



NeighborImpact

Critical Needs. Diverse Services. Empowering Change.

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Affects of Rising Food and Fuel Prices Highlight 2008 Survey of Food Box Recipients

Who: Oregon Food Bank recently conducted a survey at food pantries throughout Oregon to find out what caused people to need emergency food assistance. In Central Oregon agencies in Madras, Redmond, Prineville, La Pine and Bend provided survey results from their clients. Over 3,800 individuals filled out the survey in all parts of Oregon.

What: The three major reasons respondents cited for needing help are rising food prices (52%), high fuel costs (40%), and housing costs (23%). Residents in Central Oregon face all of these issues. The survey also shows the largest group receiving emergency food is households with children. **Every month in Central Oregon over 3,500 children eat meals from emergency food boxes.**

When/Where: The survey was conducted during a two week period in April at 150 different food assistance agency locations.

Why: Survey results are being released along with service numbers by the Statewide Food Bank Network for the year ending June 30, 2008. This past year saw need for food assistance grow by 5% across the state. **Here in Central Oregon the number of food boxes distributed increased 18%. An average of 2,570 food boxes each month were distributed providing food to more than 8,450 people.**

History/Mission: NeighborImpact seeks to change the course of each family's future by giving them the tools they need to succeed. NeighborImpact's tool box includes Head Start, weatherization, home repair, energy and rent assistance, financial skills building, savings programs, assisting parents to find child care, tutoring homeless children, providing emergency and transitional housing to homeless families, home buyer education and feeding the hungry.

NeighborImpact: Building Success—Changing Lives

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