

NR 011718

Gladstone Kids Clothes Closet seeks volunteers

The Gladstone Clothes Closet is seeking volunteers willing to take on a two-hour shift each month. The role includes helping families find clothing for children, sorting donations, and restocking items.

Run by a coalition of four Gladstone churches, the clothes closet is open Thursdays from 3 to 5 p.m. and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to noon. The facility is located on the Gladstone High School campus off Nelson Lane.

To volunteer, contact program coordinator LaRae Applebee at laraeapplebee@hotmail.com or phone 503.758.4411.

.....

Gladstone Food Pantry service numbers climb

In 2017, the Gladstone Food Pantry provided food for more than 6,000 people, with 1,816 family visits to the facility. Of those served, 35 percent were youths age 18 or younger, and 12 percent were seniors over age 60.

As one of the two school-based food pantries in Clackamas County, the Gladstone facility is a partner with the Oregon Food Bank, which provides a steady supply of healthy foods, including fresh produce.

Gladstone Schools runs the operation with help from 40 community volunteers and two groups of students from Gladstone High School. Community food donors include churches and local gardeners, as well as Gladstone Public Library, Bob's Red Mill, Dave's Killer Bread, and Grocery Outlet.

"We know that with adequate nutrition, kids learn better and families are stabilized," said project leader Leslie Robinette. "The personal connections we build with the neighbors we serve are valued as much as the food we provide."

The Gladstone Food Pantry is open Thursdays from 3 to 5:30 p.m., and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to noon. The facility is located on the north side of the Gladstone High School campus off Nelson Lane. For more information, call Leslie Robinette at 971.246.0302.

PHOTO: Gladstone Food Pantry volunteer Stephanie Kurzenhauser prepares vegetable fritters at a cooking demonstration.