For over 35 years St. Brendan’s volunteers have prepared, served, and deliver food to those in need, beginning in downtown Seattle. SOS has 70 to 100 volunteers. We help provide meals to an estimated 10,000 people/meals each year.

**Thursday Meal: All are welcome**

* 1. On Thursday, a hot meal is prepared for 190 servings for those in need in Bothell, Kenmore, Kirkland, Redmond, and Woodinville areas.
  2. At about 9am, approximately 12 volunteers gather to spend the morning preparing the meal for that evening, utilizing much of the food items gleaned from local stores and purchased meats. The leftover food, usually a pickup load, is distributed by a couple of volunteers to food banks, shelters, and the *St. Vincent dePaul* store.
  3. At 4:30 pm a volunteer delivers to the following shelters:
  4. 45 meals to the *Friends of Youth Shelters* in Kirkland and Redmond,
  5. 35 meals to *New Bethlehem Family Shelter*, Kirkland
  6. 30 meals to *Camp Unity Eastside*, Woodinville.
  7. At 4:30 pm one of the seven rotating groups of about five volunteers meet at St. Brendan Church to setup and serve the meal. From 5 - 6pm the meal is served up to 30 individuals. From 6:00 to 6:30pm, the dishes and tables are cleaned and put away.
  8. During the month of October, we will deliver and serve an additional 40 meals to the new *KBIG Emergency Winter Shelter* in Kenmore.
  9. There are between 40 and 50 volunteers for this portion of the program. We serve over 5,000 Meals per year.

**Grocery Gleaning & Distribution**

1. Several times a week, gleaners go to grocery stores, pastry shops, and the *Yakima Fruit Store* to pick up the items the stores have for us to take back to St. Brendan for processing. The gleaning is used for our Thursday meal or taken to local shelters or food banks. Hundreds of pounds collected each week.
2. There are about 12 volunteers who work in this ministry.
3. The distribution of these gleaned foods also supplements several thousand meals each year in shelters and food banks. One of those is the unwed mother shelter down the block from St. Brendan.

**Monthly Shelter Grocery Shopping**

1. We help to supplement groceries to six homeless shelters in the Seattle area. Monthly we are given a list of needed grocery items, which generally runs about $200 each. A volunteer takes the list for one of the shelters and shops at Costco etc., which are delivered to the shelter.
2. There are seven volunteers who work in this ministry.
3. The donations help to provide groceries to help supplement the meals for about 2,400 residents per month.

Our need for additional funds is to help purchase meats, milk etc. for the Thursday meals, and to purchase the food and supplies for the shelters. We post a list in the parish bulletin of non-perishable items needed for the meal. Volunteers for various areas are also needed.

 

 

