

Bedford Regional Water Authority
1723 Falling Creek Road
Bedford, Virginia 24523
Phone: 540-586-7679, ext. 121
Fax: 540-586-5805
Email: m.pittman@brwa.com



PRESS RELEASE

October 24, 2023
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Water Authority Employees Fill the Donation Room at Bedford Christian Ministry

Bedford Regional Water Authority (BRWA) employees, brimming with generosity, contributed more than two thousand food, cleaning, and personal care items to Bedford Christian Ministries for distribution within the community.

"Our annual food drive speaks to the BRWA's core value of *providing quality service to everyone*. The food drive is unrelated to our mission of providing Bedford with clean water, but it shows our staff's selflessness. They want to provide the essential service of water and food for others in the community. It's a very proud moment for me every year," said Brian Key, Executive Director of the BRWA.

In 2019, a water operator at Smith Mountain Lake came up with the idea of doing a drive for Bedford Christian Ministries, and four years later, it is now an annual event that the BRWA staff get excited about every year. Plus, that idea turned into a competition to help collect as many donations as possible for the community.

Five teams were established, and the team that gathered the largest number of items for donation received a prize. Though one team claimed the prize at the BRWA, all staff members were aware that there were no losers in this competition, and that the true beneficiary was the community.

Teams were trying to hide their collected numbers from the other teams so no one could overcome them at the last minute and take the prize. However, the closer the deadline loomed, the more intel teams were collecting from each other on item numbers and using that to bolster their numbers.

A few BRWA employees were able to see the real winners – the Bedford Christian Ministries. Employees boxed up these items to bring to the donation center. The organizers and volunteers at Bedford Christian Ministries met them with warmth, tears, and gratitude. According to Bedford Christian Ministries, it was the perfect timing for the donations, as summer and early fall are slow donation time periods. Often, the organization will run out of donations and have to buy them instead for their patrons.



From left to right: Megan Pittman (BRWA), Michelle Roberson (BRWA), Bonnie Norman (BCM), Kelly Faulconer (BRWA), Cody Lawhorn (BRWA).



From left to right: Megan Pittman (BRWA), Kelly Faulconer (BRWA), LEEANNE MCGLAUFLIN (BCM), Michelle Roberson (BRWA), Cody Lawhorn (BRWA).

About the Bedford Regional Water Authority:

The Authority provides water and wastewater services to the residents and businesses inside of Bedford County and the Town of Bedford, as well as providing wholesale water service to the Western Virginia Water Authority for their Smith Mountain Lake service area in Franklin County and operational assistance to the Bedford County Public Schools for many of their wastewater treatment plants. Visit www.brwa.com for further information.

For information contact:

Megan Pittman

Director of Administration

Bedford County Regional Water Authority

540-586-7679 ext. 121

m.pittman@brwa.com

www.brwa.com

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