



AUGUST 2026 VOLUNTEER NEWSLETTER

Hello again and thank you for offering to volunteer your time with the Webster Community Chest!

If you have any questions or would like to discuss WCC volunteer opportunities further, please email our Volunteer Coordinator, Carol Lowe at communitychestvolunteers@gmail.com and she will get back to you in a timely manner. If you are no longer interested in receiving this email, please send a separate email to communitychestvolunteers@gmail.com stating you do not want to receive the monthly newsletter and/or would like to be removed from the distribution list.

UCC Caring Concert TONIGHT - Wednesday, August 5th: 6 pm until 8:30ish

As of this publication, we are in need of at least three more volunteers for this event! Please join us for a musical night out at the United Church of Christ, 570 Klem Road. This is a fund-raising event for the WCC. We typically receive about \$1000 from this concert.

Webster Jazz Fest August 14

Volunteers are needed to hand out WCC information. Two volunteers are needed for the following shifts: Friday, August 14 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. and Friday, August 14 from 8 p.m. to 10 p.m.

You will be working with an experienced volunteer, so no prior experience is needed. Please send an email to communitychestvolunteers@gmail.com no later than August 10th, if you are interested in volunteering for one of these shifts.

Work From Home Opportunity

This project will build a database of local businesses for our annual Fund Drive. To continue operating our end-of-month food distributions, our Aid to Individuals Emergency Funding, and all our many other programs we need to solicit more donations this year than ever before. Therefore, we are expanding our outreach to local businesses. We are members of the Webster Chamber of Commerce. Although the Chamber is cannot provide us a mailing list, we can build our own from the listings on their website. You will look up a defined list of businesses and copy their contact information into a table. Call Michael Grenier at (585) 671-8738 or email at mgrenier@frontiernet.net to learn more.

Meal Distribution Outside Team – July Impact (submitted by Tracy Dennis)

THANK YOU to our July Meal Center OUTSIDE & DELIVERY volunteers: Judith, Bob H, Linda, Bill C, Alex S, Bill G, Heather, Ellen and Russ, Alicia, Carol, and Brittany! Here is a summary of our July Meal Center distribution:

143 families were fed. Meal bags had 4 meals and there was also PB, hot dogs, buns, potatoes, onions, tomatoes, and carrots. All families were given personal hygiene kits thanks to a donation from Fairlife. Thirteen lucky clients received beautiful bouquets of flowers. A few families even got their Summer Collaborative Distribution bags. Special bags this month were gluten free, soft foods (x2), low sodium (x2) and low carb/low sugar. Huge Thank You to Michael for putting these bags together.

Here are THANK YOUs to share with YOU because YOU are what makes these monthly Meal Center distributions successful!

"Thank you so very much for the delivery today. The flowers were a beautiful surprise, and I just love the driver. This really made my day, and it is so helpful beyond words."

"Hello to my angels, just wanted to thank you again very much. She just delivered my bag and as usual, you are awesome. Fresh veggies, oh my goodness that's the best. And my little care package, not to mention tuna and chicken and fixings. I am so very grateful to you. So again, thank you very much. And hopefully soon, I will be well. I just keep praying. And I pray for you all, all the time as well. Thank you again."

Meal Center 2026 Monthly Distributions

All are Thursdays from 3:30 to 5:00: 8/27, 9/24, 10/29, 11/19, 12/17

Future Holiday/ Seasonal Distributions

Thanksgiving Event: no date yet; plans are in motion

Important Note About Outside/Delivery Volunteers

If you are not a scheduled regular OUTSIDE/DELIVERY volunteer and you are interested in observing one of our Meal Center Distributions, please contact Tracy at webcommchest@gmail.com or (585) 671-2060.

SUMMER Collaborative Event Summary (submitted by Tracy Dennis)

A HUGE Thank You to the WCC Volunteers who helped make the Summer Collaborative Event happen. This event provided personal hygiene items, cleaning items, paper products, and watermelons to 195 local families! The value of what was gifted to these families ranged from \$73 to \$112 per family, depending on size. Amazing job everyone! Thank you to the WCC volunteers who helped make this happen: Judith, Bob H, Sharon, David, Steve Y, Carol Y, Linda, Alex S, Alicia, Gary L, Bill C, and Carol L.

