### A. Introduction.

Early during the pandemic, many consumers stockpiled groceries and basic necessities, leaving the stores shelves temporarily bare of basic food products such as pasta, dried beans, rice, flour, baking powder, and yeast. While some people had well stocked pantries, others had to rely on items they had on-hand in their pantries, refrigerators, and freezers while waiting for grocery stores to re-stock. Aside from emergency preparedness, a well-stocked pantry increases the likelihood to cook, decreases the amount of prep time, reduces the need to use a recipe, saves money, and contributes to nutritious and balanced meals. However, clientele sometimes need help in knowing how to accomplish those goals.

### **Program Objectives.**

The Extension Agents for Family and Consumer Sciences in Lyon, Todd, and Trigg counties partnered to offer The Power of Your Pantry, a three-part pantry cooking series taught on Zoom. As a result of participating in the classes, participants would:

- Know how to inventory, evaluate, stock, organize and use their pantries;
- Increase their skills for cooking without a recipe; and
- Gain tools to help them plan and cook meals without meat.

### **Target Audience.**

This program was targeted towards residents in Lyon, Todd, and Trigg Counties of Southwestern Kentucky who were experiencing the stress of obtaining and preparing food during the early days of the pandemic when stockpiling shelf stable foods was prevalent.

### **B.** Program Accomplishments.

### Content.

The three-part pantry series dealt with three subjects:

- The Power of Your Pantry concentrated on the process for taking inventory, evaluating, stocking, organizing, and re-stocking their pantry. The class included demonstrations on how to put together a quick, nutritious meal using supplies found in their pantry.
- 2. Getting Fancy with Your Pantry focused on how to actually use what is in the pantry. Participants were given a list of pantry staples to stock, a 30-day meal plan of meals that do not require recipes, and a formula for creating no recipe meals. We also discussed dates on food products and what they meant. Each agent demonstrated norecipe meals using items from their own pantries.
- 3. The Meatless Pantry centered on ways to decrease the risk of chronic disease as well as save money. Focused on the building blocks of good nutrition, agents taught how to create dishes using tomato products, beans, and different types of protein as well as how to save money at the grocery store.

### **Delivery Methods.**

This program was delivered through Zoom, an on-line video communications service, using PowerPoint presentations, discussions, videos, demonstrations and materials that participants could access electronically to convey information.

### Creativity.

In producing this series of classes, we used several creative ideas to keep our audience engaged and learning. The first session dealt with stocking and organizing the pantry. Because we were presenting the class through Zoom from our homes, we did a virtual pantry tour. Each agent showed their panty, discussed their organization process and how they met their needs according to things like available space, expiration dates, and ease of locating items. The second lesson, Getting Fancy with Your Pantry, focused on combining staples from the pantry to create delicious and nutritious meals without the use of a recipe. Additionally, the agents discussed dates on food products and what *Best if Used By, Use By/Best By, and Sell By* meant. Each agent used food products found in their pantry to create a dish that did not require a recipe. The third session focused on meatless meals. Many consumers found their incomes reduced and grocery stores lacking a stable meat supply and were looking for ways to use other protein sources such as dried beans, whole grains, and eggs. Each agent demonstrated a meatless recipe with items from their own pantries and without depending upon a recipe.

#### Materials Developed.

Agents developed PowerPoint presentations, videos, a social media graphic, and gave demonstrations for this series of lessons. We supplemented the materials with publications previously developed by the University of Kentucky Family and Consumer Sciences Extension.

### **Innovative Methods.**

Due to the emergency health situation the country and our area was experiencing, in-person classes and trainings were not possible. The agents taught these classes virtually through the Zoom platform which caused them to think outside the box in developing materials and techniques to convey information and meet objectives.

### C. Program Impact.

### **Evaluation Method.**

To gather evaluation data, at the end of the third class, participants in the "pantry series" program were asked to answer evaluation questions using the poll function on Zoom. Related to food safety, the evaluation sought to determine if participants gathered knowledge about the safe storage and handling of pantry foods; if and how they were practicing safe storage and handling

of pantry foods; and if they knew what the dates on foods meant as well as how to use them in stocking and using their pantry.

### **Results/Impact.**

Analysis of the evaluation data related to food safety showed:

- 92% increased their knowledge about safe storage and handling of pantry foods; and
- 100% knew what the dates on foods meant and how to use them in stocking and using their pantry.

The follow up questions revealed they put their knowledge about safe storage and handling of pantry foods to good use by:

- 40% had rid their pantry of old staples and canned goods <u>or</u> stocked their pantry with staples and canned goods they would use;
- 36% took inventory of their pantry; and
- 36% reorganized their pantry (36%).

