

DAVIS MEDICAL CENTER HOSTS FOOD DRIVE



Staff members at Davis Medical Center say they enjoy giving back to their community. Recently Jeannie Raines helped organized a food drive for Catholic Charities West Virginia's (CCWVa) Elkins office. She organized the food drive through the "Culture Club" of David Medical Center so that it could be done as a hospital-wide service. Davis Medical Center donated 354 pounds of food.

"The Davis Health Foundation had organized food drives before. This year the Foundation worked with the Culture Club and put out an invitation to all staff here at DMC to participate," said Raines.

"All of our employees here at DMC have always been generous in our community. This was no exception. Within days, food started pouring in

the box, fulfilling our mission as always here at DMC."

INTERNSHIPS PROVIDE MORE THAN WORK EXPERIENCE

Catholic Charities West Virginia's (CCWVa) Elkins Outreach Office and Davis and Elkins College (D&E) have established and continue to maintain a strong relationship beneficial to both organizations. During the spring semester, CCWVa again collaborated with D&E College to assist two interns, Lucinda Landis and Bethany Williams, in completing the field experience they needed for their programs.

Lucinda Landis is majoring in psychology and with a minor in philosophy.

"I enjoyed meeting people in all walks of life," said Landis.

Landis said that the skills she's gained through this internship experience are applicable to her degree and career goals, and she has been developing stronger interpersonal skills. Over the past few months, she has become better able to engage clients without judging or making them feel judged.

Bethany Williams is majoring in psychology and with a minor in criminology. She said that her internship experience has helped to open her eyes not only to the various people who need help, but also to the personal stories and circumstances that led those individuals to their current state.

Williams said that clients, volunteers and staff helped her gain more of an awareness and understanding of other peoples' hardships and struggles.

The CCWVa staff said they will miss both interns, and they are grateful for the students' hard work.



EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE

October 2015 – March 2016

| | Elkins | Webster Springs |
|-------------------|------------------|------------------------|
| Electric | 52 Households | 30 Households |
| Water | 13 Households | 4 Households |
| Gas | 8 Households | 1 Households |
| Prescription | 2 Households | |
| Emergency Lodging | | 1 Household |
| Food | 1,765 Households | 706 Households |

VOLUNTEER SERVICE

October 2015 – March 2016

| | Elkins | Webster Springs |
|----------------------|---------------|------------------------|
| Number of Volunteers | 213 | 2 |
| Service Hours | 1,672 | 174 |

Serving Braxton, Gilmer, Lewis, Pendleton, Pocahontas, Randolph, Tucker, Upshur and Webster counties

Elkins (304) 636-4875

Webster Springs (304) 847-7416



Spring 2016

WESTON REGION
Elkins + Webster Springs

Save the Date
Catholic Charities West Virginia

*Sixth Annual
Autumn Gathering*

October 28, 2016
Embassy Suites in Charleston

HUNTING FOR TREASURES

Catholic Charities West Virginia is open to all people regardless of their race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, socio-economic background, marital or family status.



Catholic Charities West Virginia's (CCWVa) Webster Springs Outreach Office recently held its annual Easter egg hunt. Each year eggs are provided by donors, and then filled with candy by a local scout or youth group. This annual event creates an opportunity for area residents to come together and build their community while providing an enjoyable activity for all children.

Over 1,000 eggs are hidden in a nearby community park called Baker's Island. Children of walking age through 12 years old descend upon the park by the dozens in hopes of finding the most eggs, or at least a prize egg.

The eggs are usually found within 15 minutes; then the children gather together, count their eggs and listen for their chance to come to the big pavilion and pick out an Easter gift. The Easter gifts typically come from any remaining supply of items donated during the winter holiday season.



Each of the children in attendance gets to choose a gift. Volunteer Craig Sears is dressed in an Easter Bunny costume, and many pictures are taken.



Thank you to the Custard Stand for providing ice cream certificates to put in the eggs and a very special thank you to Rennee and Denny Quayle from Elyria, OH, for purchasing this year's eggs and candy. This donation really helped this year, and it is greatly appreciated.

Volunteer Opportunities

Thrift Store Volunteer (Webster Springs)

Host a Drive for: Food, Personal Hygiene Items, or Cleaning Supplies

Needed Supplies

Personal Hygiene Items,
Laundry Soap,
Cleaning Supplies

Needed Foods

Corn, Whole Wheat Pasta, Low Sodium Canned Food

Donations can be delivered to:

1513 Harrison Ave.
Suite C10
Elkins, WV 26241
or
113 North Main St.
Webster Springs,
WV 26288

or made online by credit card at
CatholicCharitiesWV.org
1-888-900-2989



HELP PROVIDED WITH SNAP BENEFIT APPLICATIONS

Catholic Charities West Virginia (CCWVa) is alleviating poverty in West Virginia through its Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Outreach Program.

After receiving the first USDA SNAP Outreach Grant for West Virginia, CCWVa launched its SNAP Outreach Program in 2015. This free program is designed to help people in applying for SNAP benefits.



"As the nation's first line of defense against hunger, SNAP helps put food on the table for low income families and individuals every month," said Robin Bowman, CCWVa SNAP Outreach Coordinator.

In its first year, the CCWVa SNAP Outreach Program assisted more than 450 low-income West Virginians in applying for this benefit. One of those 450 families was Tina's. Tina is a grandmother who is raising her terminally ill grandson. With a low income, she struggles with the day-to-day expenses of caring for her grandson, and she didn't know what to do. The CCWVa SNAP Outreach team talked to Tina about SNAP benefits and assisted her in completing an application. Tina is now receiving the SNAP benefit and says she is truly grateful for the help she received from CCWVa.

"We believe that if one person is going hungry, that is one too many," said Bowman.

For more information, call 1.844.292.3217 or visit www.CatholicCharitiesWV.org/SNAP-Outreach.

WESTON REGION STAFF

Regional Office (Elkins)

Regional Director, Teresa Wymer; Program Assistant, Dee Oldaker; AmeriCorps, Sharell Harmon and Jessica Marsh

Webster Springs Outreach Office

Outreach Coordinator, Tina Cogar; AmeriCorps, Emily Harris

Our Mission is to alleviate poverty, distress, and injustice by providing comprehensive social services to the poor and vulnerable, advocating for social justice, and calling all people of good will, especially those of the Church, to service.