

BATESVILLE AREA MINISTERIAL ASSOCIATION FOOD PANTRY
EIN 27-0950349



February, 2015

Dear Friends,

We have just received the news that the Feinstein Foundation has suspended its annual anti-hunger Feinstein Challenge *"until further notice in order to concentrate on its ever increasing number of Feinstein Jr. Scholars"*. While this is great news for the scholars, it is certainly a bit of a disappointment for anti hunger agencies such as our Food Pantry. No one can fault Mr. Feinstein however, as his past efforts have resulted in the highest amount of money ever raised in this country for the cause of fighting hunger. He is to be commended, but now is the time for the rest of us to pick up the anti hunger banner and run with it.

As we have always said, the benefit from our participating in this challenge was not the check for several hundred dollars that we received from the Feinstein Foundation, but was actually all of the extra donations we received **as a result of the challenge**. The truth of the matter is that the donations received in March and April, the Feinstein Challenge months, have always been significantly higher than in any other time of year, with the possible exception of the Thanksgiving and Christmas holiday season. So...with the help all who care about feeding the hungry, we hope the food drives and extra donations will continue, even if the Feinstein Challenge doesn't. WILL YOU HELP?

On to better news: It looks like the time frame for moving into the new building will be some time around May of this year. Building permits for renovations are being applied for, contractors are being lined up and volunteers are stepping forward to offer help. It's really going to happen, at last! Once we are in the new building, which will eventually house other non-profit entities as well, we'll have a lot more space and it should make for a much more efficient operation. The next item on the wish list is more grocery carts, since movement through the pantry by our clients will be limited by the number of carts we have. Another ten or so, added to the six we already have, should make a world of difference. We just have to figure out how and where to acquire them!

In the meantime, we continue to see higher than average numbers of clients going through the pantry. It seems that for every client that gets back on their feet and doesn't need to come anymore, another two are coming in for the first time. All the more reason why we need another series of successful food drives and a larger Food Pantry!

Sincerely,

Batesville Area Ministerial Association Food Pantry