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COMPLETE

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Q1 Name of your organization.

The Idaho Foodbank

Q2 Grant #

20160708

Q3 Grant Period

12/20/2016 - 6/30/2017

Q4 Location of your organization

City	Boise
State	Idaho

Q5 Name and Title of person completing evaluation.

Michael Shumann, Grants Coordinator

Q6 Phone Number:

208-577-2682

Q7 Email address.

mshumann@idahofoodbank.org

Page 2: Key Outcomes and Results

Q8 Total number of clients served through this grant funding:

13,000

Q9 Describe the project's key outcomes and results based on the goals and objectives. Use the following format: State the Goal: State Objective 1: Describe the Activities, Results and Outcomes for Objective 1: State Objective 2 (if applicable): Describe the Activities, Results and Outcomes for Objective 2: State Objective 3 (if applicable): Describe the Activities, Results and Outcomes for Objective 3:

The goals and objectives in the original proposal were to 1) purchase bulk rice and 2) purchase 28 boxes of various sizes of diapers. Both the rice and the diapers were to be distributed through The Idaho Foodbank's network of 220 partner agencies across the state of Idaho or through one of our five direct service programs. Both of these objectives have been completed.

In March of 2017, we received an order of 20 totes of rice, each containing 2,000 pounds, for a total of 40,000 pounds. The total cost was \$12,680, so the \$10,000 in grant funds for rice supported 78.8% of the bill, meaning the grant funds directly purchased 31,545 pounds of bulk rice. Volunteers then re-packed the bulk rice into sealed bags – approximately 5,500 bags had three pounds of rice, and approximately 7,500 held two pounds. According to our inventory tracking system, these 13,000 bags were then distributed to:

- 22 Mobile Pantry sites. The Mobile Pantry program delivers a truckload of food on a monthly basis to rural communities that have no other food assistance available, but still have hunger.
- 5 School Pantry sites. The School Pantry program operates food pantries on school grounds so students in need of food assistance and their families can access a pantry in a setting that is familiar, convenient, and discreet.
- 102 partner agencies. Most of the food we distribute goes to 220 partner agencies around the state, including local food pantries, soup kitchens, senior centers, homeless shelters, and churches.

The \$1,000 of grant funds restricted to purchase diapers was spent in April of 2017, and the 28 boxes of diapers were distributed to six partner agencies.

For both items, distribution was determined on a first-come, first-served basis. Partner agencies would see the items available on our online ordering system, and the agencies that requested the items first received them.

Q10 Please describe any challenges/obstacles the organization encountered (if any) in attaining goals & objectives.

This project was straightforward, and very similar to numerous projects we have completed in the past. Our Agency Relations team (that works with our partner agencies and Mobile Pantries) stated, before we applied for the grant, that they would like to be able to provide rice. After we received the grant, Mr. Lynn Dill, our Food Sourcing Manager, called his contacts in the food distribution business and found the best price. After delivery of the rice and diapers, we distributed them through our normal channels.

The program was not without its challenges however. One partner agency heard we had diapers available for distribution, but they were all distributed by the time this agency placed its order. The partner agency expressed disappointment that they could not receive any, as many of their clients are single mothers with low income.

Q11 How did you overcome and/or address the challenges and obstacles?

The biggest challenge was to work with our partner agencies to best meet their needs. When one partner agency could not get the diapers they wanted, we referred them The Idaho Diaper Bank (Meridian, ID) and encouraged them to become a Diaper Bank partner agency as well.

Q12 Describe any unintended positive outcomes as a result of the efforts supported by this grant.

The positive outcomes of this grant were easily predicted. Our Agency Relations team hoped we would be awarded this grant because they knew a lot of our partner agencies and programs would benefit from having rice available. Rice is shelf stable, healthy, and easy to cook, making it a good food item to distribute to people in need. All of the rice distributed to our Mobile Pantry and School Pantry programs was distributed to clients quickly, and most of the 102 partner agencies who received it also distributed nearly all of it to clients within a week.

In addition, the distribution of diapers was straightforward. When The Community Foundation informed us that we could add \$1,000 to our grant request to purchase diapers, our Agency Relations team urged us to add that to the request, since diapers fill a need for our partner agencies. We purchased as many as we could for \$1,000, and distributed them to partner agencies that serve parents of babies and toddlers.

Q13 Briefly describe the impact this grant has had on the organization and community served.

