

Food Pantry News

Volume 6, Issue 1 – February 2024



1971-2021

Star Fish, Inc. is a tax exempt 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation. Donations are tax deductible as permitted by law.



admin@starfishPlainfield.org

Thank You All!

To our many Stars for Star Fish, we offer our most sincere thanks. .

2023

Once again we concluded our year with grateful hearts and warm wishes for all who provided financial support to Star Fish.

It is extremely gratifying to know that our friends support us. Your financial contributions encourage us and empower us to do more!

Note: We will publish our list of food donors in our next issue.

Board of Directors

Pat Bixel

Executive Director



Michael Townley

Secretary



Kathleen Nitzsche

Treasurer



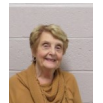
Sarah Mazzaresse

Statistician



Catherine Renga

Chair
Holiday Meals



Jerry Zukowski

Chair
Food Procurement



Marie Pase, Board
Advisor

Newsletter

We welcome any comments or suggestions. Email us!

If you don't want to receive emails from us, opting out is easy—just send an email to Secretary@starfishplainfield.org

Please forward to your contacts.

Thanks to our 2023 Sponsors

Bag it Up Sponsor - \$1 to \$99

Amazon Smile, Inc.
Anonymous donor
Barbara and Douglas Doerr
Bette Pricer
Colin duSaire
Courtney Beams
Crescent Ave Presbyterian Church
Daniel and Janet Lawrence
Devanie Budhan
Elizabeth Stowasky
Frederick Fisher and Judith Love-Fisher
Harry and Patricia Bernstein
Jim Schiffer Jr.
Joan Lally
Karen A. Parker
Keystone Plastics
Maurice Sherman
Nancy A. Piwowar
Nina Anastasiou
Noreen and Ed Sitar
Roberta J Geyer
Robyn and Michael Whalen
Ronald and Geraldine Castaldo
Rosa Casiello-O'Day
S Thomas Bennett
Stop & Shop
William & Maria Nierstedt

Eggs for All Sponsor - \$100 to \$249

Alice and John Gregory
Barbara Fuller
Barbara Lynam
Benevity Community Impact Fund
Beverly J. Christian
Bill and Pat Kelleher
Blooming for Good
Brenda Anderson
Brian Townley
Carlos Cardozo
Carolyn Logan
Church Women United in the Plainfield Area
Church World Services, Inc.
Complete Care at Westfield LLC
Cornelia McCloud
Crop Walk
Darlene Bullock

David E. Shihar
David Richmand
Deborah L. Roach
Diane Yannaco
Dolores Martin
Edmunds Family Foundation
Ellen Ann Livingstone
Gabriela Sousa
Gail Smith Alexander
Gary Harchar
Gift Card
James Adams
Janet and Michael Townley
Janette Cardozo
Janice C. Vyzas
Jean Trees
Jennifer Scott
Jo Ann Ball
Keith McManus and Jillian Mooney
Lawrence Feldman
Loretta Conniff
Marc Linder
Marcia Bowman
Marilyn P. Bunting
Mary Ann D'Urso
Matthew Cunniff
Michael Whalen
Patricia J Filippo
Peter Connelly and Pauline Ting
Peter Rogen & Associates, Inc.
Pui Evans
Rashmi Kumar
Rita and Roy Wehmeyer
Robert Joseph
Robert Shiff
Robyn Clayborne-Reid
Rosemarie Bonk
Sarah Mazzaresse
Shakera Ford
Sharon and Jeff Paul
Sherry Kenny
Stephen Ringlee
Sue Gomlick
Susan Ruggiero
Theresa & Craig Sweeney
Virginia and Thomas Pate
Vivek and Nidhi Radia

Thanks to our 2023 Sponsors (cont'd)

Chicken in Every Pot Sponsor - \$250 to \$499

Barbara R. Diem
 Cybergrants Verizon Gifts
 Deidre Seidel
 Helen Nitzsche
 Hugh Woodruff
 Jacquelin Scully-Clark and Edward Clark
 Jeffrey and Amy Kowalsky
 John H. Langdon
 John Reilly
 Leslie Taylor
 Scotch Plains Baptist Church
 Steven Kunzman

Grocery Cart Sponsor - \$500 to \$999

Ameta Ricks
 Andrew Shaw
 Bernard Skip Shihar
 Bruce and Ruth Ryno
 Carol Ruskin
 David Palmer
 Gerry Heydt and Arne Aakre
 Jason Thomas
 John E. Grigo, Sr.
 John O'Malley
 Joseph D. Bixel
 Marjorie W Cohen
 Olive Bryan
 Richard McInerney
 St. Andrews Episcopal New Prov.
 United Church of Christ
 Congregational Plfd.
 Wesley Methodist Church, South
 Plainfield
 William Contreras

Shelves of Food Sponsor - \$1,000 to \$4,999

Arnold A. Schwartz Foundation
 Community Food Bank NJ Grant
 Donald & Constance Palmer
 Eugene Harrison
 Harry & Caroline Pozycki

Jennifer Gregory
 Joseph Encarnacion
 Kathleen and Paul Nitzsche
 Lawrence T Quirk
 M&T Charitable Foundation
 Mary Burgwinkle
 Patricia M. Bixel
 Maryellen Chanda
 St Joseph Catholic Church, Hillsborough
 Suzanne Stowasky
 The Frippery Thrift Shop
 Wilson Memorial Church Outreach Committee

