

# News from The Pantry

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## Garden Patch Party Nets \$10,000

The Pantry's Garden Patch Party fundraiser, held on April 27, was a resounding success. Combined funds raised from ticket sales, table sponsorships, and auction and raffle proceeds brought in more than \$10,000 to help the Pantry in its ongoing mission to serve the hungry in our community.



Close to 200 people enjoyed a fabulous evening, generously hosted by Zion Lutheran Church. Ed Amash and Paul Hardwick provided great musical entertainment, and lots of lucky winners took home great auction and raffle prizes, donated by area businesses and individuals.

While the event was definitely a group effort, special thanks go to Alicia Reyes, HIM Pantry Fundraiser Chair. Her tireless dedication and contagious enthusiasm made for a fun, fabulous and financially successful evening!

**Thanks to everyone who contributed  
to the Garden Patch Party!**

## Gifts Large and Small Keep Us Going

We continue to be amazed by the kindness and ongoing commitment of our neighbors and friends. It seems that when a need arises, someone is always there to fill it!

- **Individual donations** help us purchase items such as toiletries, baby items and paper goods. In April alone, we received contributions from 33 individuals – totaling \$10,776! Every gift, no matter the size, helps us fulfill our mission.



## Upcoming Events

**Saturday, June 29**  
**5<sup>th</sup> Saturday Food Fair**  
10 AM to Noon

Volunteer opportunities available from 8:30 AM to 12:30 PM – come by and lend a hand! See more details on page 3.

## Celebrating Our First Decade of Service!

The HIM Food Pantry began as a small idea in 2009. Now, 10 years later, we are still going strong! Since the beginning, we have served more than 160,000 individuals and 43,000 families.

We are making plans for a fun event to thank everyone who has worked so hard to make the Pantry a success. Watch for more details to come!

- **Fruit Share Houston**, a local organization that harvests neighborhood fruit trees, made their final delivery of citrus for the season. Our clients enjoyed this fresh addition to our shelves!



- **Kolache Shoppe and Three Brothers Bakery** provide us with leftover bread and pastries each week.
- **Food Drives** help fill our shelves. Thanks to Travis Elementary, Cedar Brook Elementary, Boy Scout Troop 30, Girl Scout Troop 122013, Zion Lutheran Preschool & Church, The Vineyard, St. Andrew's Episcopal Church & School, Christ the King Catholic Church confirmation students, Shell/Magnovo training and others who gave!

- **Second Servings of Houston** makes regular deliveries of unused food from area restaurants and stores—

strawberries, peanuts, bread, cheese, sandwiches and more!

- **Music for the Soul** – Musician Brian Kallinec and St. Andrew's Episcopal Church held a wonderful concert in March to benefit the Food Pantry. Thanks to Brian for his beautiful music and to all who attended and donated.



- **Work Days** sponsored by businesses and organizations help the Pantry catch up on chores. Thanks to Kraft/Heinz, Cristo Rey, Congregation of Reform Judaism, High School for Law & Justice ROTC and the many others who pitched in!

## Girl Scout Earns Gold

Sophia Baldazo completed her Gold Award, the highest honor a Girl Scout can receive, earlier this year. Earning both her Bronze and Silver awards with work at the Pantry, Sophia's Gold Award project "Teach Us How to Fill the Shelves" supported the Pantry by hosting workshops and drives to collect toiletries and non-perishables and teach participants about the importance of volunteering. Sophia and her team also built new shelving for the Pantry. Sophia hopes these workshops will continue for years to come. A member of Troop 25197 since kindergarten, Sophia recently graduated from Lamar High School and will attend Texas A&M University. We appreciate her hard work on our behalf and congratulate on her on this accomplishment!



## Join the Food Fair Fun June 29

Each 5<sup>th</sup> Saturday the Pantry hosts a special Food Fair, and our next event will be held June 29 from 10 AM to Noon.

**What is a Food Fair?** The Pantry receives a special truckload of food from the Houston Food Bank. Volunteers hand out food until



all clients are served or food is given away. It's fun, fast and always includes items not normally available in the Pantry.

### How can you help?

Volunteers are needed from 8:30 AM to 12:30 PM to help with set-up, distribution and

clean-up. We offer two-hour shifts, so you can give some time and still enjoy your Saturday activities. Adults and older youth are welcome. This is a great way for teens to earn those all-important service hours.

### Where do you sign up?

Volunteers can sign up to work at [himfoodpantry.org](http://himfoodpantry.org) – look for the **SignUp Genius** icon. Even if you don't sign up in advance and want to join us, please do. We will find something for you to do!



## Thanks to Our Sponsors

We want to once again recognize our many table sponsors at our Garden Patch Party. We appreciate your support!

Ally Altomose & Family ♦ Alice Bongers & Family ♦ The Church at 1548 Heights ♦ Rakhi Diminio & Family  
The Dougherty Family ♦ The Eggleston Family ♦ Ista Construction ♦ Krav Maga Houston-Central Campus  
The Mendoza Family ♦ Susan Romeo (Venus Hair Houston) ♦ Susan Venus (Venus Hair of Houston)  
Senior Meals ♦ Joe & Meghan Stockmeyer ♦ Wilson Talbert ♦ Lacy Telge & Family  
Samantha Tiller-Schenck & Nordic Consulting, Inc.

## Lend A Hand

### Give Your Time

Help is needed:

- Thursdays 4:30 - 7 PM
- Saturdays 9:30 AM - Noon

Sign up at [himfoodpantry.org](http://himfoodpantry.org) to help neighbors in need.

### Stock the Shelves

Your workplace, school, youth group or other organization can host a food drive. Shelf-stable foods, toiletries and diapers are always welcome.

### Donate Money

We must purchase some key items each week. Visit [himfoodpantry.org](http://himfoodpantry.org) and click on the PayPal link to help us fill our carts!

**Since 2009, we have served more than 43,000 families and 160,000 individuals.**

**Like us on Facebook to keep up with the latest news and info and watch the Pantry in action.**