

JUNE 2020 | VOL. 14

THE DINNER BELL

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF



OUR MISSION:

TO ALLEVIATE FOOD INSECURITY THROUGHOUT ST. MARY'S COUNTY

OUR VISION:

A ST. MARY'S COUNTY FREE FROM HUNGER

Feed St. Mary's would like to express appreciation to all of the people and organizations that have stepped up to help those seriously impacted by the crisis during this difficult time. Whether you provided food, volunteer hours, money or direct services, you made a difference to those who need it the most. Thank you for your humanity and community spirit!

WHAT'S INSIDE:

- *FSM RECEIVES ALLOCATION GRANT*
- *DEMOCRATIC WOMEN DONATION DRIVE*
- *NEW PANTRY COORDINATOR*
- *FSM AND DSS PARTNERSHIP*



FEED ST. MARY'S RECEIVED MARYLAND FOOD BANK STATE ALLOCATION AWARD

Feed St. Mary's received an allocation award from the Maryland Food Bank to assist in the local battle against food insecurity. The grant allows Feed St. Mary's to increase the amount of food coming into St. Mary's County and being distributed by local food pantries and soup kitchens through the summer months. FSM is now able to supplement orders placed by partner food pantries. The award, part of the State of Maryland's response to the COVID-19 pandemic, permits Feed St. Mary's to augment immediate orders for food placed by local pantries and soup kitchen and to store additional food for future distribution. The allocation not only provides short-term relief, it also ensures that local entities will be able to set aside some of their own funding for use in the future. This allocation award is another example of how Feed St. Mary's and the Maryland Food Bank work together with local organizations to provide food to the residents of St. Mary's County.



FEED ST. MARY'S DEVELOPS PARTNERSHIP WITH ST. MARY'S COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES:

While the COVID-19 pandemic has created issues within our community, it has also opened doors for collaboration and cooperation. Over the past couple of months, FSM has sought and found ways to help alleviate those going hungry in the county. One of partnerships that has developed through this crisis is an affiliation with the Department of Social Services. As allies, FSM and DSS are dedicated to working together to identify community needs and determine strategies for using funds earmarked for ending hunger in the county.

FEED ST. MARY'S APPOINTS CHERYL BROWN AS NEW PANTRY COORDINATOR:



The Feed St. Mary's Food Bank has filled an important position within the organization by appointing Cheryl Brown as the Volunteer Pantry Coordinator. Cheryl's role will be to find existing pantries that are interested in developing deeper partnerships with FSM and working with organizations hoping to begin new food pantries in the county. Cheryl is a life-long St. Mary's County resident and has been a part of providing resources to the community for years. With her deep roots in the county and passion for helping others, Cheryl will be a wonderful asset to the Feed St. Mary's team and all the partner organizations providing services to the community.

Volunteer Pantry Coordinator Cheryl Brown and FSM Board member, Charlie Wharton meet with staff from Grace Tabernacle of Prayer about beginning a new food pantry. If you know of someone who would like to begin a new food pantry or establish a relationship with the local food bank contact Cheryl at (240) 237-8197.



Feed St. Mary's Food Bank is dedicated to making a difference in St. Mary's County! FSM Board Members Julie Randall and Greg Syler as well as Warehouse Manager Wayne Millen prove that nothing – not a pandemic, social distancing or a mask – can stand in the way of Feeding St. Mary's!



*A special thank you to the Democratic Women of St. Mary's County for participating in a Feed St. Mary's Food Drive. The monetary campaign raise almost \$10,000 to help end hunger and food insecurity in St. Mary's County. Together, we can Feed St. Mary's!
(Photos to come when social distancing protocols allow.)*

Would you like to get the latest information from Feed St. Mary's?

FSM Website: <https://feedstmarys.org>

Follow us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/feedstmarys/>

Are you interested in finding a Food Pantry in St. Mary's County? Check out the up-to-date listing on our website: <https://feedstmarys.org/services/>

**Feed St. Mary's
Greatly Appreciates
its Operational Sponsors**



**Generous Citizens
of Southern Maryland**

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FEED ST. MARY'S**

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Festival in St. Mary's County**