

open the 3rd Thursday every month at Wesley 5pm-7:30pm • open the 2nd Wednesday every month at Parkland 7am-2pm

Upcoming Pantry Dates

Parkland	Wesley
June 11	June 19
July 9	July 17
August 13	August 21
September 10	September 18

Calling for Volunteers

The absence of many students over the summer creates a decrease in pantry volunteer signups, and we often get fewer volunteeers than we need for truck unloading, setup, food distribution, and office work. If you are in the area this summer, please signup to volunteer at one of our locations! See orientation dates for June below.

*New volunteers must complete orientation before volunteering:

June 10th at 5:15 P.M. (Parkland)

June 11th at 12:15 P.M. (Parkland)

June 18th at 7:30 P.M. (Wesley)

June 19th at 2:00 P.M. (Wesley)

Sign up at http://wesleypantry.org/volunteering/

Questions contact: volunteer@wesleypantry.org



A cardboard sculpture (nicknamed "Wes") created by Parkland 3D design students from cardboard discarded by the Pantry.



Search "Wesley Evening Food Pantry" at www.facebook.com













Program Evaluation Affirms Pantry's Value

Wesley Evening Food Pantry recently received a useful analysis of its services through evaluations done by the EPSY 471 Spring 2014 class. Led by Professor Jennifer Greene, the students worked in groups to compile reports on the Pantry's clients, volunteers, and mission. Overall, the reports demonstrated the satisfaction of the Pantry's clients, the dedication of its volunteers, and the thoughtfulness of its operations.

Interviewed clients emphasized that they felt welcome at the Pantry and enjoyed its non-judgmental atmosphere. One client summarized their experiences by stating, "I don't feel judged and it's very open. That's why I keep coming back." The students formed poems and word clouds out of the interviews they conducted, which was done to "allow the clients to speak for themselves." These presentations show that clients are finding an invaluable service in the Wesley Evening Food Pantry.

The Pantry's volunteers were analyzed through surveys. Particular attention was paid to the volunteers' satisfaction with their experiences and their reasons for volunteering. The surveyed volunteers reported high levels of satisfaction, noting that they felt that the work they did was important and that they would consider volunteering again. In describing their reasons for volunteering, the survey participants selected such reasons as addressing social problems and fighting injustice, demonstrating that volunteers at the Pantry truly believe in the work that they do.

Finally, the students analyzed the Pantry's mission and operations. Interviewed Champaign County food professionals praised the thoughtfulness that went into the Pantry's design, and designated it as a food pantry with "best practices." This makes the Pantry stand out as a particularly effective resource in the community.



This word cloud was created by the EPSY 471 students out of clients' descriptions of themselves during interviews.



This word cloud was created by the EPSY 471 students out of clients' interviews regarding their experiences at the Pantry.

"You Get a Choice"

This excerpt is from a poem created by the EPSY 471 students from their interviews with clients.

There is now an upstairs and downstairs!

No more waiting!

You get a choice. So nothing is wasted. That's the best part!

With the choices you can basically make a meal.

We like the hospitality.

We like the ambiance

...

Before I pick my number, I pray God gives me a good number.

This time is quite convenient. I don't have class and the day is fading away. Everyone is relaxed so it's a good time

If you go through the line and your bag is still half full they tell you to come back and fill it up. That's pretty good.

Even if it's just green beans and corn, it means you don't have to buy the green beans and corn.

Meet the New Staff and Interns at Wesley Evening Food Pantry

Staff



Hi, my name is Brittany Coleman. I am from River Forest, Illinois, a small, western suburb of Chicago. I graduated from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in May of 2014 with a double major in Creative Writing and French Studies. I had been volunteering with the Wesley Evening Food Pantry for a few short months before I learned of the opportunity to work as a part-time staff member—a perfect fusion of my enthusiasm for the pantry's mission and my fondness for the Champaign-Urbana community. As the Assistant to the Food Pantry Director, my primary role is to coordinate with existing volunteers as well as to recruit new ones through the distribution of informational newsletters, and by responding to general inquiries via email and telephone. I am also responsible for updating the volunteer page and managing volunteers during pantry distribution hours. Questions or concerns? Please feel free to email me at volunteer@wesleypantry.org

Interns



What's goin on everyone, my name is Elon Roland and I am a sophomore at UIUC. I am currently seeking a degree in RST with minors in Business and Communication. Over the summer I am the Communications, Public Outreach and Anual Reporting intern for the Wesley Food Pantry. My experience here has been great, and that is due to the fact I am not just doing busy work I am doing important work in order to help the incredible people of Champaign-Urbana. I always want to contribute when I can and here with the great staff and interns of The Wesley Food Pantry I am able to contribute and enjoy my experience here.

Hi, my name is Alexandria Dumar and I am the Social Media and Annual Report intern for the summer. I just completed my junior year at UIUC majoring in Sociology with a minor in Informatics. I am excited to gain new skills in data analysis, social media marketing, and other communication areas through my internship. My academic interests include social justice and the intersection between technology and society, which make an internship at the Pantry very ideal. My personal interests include literature, musical theatre, and cats.





Hi, my name is Jose. I came recently moved to the States from Venezuela with my wife and son. I came to know Wesley and the Pantry because I was in need of food. I was so impressed with what they did that I needed to be a part of it...so, I applied for an internship and got it! Now I'm in charge of renovating the website as well as creating some software so the Pantry can keep better track of their stock of food. It is an honor and a pleasure to be of help and be surrounded by such awesome people.

Hey everybody, my name is Sean Kelley, and I am the Operations Intern for this summer. I am from Philo, Illinois, and am currently a sophomore here at the University of Illinois studying Industrial Engineering. My career goal is to be an Operations Researcher, so I became interested in this specific position to gain some work experience. Being from the area, it is also my hope that my work will give back to the community. If anyone reading this will be volunteering with the pantry this summer, I look forward to working with you!



By the Numbers: Wesley Pantry Serves An Increasing Number of Clients in Need

The first line graph shows the number of individuals served at the Wesley Pantry during January through March for the years 2010-2014. The second line graph shows the number of individuals served at Parkland between December 2013 and May 2014. The increasing trends in the graphs below shows that more individuals are seeking and finding the Pantry's services.



