



The Cape Henlopen Food Basket (CHFB) is the local emergency food resource serving Delaware residents. We are located at 37510 Oyster House Road, Rehoboth Beach, DE 19971. Phone: 302-227-3528 Learn more about our services at capehenlopenfoodbasket.org.

Cape Henlopen Food Basket Generously Serves Our Community with Your Help

The need is great! Challenged again by growing food insecurity in our area, the Cape Henlopen Food Basket provided **15,495 allotments of food in 2025, an increase over 2024 of 5%**. The clients we served included **64% from the Cape Henlopen region and 21% from neighboring communities**.

In 2025, in collaboration with the US Department of Agriculture and the Food Bank of Delaware, the Food Basket provided **3,000 cases of canned fruits, veggies, soups, meats and other shelf stable foods like peanut butter, cereal, pasta, and juice**. The Food Basket also coordinates with local farmers' markets and grocery stores to provide **fresh produce and meats to needy families**.

Community food drives and donations enable us to keep our shelves and freezers well-stocked with needed commodities. We greatly appreciate this generosity and cooperation.

Thanks to all our friends and supporters for helping the Cape Henlopen Food Basket meet our mission to help Delaware residents in need of food support.

A Visit to Legislative Hall to Promote Food Security

The Cape Henlopen Food Basket accepted an invitation from the Food Bank of Delaware to join partner organizations for an event at **Legislative Hall in Dover on Tuesday, May 20, 2025**. Food Basket Board Members and volunteers met with **local government representatives and Lieutenant Governor Kyle Evans Gay** to highlight the effects of reductions in federal SNAP benefits and cuts to the USDA food inventory which raise the specter of food insecurity in our region.





SPOTLIGHT: Debby Aune

Debby Aune has a bucket list. In fact, she has two. One is to visit all the states in the United States, and trips to Oklahoma and Arkansas will complete that goal. Her second bucket list item is to continue her engagement with community service work after completing eighteen years as a volunteer and board member with the Cape Henlopen Food Basket. “It was a great experience,” she commented. “I worked with a lot of great volunteers who helped a lot of people for a lot of years. But it was time. And there has always been a lot of good staff there.”

Before moving to Delaware, Debby had a thirty-seven-year career as a compliance specialist for Merrill Lynch in the DC/Rockville area. “Moving to the DC area from my hometown of Indianapolis at age 22 was quite the culture shock. Indianapolis had much more of a small town feel than it does today, and that’s what I was used to.” And that’s what she liked when she started coming to the beach area. While in DC, she joined a winter beach rental with 20 other people. “From mid-September to May I could walk the beach and boardwalk with not another soul in sight!”

While with Merrill Lynch in DC, Debby joined her colleagues in regular volunteer work at local food banks. Soon after she and her husband, Steve, moved full-time to Rehoboth in 2005, she offered her services to the Cape Henlopen Food Basket. She also volunteered nine years of service to the Tunnell Cancer Center in Lewes and four years with Read Aloud Delaware.

“When I started with the Food Basket, we were essentially in what you could call a “shack” up by Jiffy Lube. Clients would just drive up in their cars and we would give them what we had. I was asked to be on the board almost immediately. I agreed, of course, but as you know, the workload on a volunteer board is always misrepresented,” she smiled. Her memories include lots of hard work with other Food Basket originals— for example Anne Ratledge and Nancy Steele— who helped the Food Basket expand its capacity to serve clients with a move to the Community Resource Center. When the Food Basket started making fresh produce available, Debby coordinated the effort with the volunteers and the suppliers.

Debby and Steve like to travel and recently went to Costa Rica with a group from the Lewes Senior Center. Their blended family of two daughters, one son, and three grandchildren make travel possible to Washington State and Rhode Island. Debby keeps busy with swimming and exercise at the YMCA.

And her second bucket list item? Debby’s next service venture is to assist community agencies that provide meals for the homeless. She has already started cooking. Bucket list item #2? Check.

Thank you, Debby, for all your work for our community!

REFER A FAMILY IN NEED *If you know a family in need, do not hesitate to refer them to the Food Basket for a two-week supply of groceries, including fresh fruits and vegetables, canned goods, and meat. Phone: 302-227-3528*

OPEN in REHOBOTH

37510 Oyster House Road, Rehoboth Beach

Mondays Wednesdays Fridays

10 AM to 1 PM

DONATE ONLINE!

The CHFB hosts an online donation feature through the **Cape Henlopen Food Basket website**. It is a convenient way to allow the Food Basket to serve greater numbers of hungry families in our region.

Donations to the Food Basket, a 501(c)(3) organization, are tax deductible.

To donate online, visit:

capehenlopenfoodbasket.org