

LifeSpan Resources sets expansion of commodity food program for senior citizens

Written by George Browning
Tuesday, 20 May 2014 00:00 -

Officials of LifeSpan Resources Inc. and Gleaners Food Bank announced the recent expansion of the commodity food program for senior citizens which operates at the Bacala Senior Center on Wardell Street in downtown Scottsburg.

The federally-funded U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Commodity Supplemental Food Program is available for residents of Scott County who are age 60 and older.

Senior citizens who meet eligibility requirements can obtain a supplemental box of food supplies. Boxes contain 40 pounds of food and feature products such as dried beans, peanut butter, powdered milk, cereal, pasta, rice, canned fruits and vegetables and a two-pound block of cheese.

The program began at the Bacala Center last fall with 40 slots available. The recent increase enables an additional 20 people to obtain the food boxes, making a total of 60.

That's why applications for inclusion in the program will be taken on Wednesday, May 28, from 1 to 2:30 p.m. at the Bacala Center, which is located at 68 West Wardell Street on the south side of the Scottsburg downtown square.

LifeSpan staff encourages all senior citizens to sign up for the program. A waiting list will be created to make sure all 60 slots are filled at all times. Waiting list participants can be called to pick up a box of food if those signed up are not able to get their boxes.

For the application process, seniors must bring the proof of age, address and gross income for all members of the household. If the participant will require another person, a proxy, to pick up the food box, the proxy will need to be present at the time the application is taken. All participants are required to recertify every six months so that data remains current.

The Commodity Supplemental Food Program is administered at the federal level by the USDA, which partners with local food banks and other agencies. The program is administered in Scott

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County through Gleaners Food Bank in Indianapolis and by LifeSpan Resources Inc., the designated area Agency on Aging for the county.