



Food For Free Committee, Inc.
11 Inman Street
Cambridge, MA 02139
(617) 868-2900

March 15, 1985

The Food For Free Committee has the following observations to make in regard to the food pantry/ emergency feeding network.

1. There are currently a number of social service organizations and churches wishing to set up food pantries or meals programs but not knowing how to do it. (example- Hildebrand Center started a lunch program and no one came to use it).
2. These organizations often do not have direct communication with each other, leading to duplication of proposed services. (example- there are several meals/food sites in Central Square but nothing in North Cambridge, Rindge Ave. area).
3. Food Pantry Network would like to see equal distribution of resources to all areas of the city needing services, and is willing to seek out people in appropriate neighborhoods.
4. The Network needs to be able to publicize its work collectively so that all social service agencies will have information for referrals in a concise form.
5. All pantries, operating and projected, need foodstuffs that are difficult to procure, esp. proteins. We think it is time to institutionalize food drives in the city, through church congregations and businesses, which could be a sustaining source of canned/packageged proteins. Food For Free could distribute this food equitably to pantries around the city.
6. None of these things can happen without a large and continuing coordination of effort and organization.

We believe that an emergency meals and food coordinator is a vital staff position needed at the Dept. of Human Services. This is the only way it can be assured that :

- a. expansion of food pantries continues
- b. that food drives become ongoing in Cambridge
- c. that individuals and families with chronic food shortage problems can be served
- d. that all social service agencies are informed and aware for making appropriate referrals
- e. that technical support and advice is always available to volunteers and organizations doing this work in our communities.

Jay Wilson, Board President



City of Cambridge

5.

COUNCILLOR D. SULLIVAN

IN CITY COUNCIL

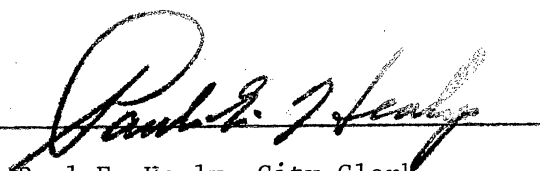
April 1, 1985

- WHEREAS: In a booming economy like Cambridge's, it is intolerable that any citizen should go hungry; and
- WHEREAS: For reasons outlined in the attached memorandum prepared by the Food for Free Committee, Inc., greater coordination and communication is needed among social service organizations and churches providing food to the hungry; and
- WHEREAS: The city Department of Human Services Programs (DOHSP) is the obvious agency to perform this critical role; therefore, be it
- ORDERED: That the City Manager direct the DOHSP to create the position of emergency meals and food coordination, and that he be requested to include an appropriation for this purpose in his fiscal 1986 budget recommendations.

In City Council April 1, 1985.
Adopted by the affirmative vote of 9 members.
Attest:- Paul E. Healy, City Clerk.

A true copy;

ATTEST:-


Paul E. Healy, City Clerk.

Order # 5

F-114

C.D. Sullivan order re: City Manager to direct the Dept. of Human Services Programs to create the position of emergency meals & food coordination & include an appropriation for this purpose in the FY-86 budget recommendations.

In City Council,

April 1, 1985

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