

A place in the Arbor Hills/Leopold neighborhoods where people in need can find essential products for everyday living at no cost.

Some basic information

Primary organizers: All Saints Lutheran Church, Arbor Covenant Church, Fitchburg Christian Fellowship, Memorial United Church of Christ (Other neighborhood, civic and religious groups are considering joining as partners in the effort.)

Opened: Friday, Oct. 19, 2012

Location: Arbor Covenant Church, 2509 McDivitt Road in Madison. (Two blocks behind the Wisconsin Heart building)

Fiscal agent: Arbor Covenant is the fiscal agent for the pantry. Checks should be made to <u>Arbor Covenant</u>, which is a tax-deductible organization. We also receive donations through the PEPartnership Alliance

Staff: All staff for the pantry is volunteer. There are no paid positions.

Estimated family units served in first year: 1,000

All are welcome: While the primary organizers of the pantry are from church communities, this is inspired by their own sense of serving others, not as a recruitment tool for the churches or as a way to convert those seeking help. The pantry is designed to serve those facing economic needs.

Sources of products: We are able to purchase wholesale through the PEPartnership. We do receive some donations of items from members of the congregations and civic groups, though it is more economical to buy items at cost through the partnership.

Sources of funding: The members of the congregations and congregational budgets, fund-raising events (concert on Oct. 19), donations from area businesses and individuals

The PEPartnership, Inc: This is a network of personal essentials pantries that helps individual pantries develop their services to those in need. They provide the software and support that make it possible to run the pantry. They are a registered 501c3 nonprofit organization. You can find more on this website: http://pepartnership.net

Other area pantries: This would be the second personal essentials pantry to serve the immediate Madison area; the other is at Zion Lutheran Church, just off Atwood Avenue on the east side. The Catholic Multicultural Center has personal essentials available in conjunction with its food pantry. A personal essentials pantry also has opened recently in Stoughton & Watertown.

For more information go to our website at www.gnpep.net.