarkable and truly inspiring to our staff. No one has been left behind during these uncertain times thanks to a community that has risen up to support us each day. Yes, we are seeing a huge increase in the number of people utilizing our food pantry, but the volume of donations we are receiving has matched it.

Just imagine this. Our requests on social media for non-perishable items have filled our outside donation box daily. Just recently, a couple pulled up to donate a car full of food and toiletries in memory of a lost family member. Restaurants, who have shuttered their doors, have dropped off prepared meals and inventory to hand out. Businesses, small and large, have sent over gift cards for families or lunch for our staff. Monetary donations to our pantry from those in our community and beyond continue to come in each week.

When we answer the phone to take the request for food, it has become so much more than that. We listen and we hear the stories of the grandparents who now are feeding several grandchildren or the single parents who just want to talk to another adult for a bit or the elderly person on their own who asks how our day is going. From all of them what we hear most of all is thank you. “Thank you for being open, thank you for helping us.”

This experience will have a lasting impact on our lives, but rest assured good will come out of it as well. The foundation of our community is strong and will survive because it is comprised of selfless, caring individuals. For that, we say thank you.

Together we are stronger than ever—stay well!

Food Pantry Hours: During COVID-19
Monday - Friday: 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM
Closed on holidays / hours subject to change
What’s Happening

- Our **FINAL Annual Open Golf Tournament** is September 18th at Brookhaven. Registration form is on page 3. Get yours in right away—space is limited!
- Franklin is exploring ideas for a **new fundraiser** that will debut in 2021—stay tuned!
- Due to the current health crisis our **FOOD PANTRY** is now open, by appointment only, Monday—Friday from 9:00 am—4:00 pm. You must call 518.587.9826 to request a food package. The pantry is open to **ANYONE** in need.
- Pantry **item donations** are very much appreciated! We are asking for donations to be left in our food drop box. Staff will be checking and emptying the box regularly. Franklin Community Center’s Facebook and Instagram pages will have our current needs posted frequently.
- **Monetary donations** allow us to purchase in bulk from the Regional Food Bank of Northeastern New York for pennies on the dollar.
- Our **free store and furniture program are currently closed** and will re-open when it is safe to do so. We will begin taking donations again once the store is open. Please, **DO NOT** leave donations on our porches.
- We would like to thank Pitney Meadows Community Farm—they are planning to grow and harvest about **15,000 lbs of produce** for our local food pantries.
- If you are interested in growing some produce for the pantry email Julie@franklincommunitycenter.org to learn more about our **Plant A Row** program.
- **Attention Franklin volunteers....WE MISS YOU LIKE CRAZY!!!!**
- **THANK YOU** for your continued support of our services, we have one amazing community!

Major Generosity

We would like to thank the following **Major Sponsors** who have signed on at a level of $5,000 or higher to support us this past year. We are lucky to have them behind Franklin Community Center and our mission!

**Adirondack Trust Company**
**Brookfield Renewable Energy**
**Christopher Dailey Foundation**
**Fullscope IT**
**Richard Higgins**
**Kimberly Beth Kennedy Family Foundation**
**Mannix Marketing**
**Lisa & Ed Mitzen**
**Nordlys Foundation**
**Alex & Stephanie Rotolo**
**Saratoga Springs Lions Club**
**Stewart’s Holiday Match**
**The River Farm America Foundation**
**Youth² -Youth Helping Youth**
**Stacie & Michael Arpey**
**Dave & Stephanie Collins**
**Finch Paper**
**Hawley Foundation for Children**
**Kendel H. Kennedy Foundation**
**Jim LaVigne & Mary Gavin**
**Elliot & Cathy Masie**
**New England Presbyterian Church**
**David & Kathy Perry**
**Saratoga Chiropractic**
**Stewart’s/Dake Family**
**The Community Foundation**
**The Tyler Family Fund**

Food Items Needed:
- Chicken, Beef, Pork, Fish
- Cheese
- Milk Gift Cards (Stewart’s Shops)
- Fresh Fruits & Vegetables
- Peanut Butter and Jelly
- Hearty Soups and Stews
- Canned Fruits
- Hamburger/Chicken Helper
- Pasta
- Rice Sides
- Canned Tuna Fish
- Cereal
- Instant Mashed Potatoes
- Baked Beans
- Canned Ravioli

Hygiene & Misc Items Needed:
- Laundry Soap
- Dish Soap
- Can Openers

"When everything seems to be going against you, remember that the airplane takes off against the wind not with it.”
Henry Ford

Franklin Footnotes

www.FranklinCommunityCenter.org

April 2020
Franklin Community Center will host its 22nd and FINAL Golf Tournament benefit at Brookhaven Golf Course, located at 333 Alpine Meadows Road in Porter Corners, NY. The Franklin Open is a big event for us, and we’re planning to make our FINAL TOURNAMENT one for the books! All of the proceeds from The Franklin Open go directly back into providing programs and services to community members in need. Not a golfer? Sign up to be part of the “Franklin Fantoms”! Your $25 Fantom entry fee will entitle you to a tournament t-shirt and your name will be listed in our upcoming newsletter. We are still looking for sponsors and prize donors. For information on our sponsorship opportunities please contact Franklin Community Center at 518-587-9826. The first 100 officially registered participants will enjoy 18 holes of golf with course side refreshments, followed by prizes and lunch. All players should arrive for an 8:00 a.m. sign-in with rules and a 9:00 a.m. shotgun start to follow. Please fill out the registration form below for your team of four players and mail with credit card information, check or money order to:

Franklin Community Center, 10 Franklin Street, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866

Or register online at www.FranklinCommunityCenter.org (put GT in notes section)

* Please indicate t-shirt size if you are registering as a Franklin Fantom. T-shirts will be sold for $10.00 at the tournament, if you would like to pre-order please indicate your size. (Limited quantity available)

**Billing Information:**

☐ I have enclosed a check or money order in the amount of $________

☐ Please charge my card: MC / Visa / Discover accepted

Credit Card #: ___________________________ Security Code: ______ Exp Date: ______

Name appearing on card: ___________________________

Billing Address for card: ___________________________

Amount to be charged on card: ___________________________

*Please note registration forms are accepted on a first come, first serve basis. You are officially registered when we have all information and fees for your entire team.*
In Project Lift News: PROJECT LIFT CHILDREN & FAMILIES...We miss you so much and can’t wait to see you all soon! If you need us we are just a phone call away...

From the Coordinators...

When our Project Lift program was suspended due to COVID-19, our staff continued to move forward with creative ways to keep in touch with over 135 Lift friends. Each team sent letters with return envelopes to all the students. We have been so excited to receive letters and drawings back from our friends and hear what they are up to while they are at home. We’ve also assisted our families with getting access to their schoolwork and have gotten them any needed food and supplies. Each parent has been invited to join our Facebook group for their school so the Lifters can see and comment on our messages to them. We reached out to check in on our high school volunteers as well and asked them to send pictures for us to share. Through it all, we’re staying in constant contact every week through phone calls, texts and emails. It certainly does not compare to seeing our friends each week and we cannot wait until the time comes when we can be together at Project Lift again.