

FEATURED PARTNER: NEEDS, INC.

United Way
of Laramie County



By: Sara Janes

A few days ago I woke up and prepared my family for the day. We got dressed and met in the kitchen for our usual routine. We opened our pantry, took out our favorite boxes of cereal, ate a full bowl or two, and went on our way to daycare and work. That evening as we regrouped, we ate a nice dinner together and went to sleep with full stomachs.

As far as our dietary lifestyle, I can't imagine anything different. But for the clients of Needs, Inc., a full stomach to start and end the day is not always a reality.

If an individual or family can show Laramie County residency and meets the income requirements each month, they can receive a box of food that will provide them three meals a day for seven days. The food received is free of charge to the clients. As I was given a tour of the food pantry, the most significant issue I noted was the emptiness of many of the shelves. Mary, who was giving me the tour, said that she had never seen the pantry down to the bare-bones as it has been this year. Over the last year, Needs has provided over 193,000 meals to residents of Laramie County!

Thankfully, Needs has never had to turn a qualified client away when they have come in for food. I met a man named Robert who came in with his wife. They went to Needs to get meals for their family. As I listened to him telling Mary about his circumstances, he shared about his obvious physical issues which limit the number of hours he can work, and thus limiting his quantity of food and other necessities. Needs provided their meals for the next week.

Needs does not just supply food. It supplies clothing, school supplies and household items for low income residents of Laramie County. Needs, Inc. is an organization that truly lives up to its name for all of the basic needs of people who lack the most basic items.

For more information about Needs, Inc. visit needsinc.org