Batavia Interfaith Food Pantry Newsletter

Many Banana Boxes Full of Thanks and a Fond Farewell

As of September 1st, Betsy Zinser has stepped down as the Executive Director of the Batavia Interfaith Food Pantry. The Board of Directors cannot express enough gratitude and thanks for all that Betsy has done during her three years at the helm of the BIFP. Numerous accomplishments, innovative practices, and unwavering commitment to the community, were the hallmark for Betsy’s time with the Food Pantry.

Through her vision and leadership, Betsy led the Food Pantry into a new era of growth through fiscal management, strategic service initiatives, and increased community engagement. Under her supervision, the BIFP saw a 120% increase in fundraising, implemented a new text for food program to decrease food waste, and solved many unique storage challenges with updates and remodeling to the client shopping area.

While collaboration with local organizations and city officials is a function of the director position, there were many unexpected challenges with the City of Batavia water treatment plant construction. Betsy rose to the occasion to communicate and coordinate with contractors, City of Batavia officials, and the Northern Illinois Food Bank, to advocate for and maintain client and volunteer safety and access to the food pantry during construction.

In addition, Betsy streamlined store donation pick-ups, instituted new inventory methods, set up a Facebook page, updated building signage, continued to foster and develop relationships with Chip in, Lazarus house, Riverrain, the community school district and many others. Her receptiveness to new ideas, enhancing them, putting them into action, and seeing through to the completion, is why a full record of her accomplishments is too numerous to list.
Betsy's patience, great thought, humor and compassion were a valued asset of the BIFP. The entire community has benefited from her compassion and thoughtful answers, and it has been a pleasure to work with her.

While Betsy will be missed at the Pantry, we are happy to announce the next Executive Director of BIFP!

At the recommendation of the BIFP Board of Directors, Eileen Pasero was promoted from Assistant Director to Director and Laurie Franco has been hired to replace Eileen in the newly vacated Assistant Director Position. We look forward to working with them over the coming months, and introducing them to you all!

---

100 Flinn Street, Batavia IL 60510

FOOD PANTRY: 630.879-3784
CLOTHES CLOSET: 630.406-0036
http://www.bataviafoodpantry.org