Other results, not related to food safety, showed:

- 100% were using pantry items to cook more healthy meals at home;
- 71% could make dishes using pantry staples without the need for a recipe;
- 100% knew how to use substitutions when cooking from their pantry;
- 50% went to their pantry first when planning meals.

### Marketing/Publicity.

The three-part Pantry Series was marketed to the public in Western Kentucky and beyond using both electronic and written communications. The agents promoting the sessions advertised for each class through monthly newsletters to Extension Homemakers and Family and Consumer Sciences clientele. A flyer was made for social media and was used for advertising on Facebook and Instagram. Additionally, the series information and Zoom link were e-mailed to electronic mailing lists consisting of local school personnel, health care providers, and community members.

### **CES Identified.**

The University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service is identified on all materials, including promotional flyers, PowerPoint presentations, and downloadable handouts. In addition, the PowerPoints use the University of Kentucky Family and Consumer Sciences PowerPoint template. The social media graphic includes the Family and Consumer Sciences logo.

### **D.** Supplemental Materials.

- 1. Three PowerPoints combined into one document (13 pages)
- 2. Handouts from Getting Fancy from Your Pantry (10 pages)
- 3. Social Media Graphic (1 page)
- 4. Program Feedback (1 page)

Power of Your Pantry Supplemental Materials - 3 PowerPoints, 13 pages









#### Why stock your pantry?

A well-stocked pantry has benefits aside from emergency preparedness.

- Increases likelihood to cook
- Less prep time
- No recipe? No problem
- Save money
- Nutritious and balanced meals







### **Stocking Your Dry Goods**

Store in cool, dry, dark place.

- Unflavored Oatmeal
- Flour
- Sugar- white, brown Dry beans

• Rice- brown, white

 Beans and lentils Cornmeal or cornbread mix

Baking powder/soda

 Breadcrumbs • Pasta- whole grain, white

• Salt

• Yeast

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### **Stocking Your Snacks**

Multi-purpose items to have on hand

- Nuts/seeds
- Dry fruit
- Pretzels Popcorn kernels Peanut butter
  - Granola bars

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### **Stocking Your Canned Goods**

#### Save time with canned items.

 Vegetables Beans and lentils

Canned tomatoes

• Fruits

- Tomato sauce Chicken/vegetable broth
- Salsa
- Canned fish/chicken

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### **Using Your Stocked Pantry**

**No Recipe Meals** 

- 1. Start with a base. What do you have on hand?
- 2. Pick a form. Soup, casserole, bowl, taco, sandwich, etc. 3. Balance it out. Add a color using MyPlate.
- 4. Plan it out. How long will it take? What prep is required?
- 5. Season it up. Be creative with what you have.





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#### **No Recipe Meals**

#### Let's apply - Angie!

- 1. Start with a base. Grits.
- 2. Pick a form, Bowl
- 3. Balance it out with MyPlate. Side Salad.
- 4. Plan it out. All on the stovetop.
- 5. Season it up. Black pepper, Cajun seasoning, hot sauce.
- 6. Fancy it up. Shrimp.











### No Recipe Meals Let's apply - Cecelia! 1. Start with a base. Canned Salmon. 2. Pick a form. Cakes. 3. Balance it out with MyPlate. Slaw.

- 4. Plan it out. All on the stovetop.
- 5. Season it up. Add lemon and dill.
- 6. Fancy it up. Sauce and presentation.



























#### **Tomato Products**

- Whole peeled tomatoes- can be turned in to almost all other tomato products
- Diced tomatoes- use when distinct chunks are desired
- Crushed tomatoes- tomato puree + crushed tomatoes
- Tomato puree- smoother than crushed but thicker
- Tomato sauce- smooth, pourable
- Tomato paste- must sauté to bring out savory flavor
- Stewed tomatoes- added flavors
- Pasta sauce- added flavors























### **Dried Beans**

Step 2: Cooking

- 1. Place beans in large pot; cover with fresh water and bring to a boil.
- 2. Reduce heat, cover and simmer gently until beans are tender but firm.
- 3. Check occasionally if more water is needed. Most beans will cook in 45 minutes to 2 hours.
- Add herbs and spices at any time. Add salt when beans are tender. Add acidic foods (lemon juice, vinegar, tomatoes) after beans are cooked.

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#### **Nuts & Nut Butters**

- MyPlate a ½ ounce serving of nuts or seeds is equivalent to a 1 ounce serving of meat or poultry
  This is about 12 almonds, 24 pistachios, 7 walnut halves, or 1 level tablespoon of nut butter
- Can also be high in calories and fat







#### Add Up the Savings - at the Grocery

- Plan menus in advance. Use ads to plan for least expensive meals. Make a shopping list and stick to it. This helps prevent frequent trips to the store.
- Use coupons for items you normally buy. Skip the coupons for things you don't use all the time.
- Check the newspaper or the store advertisements for sale items. Buy only if you need them. A sale is a bargain only if you need the item and will use it before it goes bad.
- Shop the outside aisles of the grocery store for the freshest, least processed foods—produce, meats, dairy.

