

# FISH

## The President's Message:

Visit  
the FISH Website  
<http://williamsburgfish.weebly.com/services.html>

### The Pantry Report:

During the month of April, there were 318 requests for 781 recipients for a total of 11,715 meals. Persons fed was up 6% from April 2015.

In May there were 327 requests for 762 recipients for a total of 11,430 meals. Persons fed was up 10% from May 2015.

Greetings,

There have been many changes at FISH over the last few months. Hopefully you have noticed changes in the amounts of certain items we supply to our clients. These changes have been made by the board based on the shrinking size of amounts provided to our clients.

Under the leadership of Don Butts FISH is providing volunteers to the mobile food pantry each month. The pantry provides a variety of fresh fruits, vegetables, and other foods to clients at a very reasonable cost to a sponsoring organization.

As always, thank you for your dedication and service to FISH.

Gene Bruss, President

### Important Phone Numbers:

**FISH Building: 757-220-9379**

**Volunteers – Martha Buell: 757-345-2646**

**Weather Related Closings: 757-220-4249**



## Special Interest Items

Volunteers are needed for the substitute list for the pantry. Ask your friends and neighbors to contact Martha Buell at 757-345-2646.

FISH will not apply for the Neighborhood Assistance Program tax credits this year because the application requires a financial audit performed by a CPA. FISH's audit is not performed by a CPA and it would cost approximately \$6,000 for a CPA audit. Does anyone know of a CPA who would audit FISH's financial records pro bono?

FISH wants to provide tooth brushes and tooth paste to our clients on a regular basis.

Therefore, FISH representatives are contacting dentists and dental hygienists in an attempt to identify donors.

Placards on the shelves in the pantry reflect an increase in the amount of toilet paper provided.

There will soon be name tags stating FISH Volunteer for ware while volunteering in the pantry.



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## Welcome and Farewell

Welcome to Alice Bowles, Jim Goldhammer, Mike Motes, Mary Najjar, Ling Ngo, Daily Quintans, and Linda Ruben.

Farewell and thank you to Jean Smith.



Since our supplies of clothes and housewares are limited, please don't offer them to those who haven't requested them on their referrals.

FISH now partners with United Way to distribute fresh food to those in need on the third Thursday afternoon each month. Each organization provides volunteers and helps find sponsors. The food is provided by the Virginia Peninsula Foodbank and there is an administrative fee of \$250. Church and civic organizations sponsor the event (pay the \$250 and provide some volunteers).

Sponsors have been identified through March 2017. Please determine if your church or civic organization would like to sponsor a month. Ninety-one households were served in May. FISH provided 12 volunteers. If all goes well, the Messmer Community Services Center auditorium will be used for the distribution starting in August.

Please let Martha Buell know if any of you who has a regular day is interested is in subbing. Remember, you can always say "no" when called or limit the days you are available.



## FISH Facts

With local community support, FISH provided enough food to prepare 151,500 meals in 2015 at a cost of \$0.61 per meal.

## The Messmer Community

### Service Center will be closed

#### as follows:

Monday January 18th for Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Monday February 15th for President's Day

Monday May 30th for Memorial Day

Monday July 4th for Independence Day

Monday September 5th for Labor Day

Monday October 10th for Columbus Day

Friday November 11th for Veterans Day

Thursday November 24th & Friday November 25th for Thanksgiving

Monday December 26th for Christmas Day

Monday January 2, 2017 for New Year Day

The Messmer Community Service Center will be closed due to Inclement Weather whenever Williamsburg/James City Public Schools are closed.

When there is a 1 hour or 2 hour delay in Williamsburg/James City Public Schools opening, the Messmer Community Service Center will open at its regular time.

## Donations

FISH is thankful for donations of money, food, clothing, and small housewares. The following are the food items that FISH recommends for donations:

- Spaghetti
- Canned Meat, Chicken and Tuna
- Cereals
- Spaghetti Sauce
- Boxed Macaroni and Cheese
- Saltine Crackers
- Applesauce and Canned Fruits
- Powdered Milk
- Beans (Great Northern and Baked)
- Rice
- Peanut Butter
- Grape Jelly
- Canned Soups
- Canned Vegetables



## **The Closet Report:**

In April, 505 outfits were provided to 124 adults and 62 children. Housewares were provided to 44 in April. In April the total number of requests was down 5% from April, 2015. In May 1,026 outfits were provided to 208 adults and 145 children. Housewares were provided to 50 in May. The total number of requests in May was up 12% from May 2015. FISH is in need of boys and girls clothing and silverware.

