



March 27, 2017

Dear Ashe County Commissioners,

The Ashe County Sharing Center, Inc., is operating five (5) distinct pantries from the 115 Colvard Street location leased for 99 years. The ability to bring together all five pantries increased our efficiency and allows us to store more food product for our neighbors in need. This increased space allowed us to add a four (4) foot extension to our walk-in freezer and to purchase a new walk-in refrigerator.

The following leasehold improvements were completed in 2016:

- 1) Addition of a new paved parking lot for client use and for direct delivery of food from the Second Harvest Food Bank of Northwest North Carolina.
- 2) A green metal roof was added to the arched section of the building.
- 3) All heat pumps (3) were replaced with new dual-fuel systems to take advantage of the nearby natural gas lines and to reduce our heating/cooling costs.
- 4) Renovation of the kitchen with new flooring, direct vent microwave over the stove, natural gas cooking stove and new dishwasher.
- 5) Installation of a natural gas on demand hot water heater.
- 6) Renovation of one classroom with a smaller secondary kitchen and waiting area used for flu shots and other special projects.

- 7) Replaced 13 of the single pane windows with energy efficient dual pane windows.
- 8) Replaced single exterior door with a six (6) foot double door for ease of food delivery.
- 9) Added gravel to the back parking lot for volunteer parking.
- 10) Painted exterior stucco wall and added exterior signage.

The Ashe County Sharing Center Board of Directors thanks you for helping to secure our future for many generations to come. We appreciate you entrusting this building into our care and we strive to make you proud of our services to Ashe County.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael Sexton". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Michael" being more prominent than the last name "Sexton".

Michael Sexton

Executive Director

Attachment



# ASHE COUNTY SHARING CENTER, INC. FOOD PANTRY



P.O. Box 705 • 115 Colvard Street • Jefferson, NC 28640 • 336.846.7109

## ***“Sharing Hope.....Changing Lives”***

### **Main Pantry**

#### **Unique Initiatives**

On average 25,000 lbs of fresh produce and dairy monthly  
50,000 lbs of food donated through campaigns  
Our Tomato Patch - 15 Bushels  
Cooking Matters Class  
Free Flu Shots  
Food Stamps Application Assistance  
Serves an average of 550 families & 1,925 individuals **MONTHLY**  
Only 2% come 12 times a year  
Only 7% come 10 to 12 times a year  
Distributed 380,000 lbs of food in 2016 valued at \$613,000.

### **Children's Pantry & Backpack Outreach**

- Due to the expanding need: we are now serving The Early Learning Center & Mountain Jefferson Daycare
- In summer of 2016, provided daily snack packs to 140 children for literacy camps for all 3 elementary schools.
- Monthly Served: 300 families & over 2,000 children
- Zero percent of these families come to the main pantry

### **Northwest Ashe Mobile**

- Monthly Served: 252 families and 1,090 individuals
- Over 80 percent do not visit the main pantry
- Fresh produce, toiletries, and meat delivered
- Due to geographical isolation one car tends to pick up for 5-7 families.

### **Ashe Memorial Hospital**

- \* Monthly Average: 51 families or 164 individuals
- \* Completely self-funded through a Healthcare grant for all of 2017.

### **Wilkes Community College Pantry**

- Monthly Served: 66 families and 213 students
- The average age is no longer 35, but mainly young adults who receive student backpacks.
- WCC provides an internship to a student to run the pantry.
- WCC is providing over 50% of the funding for the program.