

## Food Pantry to Help Needy CASHS Students

The “CASHS Cupboard” is a food pantry founded by the Chambersburg Area Senior High School’s Parent Teacher Student Association (PTSA) and a teacher that will be open and available for chronically hungry high school students at the Chambersburg Area Senior High School (CASHS).

“We want to create this program to help students, but we also want to bring awareness to the chronic hunger and homelessness problem within our community,” said Elicia Eberhart, a CASHS English teacher and coordinator of the CASHS Leo Club, the youth organization associated with Lions International. After conducting the annual Leo Club Thanksgiving food drive, Eberhart said that she was shocked at how many students take home food for themselves and their families.

“The need is just so great,” Eberhart said. “With one in two children on free or reduced breakfast and lunch, the statistics show the need in the community. These students who don’t eat at home only get school meals because the biggest food bank in Chambersburg isn’t open in the evenings and the students are at school when it is open during the day.”

The pantry is expected to open in mid-October. From now to mid-October, the volunteers are hoping for more donations of both food and money to start up the program.

The PTSA has accepted some donations from the Central PA Food Bank, but Eberhart, says she hopes to find more partners to work with. Within the high school building, the NJROTC, Life Skill students, and various faculty members will help with storing, organizing, and taking inventory of the food.

“The goal is to serve 50-75 students a month and to be able to give them enough food for themselves and their families,” said Eberhart.

Teachers, counselors, nurses, cafeteria staff, and friends can refer students for the program. Students also can self-refer themselves if they feel they fit the criteria. Reference forms will be available in both the Library and the school Main Office.

The CASHS Pantry is also looking for two used or new refrigerators and one deep freezer to store cooled foods. Any money donations can be written out as checks to the “CASHS General Fund” with “CASHS Cupboard” written in the memo line.

Any questions can be emailed to Elicia Eberhart at [elicia.eberhart@casdonline.org](mailto:elicia.eberhart@casdonline.org). She can also be reached at by phone at (717) 261-3322



Members of the CASHS PTSA collected food on Tuesday, September 20 at Texas Roadhouse for the CASHS Cupboard. Members also received \$115 in cash donations.