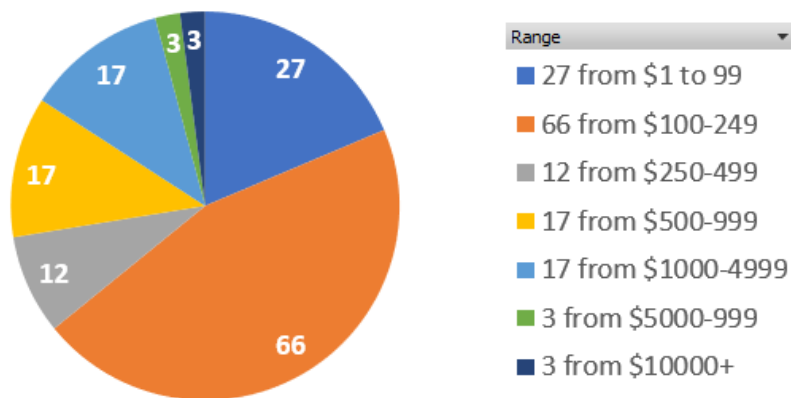
Fill an Aisle Sponsor - \$5,000 to \$9,999

Faith Lutheran Church
 Laura Niles Foundation
 Nancy Blades

Pantry Full of Food Sponsor - \$10,000 and up

PayPal Donations
 Somerset YMCA
 The Plainfield Foundation

Number of Donors in Range of \$ Given



Be a STAR for Star Fish!

Donate at our website make your donation a monthly donation! www.starfishplainfield.org

2023 Annual Report of Activity

	2023 Number of Adults, Children and Households Served				Bags of Food Distributed		
	Adults	Children	Total people	Total households	AGENCIES	PFSP	Total Bags
January	198	193	391	264	141	150	291
February	443	321	764	327	107	169	276
March	333	348	681	203	126	180	306
April	1752	225	1977	1013	154	780	934
EASTER	241	333	574	143			
May	320	65	385	273	141	250	391
June	499	409	908	281	130	250	380
July	672	477	1149	274	114	160	274
August	1031	506	1537	361	158	151	309
September	1169	429	1598	275	134	260	394
October	645	538	1183	348	186	250	436
November	803	542	1345	406	106	286	392
THANKSGIVING	263	327	590	151			
December	866	467	1333	267	106	286	392
CHRISTMAS	254	328	582	142			
TOTAL	9489	5508	14997	4728	1603	3172	4775

- April includes 600 bags for families distributed through our partnership with the YMCA Project 600
- Holidays are not included in the bag count because we distributed gift cards
- “Agencies” are our Partners, such as Plainfield Action Services. “PFSP” is the walk-up Plainfield Food Security Project started during Covid-19. Working with the YMCA, Star Fish gives out 150 bags of food 2 x each month

Star Fish, Inc.

P.O. Box 2822
Plainfield, NJ 07062-0822

Phone: 908-755-8888

E-mail:

secretary@starfishplainfield.org

Donate at

www.starfishplainfield.org

Visit our website, click on the Contact or Donate link in the menu bar, and then click on the "Donate" button as shown below.



What is Star Fish?

We are a group of volunteers from Plainfield and the surrounding area who belong to a tax exempt, 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation in existence since 1971. Star Fish operates three days each week throughout the year, preparing and distributing grocery food orders to an average of thirty to thirty-five families in need each week.

Our primary function is to maintain the food pantry. Our volunteers pack and deliver grocery food orders to clients who have been referred to us by local social service agencies. Most of these agencies are listed on our website [Partners page](#). We also prepare and help give out 150 bags of food twice a month at the walkup Plainfield Food Security Project.

Using a referral system helps us better manage our resources. These agencies vet the client to help assure that our limited resources are given to those truly in need. Our team also prepares special food gift cards for 160 families at Easter, Thanksgiving, and at Christmas. This enables the families to buy food that is appropriate to their heritage and beliefs.

The generosity of our donors helps us prepare these bags of food each week and purchase those holiday gift cards for those in need of emergency food assistance. You are all "Stars for Star Fish!"

The Food We Provide To Those In Need—Amounts Vary Based on Family Size

- 1 Package of frozen meat
- 1 Loaf of bread
- 1 lb of Pasta
- 1 Pasta Sauce
- 4 Cans Soup
- 2 Macaroni and Cheese
- 1 Small bag of tea bags
- 1 Jar Peanut Butter
- 1 Jar Jelly
- 1 Can of Fruit or Jar of Applesauce
- 4 Cans Vegetables
- 2 Can of Tuna
- 4 Cans of Beans
- 1/2 Dozen Eggs
- 1 box of cereal (or 4 Instant Breakfast cereal envelopes for single persons)
- 1 dry or shelf-stable milk
- 1 Paper goods, 1 cleaning product, and 1 personal care item (if available)



You can donate any of these items at any time. Contact us and we'll even arrange to pick it up!

Too busy to do extra shopping? Donate instead and we'll buy it. Just go to www.starfishplainfield.org and click on the "Donate" button.