The Idaho Foodbank endeavors to not only relieve hunger, but also promote community health and well-being. To that end, we try to distribute as much healthful, nutrient-dense food as possible – 81% of the food we distribute qualifies as nutritious. At the same time, we also try to distribute as much variety of foods as possible. This grant helped fulfill both goals. Rice is healthy, and adding it to our distribution increases variety. That is because even though Idaho is a state of agricultural riches, rice is not widely grown here. The Idaho Foodbank receives and distributes millions of pounds of fresh produce each year, but almost all of it is fruit and vegetables, and not grains such as rice. Because of this grant, we were able to broaden our healthy offerings, and the longer-term result is better hunger relief services for people who need them.

Page 3: Budget

Q14 Please provide a budget expenditure report of the approved line items. Include a brief narrative on how the funds were used to fulfill grant objectives.

The Idaho Foodbank directly spent the funds to purchase rice (\$10,000) and diapers (\$1,000) for our community partner agencies and our own direct service programs. These purchases allowed us to distribute healthy rice (that is difficult to get donated) as well as necessary diapers, that filled a distinct need among our partner organizations and our clients.

Page 4: Success Stories

Q15 Please relate a success story:

The coordinator of one of the Mobile Pantry sites that received some of the rice related the following story:

“Last year, one of my home health care ladies came to pick up food for her client, telling me she knew a woman in her 60’s that was living by herself in a very small travel camper and was too embarrassed to come to the Mobile Pantry herself, so I packed up a box and had her deliver it to her client.

The next month the same home health care worker brought this woman to the Mobile Pantry and introduced me to her. I had her sign in, told her the distribution times, etc. She was so overcome with gratitude about what the food that meant and how it helped her stretch her money, plus getting her foods she couldn’t afford. She has come every month since then and still says thank you for the blessing for getting her through the month with adequate food in her pantry.”

One of the reasons why hunger remains a vexing social challenge is its ability to “hide in plain sight,” and this episode reflects that. Proud people do not typically advertise that they struggle to put food on the table, and are hesitant to access food assistance where their friends and neighbors might see them – regardless of how much they need it. This helps to keep hunger hidden. However, we make every effort to preserve clients’ dignity when distributing food, and that helps people who need the pantry to visit it. This is one example of what our programs endeavor to do.

Q16 Please relate a success story here:

Many hungry seniors in Idaho are left with an impossible choice: purchase the healthy food they need to stay healthy or use that money to buy the medicine needed to manage pain and health issues.

It’s a situation that “Colleen,” a recipient of The Idaho Foodbank’s Mobile Pantry program, has experienced. It’s also one she sees repeat every day in her apartment complex for seniors. According to Feeding America, 66% of the seniors who are served by their food banks have had to choose between food and medicine. “The healthy food is something I wouldn’t have ever purchased because of my income. I get a little bit of food stamps, but not much. Without the Foodbank, I would have to go without my medicine. I would have to find a cheaper place to live, but there aren’t any.”

The Foodbank makes regular visits to Colleen’s low-budget housing complex. Even living across the street from a grocery store, the strapped incomes and tight budgets make Colleen and her neighbors appreciate the ready access to healthy food, such as rice. In the end, the rice provided from this grant has helped thousands of people like Colleen.

Q17 Please relate a success story here:

When “John,” his wife and son showed up to a recent Mobile Pantry, he wasn’t shy about sharing his story. For him, there was no shame to being in need. He has moved beyond pride and is focused on providing for his young son, a student at the school where the Mobile Pantry operates.

From the outside, it may come as a surprise that John and his family are in need at all. Both he and his wife have graduate degrees. But with those degrees come a lot of debt, and the jobs aren’t as easy to come by as they had originally hoped. John and his wife haven’t hidden their hunger from their son, hopeful their time of need will be a distant memory for him in the future.

As clients of the Mobile Pantry program, John and his family are an unexpected, but common example of the people who benefited from the rice purchased with this grant.

S.L. Gimbel Foundation Fund

Q18 Which category best describes the organization.
Please choose only one.

Basic Needs Support

Q19 What is the organization's primary program area of interest?

Food Bank

Q20 Percentage of clients served through grant in each ethnic group category. Total must equal 100%

African American	1
Caucasian	80
Native American	2
Hispanic Latino	16
Other	1

Q21 Approximate percentage of clients served from grant funds in each age category.

Children Birth-05 years of age	15
Children ages 06-12 years of age	15
Youth ages 13-18	10
Young Adults (18-24)	10
Adults	30
Senior Citizens	20

Q22 Approximate percentage of clients served with disabilities from grant funds.

No clients served with disabilities	100
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Q23 Approximate percentage of clients served in each economic group.

At/Below Poverty Level	50
Homeless/Indigent	5
Migrant Worker	10
Working Poor	35

Q24 Approximate percentage of clients served from grant funds in each population category.

Single Adults	5
Families	80
Single Parent Families	50
Ethnic Minority	20
Homeless/Indigent	5
Immigrants	15
Elderly	20