

Schoodic Food Pantry
P.O. Box 173
Corea, ME 04624

October 13, 2025

To: Town of Steuben Board of Selectmen

James Malloy, Chairman
Leonard Garnett
Teresa Ginn

From: Donna Harmon, Schoodic Food Pantry Director

Currently 81 Steuben households depend on the Schoodic Food Pantry to supplement what they are able to purchase at the grocery store each month.

In March we received a message from Good Shepherd Food Bank notifying us of the most current federal food assistance reductions around the Federal Food and Funding freeze. These have reduced both the total pounds of food we receive and the variety of products available to us. The loss of the Local Food Purchase Assistance Cooperative Agreement Program "... represents a projected loss of 500,000 to 600,000 pounds of fresh, local produce Good Shepherd Food Bank would have distributed, through its partners, to families facing food insecurity." We are one of those partners.

Additionally, we were advised to prepare for a 50% to 60% decrease in our monthly allocation of staple food products – peanut butter, canned chicken, canned vegetables, rice, and beans, for example. We have suffered these losses.

We are open two mornings each week with fully stocked shelves. Support from the towns we serve and the donations we receive from individuals allow us to purchase meat, dairy products, bread, condiments, soups and more. On average, patrons fill the limited number of Schoodic Pantry bags they are allowed with 1,000-1,600 pounds of food each day.

We are so grateful for the support Steuben has given us in the past and hope you will consider our request for \$6,000 for the coming year.

I will be happy to meet with you and answer any questions you might have, and invite you to visit the pantry located at 829 U.S. Route 1 any Tuesday or Friday morning between 8:30 and 11:00.

You can reach me at (207) 650-9164 or donnaaharmon15@gmail.com.