

## ***The FISH of Roseburg***

Faith Lutheran  
First Presbyterian  
First United Methodist



St. George Episcopal  
St. Joseph Catholic  
Umpqua Unitarian Universalists

P.O. Box 1162

Roseburg, OR 97470

(541) 672-5242

September 12, 2016

Dear Friends of The FISH,

Quite often, the staff and volunteers at the FISH Food Pantry receive questions about what is our relationship with UCAN. We explain that we are not part of UCAN, but are a partner in reducing hunger in Douglas County. So that raises the question: Did you know that the FISH of Roseburg is a stand-alone, independent, non-profit organization?

It's true! While UCAN, or United Community Action Network, was founded in 1969, the FISH of Roseburg came into being in 1971. Six local churches came together and formed the FISH Food Pantry in order to provide low-income families with an emergency food source. Through the years, these churches maintained a steadfast determination to continue feeding families and individuals in need. They did so through storing food in broom closets, cupboards, and anywhere else they could think of within their individual churches. And as the mission grew, so did the need, and it was through this need that led the FISH Pantry to be housed within UCAN's building on Harvard Avenue years ago.

Over time and through many transitions, the FISH Food Pantry ultimately ended up in its own building in 2008 where it is now, just down the hill from UCAN. And while we provide food directly into the hands of those in need, UCAN stores and distributes food from a variety of sources for the county's network of kitchens and food pantries. In other words, we have created a partnership with one another in order to provide emergency food to low-income Douglas County residents. When the Oregon Food Bank distributes food to Douglas County, it is sent to one location, which is to the UCAN warehouse. Two days per week, volunteer drivers from the FISH Pantry transport food from UCAN to the FISH Pantry, where we are then able to store it in our warehouse and hand it out to our clients. UCAN, as the regional food bank, is the only distribution center in Douglas County of Federal (USDA) foods. The FISH of Roseburg is the largest food pantry in Douglas County that provides food to families and persons in need. While a large amount of the food we distributes comes from UCAN, we still need to purchase food and receive direct food donations each month to meet the requests for assistance from our clients.

Although UCAN and the FISH of Roseburg are indeed separate, non-profit agencies, with separate boards of directors, we have an outstanding partnership and working relationship. We work together every day to ensure that no person in Douglas County should ever have to go hungry. Our residents can count on that. And p.s., the original founding churches mentioned earlier? Well, they too still continue to work tirelessly every day to support The FISH, because they still believe in the mission that our friends and neighbors are too important to go without food.

## The FISH of Roseburg Service Summary

FOOD SERVICE: During August 2016 the FISH Pantry was open 18 times for 36 hours

<u>Totals for August:</u>	2014	2015	2016
Families:	1120	1000	1035
Persons:	4440	3998	4102

  

<u>Family size:</u>				<u>Age groups:</u>			
1	208	5	188	0 – 5	327	24-44	1201
2	134	6	100	6 – 11	461	45-54	460
3	125	7	96	12-17	424	55-69	581
4	116	8+	68	18-23	416	70+	232

Areas of service: Roseburg Area: 655 households (63%), Outside Roseburg: 380 households (37%)

North: 180    West: 95    South: 86    East: 19

Miscellaneous information: Homeless persons: 185    New Pantry applications: 107 (10%)

Pantry Volunteers: 59    Volunteer hours: 688

Retail Purchases: Total \$2,526.64; includes Milk: 538 gal \$1,352.96, 176 ½ gal milk \$249.92; Meat: 936lbs. \$923.76.

Wholesale Purchases: \$2,729.09, 4,152 lbs. (eggs 1,296 #, canned fruit 1,113 #, boxed cereal 150#, Pasta 70 #, peanut butter 273#, quick rolled oats 102 #, chili 143 #, canned vegetables 430 #, fruit juice 450#).

UCAN/ OFB donation: 37,791 lbs. \$1,531.34

USDA (Federal Food Program): 6,444 lbs.

Total Pantry Food Expenditures: **\$6,787.07**

Food Donations Direct to FISH: 14,876 lbs. Includes Roseburg Food Project: 9,116 lbs., Churches: 1,232lbs., and Other/Community: 4,528 lbs.

Total Food Purchases and Donated: **69,582 lbs.**

PEDIATRIC MEDICATION SERVICE: July 2016 Prescriptions - 9 paid for by The FISH.

SHELTER SERVICE: During August 2016 the FISH provided 17 person nights of emergency shelter.

TRANSPORTATION SERVICE: During August 2016 the FISH provided the following assist with transportation: Gas vouchers: 25 for \$225.00.

See our website for current news about the FISH – <http://fishofroseburg.org>

The FISH of Roseburg is an agency of the Greater Douglas United Way

*In accordance with Federal Law, the policies of the US Dept. of Agriculture, the policies of the Oregon Food Bank, the FISH of Roseburg does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, age, sexual orientation, religion or disabilities.*