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### Add Up the Savings – Food Preparation

- Have breakfast any time of day. Eggs supply good quality protein. Serve some whole grain French toast with fresh fruit and milk.
- Bring on the beans. Use in salads, soups, or sides. Canned or dried beans add color and flavor to meals.

 Plan several meatless meals a week. Try Mexican dishes with beans and cheese, pasta with a savory sauce, grilled cheese sandwiches, or a quiche.

 Serve entrée salads. Use a variety of greens, rich in flavor and vitamins. Top with small amounts of alternative proteins such as nuts, boiled eggs, cheese, etc.









The Power of Your Pantry Supplemental Materials -*Getting Fancy with Your Pantry* Handouts, 10 Pages

# The Power of Your Pantry



# KITCHEN STAPLES FOR BALANCED MEALS

# BREADS

- TORTILLAS
- ENGLISH MUFFINS
- BAGELS
- WHOLE WHEAT BREAD
- FROZEN WAFFLES
- CRACKERS
- PRETZELS

# VEGETABLES

- FROZEN
- FRESH
- CANNED \*No salt added or low sodium
- SUN DRIED

# PROTEIN

- CANNED SALMON, TUNA, CHICKEN
- CANNED OR DRIED BEANS
- EGGS
- FRESH OR FROZEN MEATS
- NUTS AND NUT BUTTERS
- SEEDS

# GRAINS

- RICE
- PASTA
- OATS
- QUINOA
- BARLEY
- POPCORN KERNELS

# FRUITS

- FROZEN
- FRESH
- CANNED
   \*IN 100% FRUIT JUICE OR WATER
- DRIED

# DAIRY

- YOGURT
- MILK
- CHEESES
- UNSALTED BUTTER





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# KITCHEN STAPLES FOR BALANCED MEALS

## DRIED HERBS AND SPICES

- SALT
- PEPPER
- GARLIC POWDER
- ONION POWDER
- CHILI POWDER
- CINNAMON
- OREGANO
- PARSLEY
- PAPRIKA
- CUMIN

# CONDIMENTS

- KETCHUP
- MUSTARD
- DIJON MUSTARD
- MAYO
- JELLY/JAM
- HONEY
- HOT SAUCE
- SOY SAUCE

# OTHER GOODS

- BROTH OR STOCK \*Low sodium
- PASTA SAUCE
- TOMATO SAUCE
- PICKLES
- SALSA
- SALAD DRESSINGS
- UNSWEETENED
   APPLESAUCE

# BASICS

- OLIVE OIL
- VINEGARS
- FLOUR
- BAKING SODA
- BAKING POWDER
- COCOA POWDER
- SUGAR





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# DAILY MEAL IDEAS

Create meals with kitchen staples that are versatile and tasty without being complex or expensive. Use canned, frozen or fresh food items to build the meal suggestions below.

### DAY 1: VEGGIE GRAIN BOWL

Staples: rice/quinoa + veggies [broccoli or carrots] + chickpeas

### **DAY 2: TURKEY BURGERS**

Staples: ground turkey + ketchup & mustard

**DAY 3: PB&J OATS** Staples: oats + peanut butter + frozen fruit

**DAY 4: BURRITO BOWL** Staples: rice + beans + chicken + salsa

**DAY 5: PASTA BOLOGNESE** Staples: pasta + ground turkey/beef + tomato sauce

**DAY 6: VEGGIE OMELET** Staples: eggs + veggies [spinach & tomatoes] + olive oil

**DAY 7: EGG HASH** Staples: eggs + frozen hash browns + veggies

**DAY 8: STIR FRY** Staples: rice + veggies [peas & carrots] + soy sauce

**DAY 9: CARROT CAKE OATMEAL** Staples: oats + shredded carrots + honey

**DAY 10: CHILI** Staples: canned tomatoes + beans + ground turkey/beef











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# DAILY MEAL IDEAS

Utilize what you have on hand to create nutritious and delicious meals. It is possible when resources or time may be limited. Combine items from different food groups to pull together a filling, flavorful, and fun meal.

