People’s Emergency Center (PEC) offers an emergency food pantry to the community every Saturday. Guests come once a month, and select enough to feed their household for approximately 3 days. The pantry is available to anyone living in the city of Philadelphia, but many of the guests hail from the nearest neighborhoods of Belmont, Mantua, Mill Creek, Saunders Park, and West Powelton.

Learn more about hunger at [https://www.centerforhungerfreecommunities.org/](https://www.centerforhungerfreecommunities.org/).

Location: 325 N. 39th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104  Day: Saturday  Time: 9:00am-2:00pm

- Food cupboard starts at 10:30 – 1:30, volunteers are asked to be there earlier to help prepare.
- PEC provides gloves and supplies for handling produce and asks volunteers to follow safe food handling practices.
- There are a number of senior volunteers (“Senior Connectors,” community members who are senior citizens) and staff who will be paired with the volunteers to help show them the ropes.
- Volunteers will be putting out the food in a display, distributing food, and greeting guests.
- Taking pictures of volunteers is fine. Taking pictures of guests requires a photo release.

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Regarding donations:

- Any non-perishables like instant foods and canned goods are welcomed, especially low-sodium and no added sugar varieties. Items like pasta, rice, potato flakes, sauces, peanut butter, canned fish, cereals are great.
- Corporate groups are welcome to bring branded items like reusable tote bags. We serve 50-100 guests on any given Saturday.

Volunteer Amenities:

- There a few parking spaces available.
- Hot coffee, tea, water, and snacks are available for volunteers.

Volunteers should contact Trish Downey (tdowney@pec-cares.org or 267-777-5811) for the application and clearance instructions. All volunteers must obtain the state required clearances before they volunteer. Residents of PA need the criminal background clearance and ChildLink clearance. Volunteers not residing in PA for 10 years or more, or residing in another state, need to also obtain an FBI background check.

Learn more about clearances in PA at http://www.keepkidssafe.pa.gov/.

Visit www.pec-cares.org. Follow People’s Emergency Center on Facebook and LinkedIn, or PECCaresPhilly on Twitter, Instagram, and YouTube.