

Agency helps out with food drive

By Michelle Brooks
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Serving Mid-Missouri elderly in their homes, Homemaker Health Care knows the value of the homebound meals the Senior Nutrition Council delivers.

Once they received a letter from Brenda Doyle, council administrator, noting the council was in need of increased support, it was a "lightbulb" for Homemaker to do a food drive.

"It's especially near and dear to our hearts because we do take care of seniors in their home," said Mary Zeilman, community relations and project manager.

"We've just got to do this."

Collection barrels were set up last week at the following locations: Faith Lutheran Church, Hospice Compassus, YMCA, American Legion Post 5, Hy-Vee and Schnucks.

The nutrition council particularly could use paper products, individually-packaged Jell-O and pudding, and salt and pepper. But any kind of food products that could be used at nutrition sites are welcome.

"So far we've got quite a little pile," Zeilman said. "We hope to get more over the weekend as people are shopping or going to church.

"I'm anxious to turn this over to Brenda to help the Senior Nutrition Center."

Doyle said, "This is great, one United Way agency is helping another. We'll take all the help we can get."

Currently, the center serves about 115 homebound clients and about 175 daily congregate meals at two locations.

Zeilman said she hopes they repeat this effort again in the future and perhaps other area organizations will replicate the food drive for the center.

"Anything we can do to help them is better than sitting here and not doing anything," Zeil-

