

Since 1967, F.I.S.H. has been fulfilling emergency needs for the Anchorage community. Today's mission of F.I.S.H. is to deliver a three-day emergency food supply to people in need in Anchorage. The generosity of many individuals, churches, businesses and community organizations provides the food that stocks our pantry's shelves and feeds our hungry neighbors. Many church communities and organizations support F.I.S.H. through both volunteers and donations throughout the year.

F.I.S.H. is a non-profit organization (501(c)(3)), run by a 7-9 member Board of Directors. We have no paid staff. All activities are carried out by volunteers. Our only expenses are food, agency fees, office supplies and utilities. We make deliveries Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday of each week. During 2023, F.I.S.H. made 3775 deliveries to more than 14,500 hungry folks (40% children), thanks to the hard work of our corps of 100+ volunteers who take calls from clients, pack the groceries, deliver to families, re-pack bulk items, shop, maintain the pantry, and manage our SignUpGenius account.

To provide those meals last year, F.I.S.H. expended more than \$72,000 for direct food purchases from local retail stores. That is an increase of nearly \$25,000 over prior years! We make good use of donations from churches, businesses, community food drives and are truly blessed by our partnership with Food Bank of Alaska.

New this year, several local McDonald's restaurants are donating overage to FISH. This provides much needed proteins and other food free of charge. Through other donations and frugal shopping, we are also providing some basic toiletries like soap, shampoo and toilet paper, along with their 3 day supply of food items and pet food as needed.

FISH is very grateful to our long term supporters and generous donors. Since we don't receive any government funding, we rely on our local fundraising efforts, grants, many individuals to help us fight hunger. We have a QR Code that goes directly to our Paypal Giving Fund site and a Go Fund Me site.

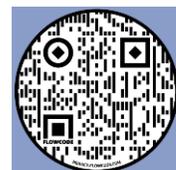
F.I.S.H. continues to participate in the PFD Pick-Click-Give program, receiving nearly \$5000 each year. We are continuing with community based fundraising ideas, as well. We are part of the **Fred Meyer Community Rewards** program which brings in nearly \$100 a month. (link your FM Rewards card to FISH and we receive funds every quarter!). The local thrift store, **Fashion Pact**, is also a FISH partner. Designate FISH both when you donate there and when you shop there and we'll receive \$1 for each item.

Nearly 15 churches and organizations throughout Anchorage contribute either a staple to the pantry (peanut butter, pasta, tuna fish), hold food and fund drives, and/or recruit volunteers. Businesses organize groups of volunteers (Thank you APD, Creighton Univ, and ACS). Many sports teams, school classes, church groups and individuals spend extra time working to clean and stock the pantry and re-package goods for distribution. We truly appreciate every minute of help.

Many local businesses also donate substantially to F.I.S.H. A big "Shout Out" to **Blue Market AK** and many thanks for their support. F.I.S.H. was their designated 2023 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter recipient of 1% of their profits. They contributed enough money to feed 100 families along with a food drive! We are lucky that **Switchboard Alaska** donated telephone answering service for decades, and **Beltrami & Associates PC** has been our volunteer accounting firm for many years. Many, many thanks to such public-spirited businesses. Needless to say, F.I.S.H. could not carry out its mission without the support of these wonderful businesses, churches, organizations, and individuals. THANK YOU ONE AND ALL!

F.I.S.H. always welcomes new volunteers. We have many people who have volunteered with us for decades to keep fighting hunger here in Anchorage. Our volunteer corps is volatile, as people leave for the winter (or summer), or take new jobs out of state, or retire. We are constantly recruiting volunteers while cherishing our long time dedicated staff. It takes a minimum of 4 people to make food distribution a success on each of our service days: a telephone volunteer, a packer (often 2 or more) to fill the bags, and 2 drivers for deliveries. That's 60 volunteers each month, not counting shoppers, cleaners, our scheduler and re-packers. The need is ever present. Please contact **Raissa D'Antonio**, 229-9299, or visit the website [www.fishcharity.org](http://www.fishcharity.org) to learn more.

Raissa D'Antonio, President



Scan here to donate!