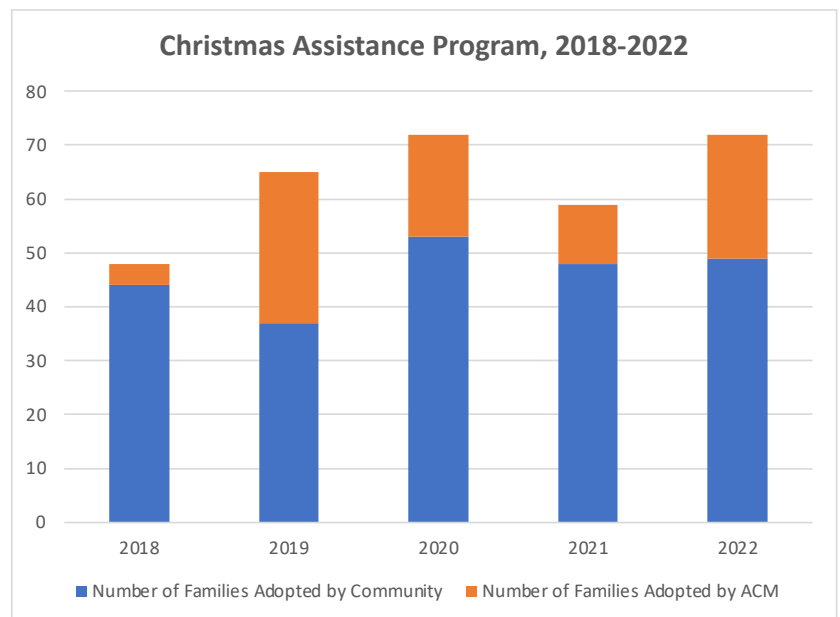


Adopt-a-Family Christmas Assistance Program Helps Neighbors in Need

With help from our community, 72 Andrew County families and single older adults were provided Christmas gifts and food boxes/vouchers through the 2022 Adopt-a-Family Christmas Assistance Program. There is no financial requirement to be eligible to apply for assistance, but those in need were required to register in person at the **Savannah United Methodist Church** where families provided contact information and wish lists for their children. In 2021 and 2022, clothes were the most frequently requested items, while toys appeared most often on wish lists in previous years.

Families and older adults who were not adopted by the end of the registration period were adopted by Andrew County Ministries (ACM). This year, community members gathered at Walmart to shop for 38 children. Purchases were taken to **Savannah First Baptist Church** where the **Kodiak Kadettes 4-H** group sorted and filled gift boxes, and helped our neighbors get the items into their vehicles on distribution day. Food vouchers to Brothers Market were also distributed. Thank you to everyone who made the 2022 Christmas Assistance Program a success!

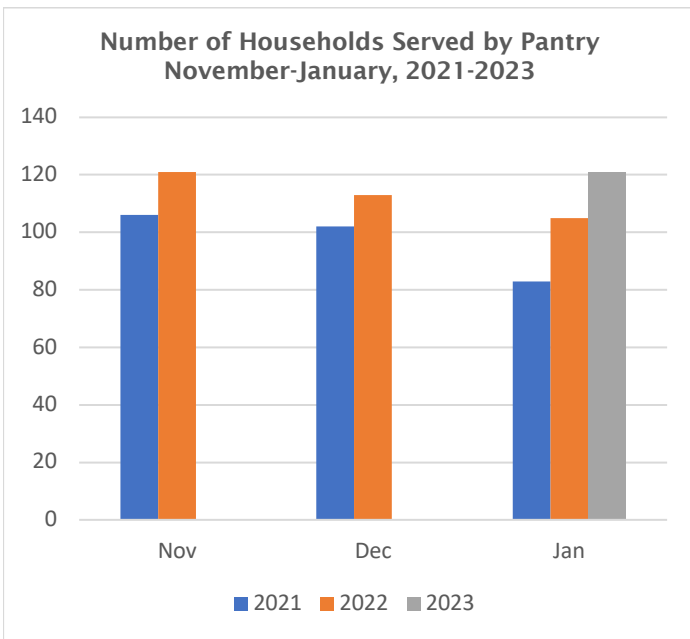


Backpack Buddies Program Is in Need of Financial Assistance

The Backpack Buddies Program is a supplemental weekend food program for children in our community who receive free or reduced-price school lunches. ACM is committed to providing 138 Andrew County children with healthy, easy-to-prepare breakfast, lunch, and snack food supplements for each weekend and extended holiday break throughout the school year. **The total expense required to fully fund the 2022 Backpack Buddies Program is \$27,462 (i.e., \$199 per child). As of January 16, 2023, ACM is short \$15,000.** To donate or volunteer, contact Patty Wilson (816-752-8926, pkwilson0125@yahoo.com).

Area Youth Support Clothes Closet

In December 2022, the Clothes Closet received over 100 warm clothing items from the Area 1 FFA and the Savannah FFA Chapter. The Clothes Closet is located inside the Andrew County Food Pantry at 14375 County Road 367, Savannah. To volunteer or donate, contact Karen Jackson (714-609-2613, ms.karen.jackson@gmail.com).



Andrew County Food Pantry

ACM continues to see an increase in the number of households being served by the Pantry. However, a 17.6% decrease in pounds of food donated during the past three months has required Pantry volunteers to purchase additional food to fill the shelves. A generous donation of \$1,400 in gift certificates to Green Hills from Altec in St. Joseph has helped considerably. While all food donations are greatly appreciated, the Pantry currently needs protein (e.g., canned meat; canned soups, chili, pasta; peanut butter).

Emergency Utility Assistance

Andrew County residents needing help with overdue water, electric, and gas bills may request utility assistance once per calendar year. **The maximum contribution toward payment on an overdue utility bill has been increased from \$100 to \$250.** For more information on requesting utility assistance, contact Pastor Terry Weaver or Brenda Barnes at 816-408-0450.

Easter Sunrise Service

7:00am, April 9, 2023
 First Christian Church
 511 W. Market Street
 Savannah, MO

ALL ARE WELCOME!!

Andrew County Ministries

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