



HART Pantry

January 17, 2021

Arizona Women's Partnership

Year End Report:

HART PANTRY has had a unique and busy year. We have extended our 10-month school calendar to a full 12 months to feed the At-Risk and homeless high school teens as the schools went from on-line learning to in class and back again. It has been very rewarding to have had so much support from our community as we increase our numbers in need on a weekly basis.

The COVID crisis has affected every person in our county but we believe few have been impacted like the homeless and we dedicated ourselves to our kiddos. Purchasing groceries became difficult and costlier as we could not purchase in large quantities but rather sent dedicated volunteers store shelf shopping. Our major supplies such as SAMS and Walmart limited our quantities.

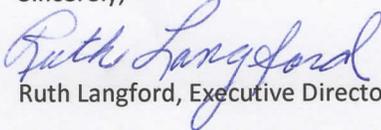
We did however continue to serve 27 high schools in 4 districts in the Valley; averaging 250 weekend food bags and 250 snack/ supper bags every week. During the past summer we provided the Peoria School District with 150 lunch bags per week for their lunch program. To protect our volunteers, we asked that schools and community centers pick-up their food bags etc., which they were happy to do. We are now back to Thursday deliveries. We sent out 270 filled back-to-school backpacks in August and September, were part of the the 83rd Avenue Back to School event in Peoria. HART provided 263 Christmas gift bags including hats, hoodies, throws, socks, toiletries and \$25.00 gift cards as well as fast-food gift cards to students in our program in the valley. Thirty-two of our kiddos graduated last spring and they were all given \$ 50.00 gift cards. Bicycles have been distributed as needed; toiletries, now so important to the homeless student as well as masks and feminine hygiene products are made available weekly.

HART PANTRY does not know our students; we do not need their identities as that is left to the school staffs, but we know they depend on us. We are stable entity and we proved, I think during this past year, that we are dedicated to them.

We at HART are very aware that with out our donors, we would have been especially hard put to carryout our mission this past year because we could not have any fund-raising activities with the quarantine. The \$ 2000.00 grant from the Arizona Women's Partnership served to provide food items that went into our weekend packs. Your organization proved an invaluable outreach resource and is much appreciated. It has become apparent that non-profits need to partner if we want to continue to meet the ever-increasing demands of our homeless and at-risk population.

Thank you for your important work.

Sincerely,


Ruth Langford, Executive Director

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