



Sweet Home Emergency Ministries  
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In spite of the uncertainties brought about by the Covid-19 pandemic and this summer's wildfires, we are so grateful for your continued prayers and thankful for this caring, supportive community who are helping make a difference here in Sweet Home.

2020 Highlights and Blessings for which SHEM is truly thankful for...

The opportunity to serve the community, providing hunger relief, clothing, and financial assistance for over 40 years:

- 2,219 Emergency food boxes (feeding 7,842 people and including 246 first-time families) distributed at drive-thru or curbside
- 8,022 "To Go" meals, prepared and served at the Manna meal site
- Financial assistance, helping 798 people with crisis shelter, rent, propane, utilities, prescriptions, ID's, laundry, bear bricks, and eye glasses
- Carmen's Closet, distributing community donated clothing and household items
- The Giving Tree out front, providing hats, scarves, gloves, and socks
- Faithful volunteers sharing their time and talents, providing over 10,837 hours of service

Community involvement

- United Way of Linn, Benton and Lincoln counties, providing funds for food and supplies for the Pantry and Manna, funds for Carmen's Closet and Financial Assistance, and assistance with obtaining CARES funding during the pandemic.
- Samaritan Health Social Accountability Grant, providing milk for food boxes and the meal site
- Linn Benton Food Share provision of pre-packed food boxes
- A Network Support grant from Oregon Food Bank, providing funds for a new 2-bay freezer
- Sweet Home Community Foundation grant funds, purchasing 30 chairs and 4 conference tables
- Harvest Christian partnership for Back-to-School Bash, distributing over 300 backpacks and supplies to local school students
- Rotary Club and Sweet Home Elks Club help with holiday programs
- Coordinated distribution of 195 Christmas boxes (blessing 728 people!) sponsored by 12 different churches and organizations
- Local volunteers and businesses that helped complete the Gun Shop remodel, providing the Pantry with additional floor space, a meeting room in honor of Eva Benson, office space, and an awning in front to provide curbside food box pick up
- Additional deliveries of produce each week, which included bread, fruit, and vegetables for clients
- Community donations of 8,385 pounds food for the Pantry

What we do here on this earth often can't be quantified. The real legacy of someone's life rests in the lives of people that have been changed because of their investment in others. May God richly bless you in the New Year.

~Cindy L Rice, Pantry Manager, the SHEM Board and Volunteers

