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Formstack Submission For: **PublicComment**

Submitted at 07/15/23 11:54 AM

Meeting Date: 07/15/23

Meeting: DuPage County Board

Name: Janet Derrick

Organization: Loaves & Fishes Community Services

Address: 1871 High Grove Lane
Naperville , IL 60540

Daytime Phone: (630) 355-3663 ext. 108

Subject: ARPA Funds provided for the purchase of food for local food pantries

Comment:

Our CEO, Mike Havala, provided the following feedback to Chair Deborah Conroy on July 7:

The produce has been very good quality (i.e., what you would find in a typical grocery store)

- There has been a good variety in the types of produce
- The amount of produce that we have been getting through this program is critically important, especially given the dramatic increase in client need (we now are serving over

8,000 people per week – more than doubling from over 3,000 people per week at the beginning of last year)

- It's very important for pantries to have the infrastructure necessary to properly store the produce (both cold storage and dry storage are necessary) and equipment and people to move the produce
- Frequent food distribution dates are also important so that the produce is promptly distributed to clients

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