

## INFORMATION SHEET

### PARKER TASK FORCE FOR HUMAN SERVICES – FOOD BANK

The Parker Task Force was organized in 1987 by a handful of residents from local churches who saw a need to serve and to share with fellow residents of Parker, Elizabeth, and Franktown. Over the years, the need has continued to grow. In just the last 18 months, the number of client families served has doubled! The Food Bank is operated solely by dedicated volunteers, all products are donated, and the operating cost structure is very low. The Town of Parker donates our space and all utilities. The goal is to be a short-term lifeline in the local community. The Parker Food Bank currently serves over 400+ families.

The Food Bank can continue to serve our neighbors with their short-term needs in these three communities only through the generous and continuous support of our neighbors. The work at the Food Bank reflects the power of the community of caring individuals who are willing to reach out a helping hand. Volunteers donate several hours per week. In addition, individuals, churches, youth groups, schools, local businesses, and civic organizations have all donated time, cash and food. Over five years ago, the Parker King Soopers and Safeway stores agreed to support a once-a-month food drive. This continuous source of products that are 100% “shelf ready,” along with the cash that is collected, is the one sustaining factor in keeping the Food Bank viable. This monthly drive accounts for 80% of the annual food needs!

Persons or groups interested in helping at one of the monthly collections may call 303-841-3460. The stores authorizing volunteers at their locations are King Soopers: Stroh’s Ranch, and Lincoln and Jordan, and the Safeway on Parker and Main. Other supermarkets and businesses have other donation vehicles in place, and offer generous support of the Food Bank as well. Collection times are 8am until 4pm. The drives generally occur on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of each month.

The Parker Food Bank recognizes that holidays bring additional needs and stress to our families. To assist, full holiday meals are distributed to those in need a couple of times a year. Providing food is our primary service. However, in limited amounts and in unusual situations, some other types of assistance are available. Homeless clients are referred to the Parker Police Department to receive a one or two night motel voucher from the PTF. The Food Bank encourages families to become involved with other organizations that provide assistance to meet needs beyond our scope. Collaboration with County Social Services and multiple service agencies, both government and private, is an ongoing activity. A resource list of available support organizations is provided to each family. There is also an extensive and well-maintained “Job Search” board located within the Food Bank.

The Parker Task Force – Food Bank facilities are located at 20118 East Mainstreet, Unit D in Parker. The entrance is located on the lower level in the rear of the building. The telephone number is 303-841-3460. Volunteers are available at this site during the hours of operation to assist client families, maintain the food bank, receive your donations, and/or take your calls. Feel free to stop by to visit, or set up a special tour and information session after hours for interested groups by calling the Task Force number. Hours of operation are: Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday from 9am until 1pm. Thank you for any assistance you can provide.