



December 2012 Newsletter

1260 Industrial Park Drive SE: BCFS opened to the public in our new facility on October 22, 2012. Located one block east of the Eagles Club, at the intersection of Pioneer Street and Industrial Park Drive, our new building enables us to better serve the emergency food needs of Beltrami County residents.

Grand Opening Planned for Thursday, January 10, 2013: BCFS invites the community to celebrate with us on Thursday, January 10, 2013, from 3:00 - 7:00 p.m. There will be a brief ceremony at 4:00. Light refreshments will be served.

Truly a Community Project: We are grateful for the support of the local contractors and consultants listed below, who either donated or discounted their services:

Bob Seado provided the property evaluation. Matt Sparby, Realty Experts, managed the real estate sale. Jim Lucachick, Lucachick Architecture, Inc., and Jerry Vaughn, EAPC Architects Engineers, donated architectural and engineering plans. Bob Wallner and Deb Heineman, Fuller, Wallner, Cayko, Pederson & Huseby, Ltd., donated legal services. Target donated retail and warehouse shelves and a pallet truck. Home Depot donated kitchen cabinets, countertops and ceiling tiles. North Central Door Company donated an overhead door and hardware.

All building renovations were handled by local contractors, including, Taray Electric, Haubrich Electric, Northern Safety and Security, Wes's Plumbing, Norton's Heating, Naylor Heating and Refrigeration, Lakes Concrete, Clearwater Paving, Bonded Lock and Alarm, Paul Bunyan Telephone, Minnesota Energy, and Swan Lake Builders.

Major project funders (minimum \$2,000) included:

The George W. Neilson Foundation	Sanford Bemidji Medical Center
The First National Bank Foundation	The Joseph A. & Janice Lueken Foundation
Wells Fargo Foundation	International Council of Shopping Centers
Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community	CenturyTel, Inc.
Paul Bunyan Telephone	John & Delphine Jacobsen
Bemidji Coop Association	Calvary Lutheran Church
St. Phillips Catholic Church	Bethel Lutheran Church
First Presbyterian Church	Red Lake Gaming Enterprise
Leech Lake Gaming Division	

We also owe a debt of thanks to Kathy Luepke, Rural Development Area Specialist for the USDA, whose expert advice and assistance was the key that unlocked this project. Other public servants in local agencies that provided invaluable support and advice included Mayana Rice,

Planning Administrator for the Greater Bemidji Area Joint Planning Board, Mike Miller, Building Official for the City of Bemidji, and Dave Hoefler, Fire Chief of the Bemidji Fire Department.

Special thanks are due Roy Blackwood and Brian Ingalls, who shared their carpentry talents.

There are many other individuals, too numerous to name, who contributed time, energy and money to make this project a success. We hope the new food shelf will be a community resource for many years to come.

2012 Statistics: Through November 30, 2012, we have served over 453,000 pounds of food to 9156 families (31,069 individuals). Demand for our services is up over 26% from 2011 and we project that we will serve between 34,000 and 35,000 individuals over 500,000 pounds of food in 2012.

Interagency Directors Meeting: On December 12, directors from Bemidji area nonprofits met at the new food shelf. Directors were given a tour of the new facility, with special attention to office area for visiting agencies to meet with clients. BCFS encourages area nonprofits that also serve our client population to use this office, which provides a private space with internet access, to inform clients about other services they may qualify for or even to provide direct services.

BCFS and DAC Collaboration: At its December meeting the BCFS Board of Directors accepted a proposal from the DAC to provide cleaning services twice per week. BCFS and the DAC have also agreed to collaborate on a community garden project that will include garden space, staff and volunteers from both organizations. Stay tuned for more news about the garden project in the New Year.

BCFS Executive Board and Staff: BCFS is a registered 501c3 nonprofit corporation with the sole mission to meet the emergency food needs of families in Beltrami County, Minnesota.

Board President: Bill Beyer

Vice-President: Tom Gray

Treasurer: Edith Hoyum

Secretary: C.J. Fisher

Coordinator: Jack Judkins

Interviewers: June Roxstrom, Kathy Paulson, Patty

Bookkeeper: Mishele McKain

Gabriel

To Donate: (1) Mail to PO Box 3118, Bemidji, MN 56619-3118. (2) Drop off at 1260 Industrial Park Drive SE during hours of operation (MWF, 10:00-3:30). (3) Donate on line at www.bemidjifoodshelf.org.

Wish List: Peanut butter, canned soups (especially chicken noodle and cream of mushroom), canned beans (especially kidney beans), cold and hot cereal, canned meats

Need a Speaker? BCFS provides speakers to churches and community organizations. Contact Jack Judkins at 444-6580 or bcfs@paulbunyan.net.

Bemidji Community Food Shelf publishes a quarterly two-page newsletter to inform member churches, community supporters, businesses and organizations about important events and issues. Readers are welcome to contact BCFS with feedback and suggestions for future newsletters. **In accordance with Federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, religion, sex, familial status, sexual orientation, and reprisal. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs).**