### DAY 11: VEGGIE PASTA

Staples: pasta + veggies [broccoli or peas] + tomato sauce

DAY 12: MINI PIZZAS Staples: bagels + pasta sauce + cheese

**DAY 13: SLOPPY JOES** Staples: ground beef/turkey + ketchup & mustard + chopped pepper & onion

DAY 14: RAMEN BOWL Staples: ramen noodles + egg + veggies [carrots & edamame]

**DAY 15: CHICKEN CASSEROLE** Staples: rice + broccoli + cheese + chicken

**DAY 16: BAKED OATMEAL** Staples: oats + fruit + honey + nuts

**DAY 17: SPAGHETTI & MEATBALLS** Staples: pasta + tomato sauce + ground meat + oats + eggs + veggies [broccoli or spinach]

DAY 18: ROASTED VEGGIE BOWL

Staples: chickpeas + broccoli & cauliflower + olive oil

**DAY 19: TUNA CASSEROLE** Staples: canned tuna + pasta + veggies [peas & carrots]

### DAY 20: TACO CASSEROLE

Staples: rice + beans + salsa + ground beef/turkey





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# DAILY MEAL IDEAS

A stocked kitchen with shelf-stable items can make meal prepping much easier. Having a variety of foods from each of the main food groups will enable you to create balanced meals and snacks without compromising on flavor or variety.

### DAY 21: BEAN QUESADILLAS

Staples: beans + tortillas + cheese + salsa

### DAY 22: VEGGIE CHILI

Staples: canned tomatoes + beans + veggies [corn & peas]

### DAY 23: CRUNCHY HARVEST BOWL Staples: quinoa/rice + almonds [or other nuts] + veggies [broccoli]

### DAY 24: BREAKFAST TACOS

Staples: eggs + tortilla + salsa + ground sausage

### DAY 25: SHEET PAN CHICKEN

Staples: chicken + olive oil + veggies [broccoli or cauliflower]

### DAY 26: SALMON CAKES

Staples: canned salmon + oats + eggs + herbs & spices

### DAY 27: TACOS

Staples: tortillas + beans + salsa

### **DAY 28: BREAKFAST SANDWICH** Staples: english muffin + egg + cheese

**DAY 29: CHICKEN FRIED RICE** Staples: rice + eggs + veggies [peas & carrots] + chicken

**DAY 30: EGG BAKE** Staples: eggs + tomatoes + spinach





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WEEKLY MEAL	PLAN
MONDAY	WHAT I HAVE
NOW NOT THE REPORT OF THE REPORT	
TUESDAY	
WEDNESDAY	
THURSDAY	
NH N	WHAT I NEED
FRIDAY	
SATURDAY	
SUNDAY	





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## What's in Your Pantry? WORD SCRAMBLE

Can you unscramble the letters to form the names of 15 items you might find in your pantry?

Source:

Stocking Your Pantry by Heather-Norman Burgdolf, Extension Specialist for Nutrition and Health; and Claire Cosby, Human Nutrition Student, accessible at: <a href="https://coronavirus.ca.uky.edu/files/stocking-your-pantry.pdf">https://coronavirus.ca.uky.edu/files/stocking-your-pantry.pdf</a>.

Answers: beans, cereal, condiments, couscous, flavor, fruit, grains, herbs, oils, rice, spices, tomatoes, tuna, vegetables, vinegar



USE BY

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## What's in Your Pantry? WORD SEARCH

S X P U A K K J S F	S Y C A T F C Y G F	ENHXNOKNOBA	NZMTTTIPEWV	H T S S L N R S T O O	SBHLOATYKTR	EQXSIBEWUTE	R J A E Y O Q H T N Z	F E D V T T T Y T I L	S C O N D I M E N T S	LRLCUYVCXRA	EIIROBKCEFH	CAGXYEJBYEK	SSUSISTREAH	QGTPGUOASEL
Z Z	H T	X F	U K	N X	B C	P Y	C U	U Q	Y B	G Y	Y W	J I	H D	B Y
I	G	Ν	Q	Q	В	D	U	I	R	S	I	Κ	Т	0
BEST BYCONDIMENTSFRESHNESSHEALTHYPANTRYQUALITY							FLAVOR OILS SEASONINGS							

### Sources:

SELL BY

Stocking Your Pantry by Heather-Norman Burgdolf, Extension Specialist for Nutrition and Health; and Claire Cosby, Human Nutrition Student. Access at: <u>https://coronavirus.ca.uky.edu/files/stocking-your-pantry.pdf</u>.

**STOCK** 

What Do Dates on Food Products Mean by Annhall Norris, Extension Specialist for Food Safety and Food Preservation. Access at: <u>https://coronavirus.ca.uky.edu/files/what-do-dates-on-food-products-mean.pdf</u>.

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## The Power of Your Pantry -Social Media Graphic



The Power of Your Pantry Supplemental Materials - Feedback, 1 page

### **Pantry Series Feedback**

Quote from Participant: "Just wanted to let you know I did a no-recipe dinner last night. Started with the idea that we wanted pasta. Started the bowtie pasta to cooking. Opened a can of flavored diced tomatoes & added some leftover Italian sausage. Heated it all up & added it to the pasta. Delicious. No leftovers. Thanks for these classes."