Here are some stories to share with YOU since YOU are what makes these events successful!

“On my way to distribution on 7/14, I stopped at Tops (in Ontario) to pick up some last-minute items we needed. The woman behind me in line commented as to how many hand soaps I was purchasing, and I told her what we were doing. She was so impressed with our collaborative event that she wanted to donate so she gave me a cash donation. I don't even think she has a direct connection to Webster. She is just a kind woman who recognizes the increased need in the world today and wanted to help. I love that!”

“Thank you so much. You have no idea how much we appreciate that delivery. It is hard for us to get out, and we were out of everything! We really appreciate you guys. We [she and her mother] kept pulling each thing out and exclaiming that ‘we need that!’ Everything in here was needed and perfect and great! It was a blessing, it really was. Thank you!”

“Thank you for all the good food and the work that you and hope house does, also for the person that delivers.”

One of the church members of the Webster Food Insecurity Coalition (WFIC), made an announcement the week before the event to her church that we needed 72 more

bottles of spray cleaner and disinfectant to reach our collection goal of 250. A gentleman who was visiting her church from out of town grabbed her after the service and handed her the cash to purchase the remaining cleaners! With his donation, we were able to exceed our goal. While the WFIC member was at the store purchasing the cleaners, a woman with two children in line behind her asked why she was buying so much. She told her about the drive-through. As she was picking up her shopping bags, the woman pulled her aside and shared with her that she and her family have benefited from the meals provided in our community and how appreciative she was for all those who are able to give and volunteer.

Meal Center - July Impact (submitted by Trish Knisley)

174 meal bags were packed in July. The bags included ingredients to prepare four recipes: tuna farfalle, Italian night, chicken stuffing casserole, and soup night. Extras included turkey hot dogs, buns, tomatoes, carrots, onions, and potatoes.

We Are Grateful to Our July Volunteers

Bagging: Jean, Linda V, Cheryl, Delia, Lynn, Pam, Ann, and Jane

Produce bagging: Linda V, Delia, Cheryl, Pam, Jean, Judith, and Nancy R.

Saturday Deliveries: Bill delivered 1 meal bag

Pickup at Library location: Lynn

Mark Your Calendar

August bagging date: August 20 at 11 a.m. at Immanuel Lutheran Church

August produce bagging: August 27 at 11a.m.

Food pickup at Holt Road Wegmans: August 19 at 10:30 a.m.

RSVP to Trish: (585) 704-3936

Thank You for Staying Committed to Our Mission!

Our specific needs:

*A Canned Goods Drive or/ donate food listed on our website: webcommchest.org

Our current Drop-off locations: Webster Community Library, and Bernardi & Co.

We are accepting brown grocery bags, suggestions for shelf-stable food drop-off sites, and hosts for Fill-the-Van events.

Can you help Webster neighbors by partnering with us?

Phillips Village Little Pantry (submitted by Kathy Taddeo)

It has been a busy year for the Phillips Village Volunteers. Our enormous anonymous gift card donation, our inclusion in several WCC grants, our budget from WCC, and donations from our Meal Center and various Webster individuals and groups have kept our volunteers delivering two and three times a month sometimes. And, of course, our volunteers self-fund their own monthly grocery shopping, even in these hard times when everyone's funds are sadly depleted. Many thanks to: Judith, Gina, Nancy H., Bob H., Heather, Drew, Liz, Ellen, Christina, Tracey, Nancy R., Deb, Alex and Augie, Kathy, and our consultant, Tracy.

We always welcome new volunteers to our dedicated and congenial teams. If you would like to find out how you can bring joy to our neighbors at Phillips Village, please contact Kathy Taddeo at ktaddeo5@icloud.com.

Thank you for your continued support of the Webster Community Chest and our community.

Your Friends at the Webster Community Chest

Carol

Webster Community Chest Volunteer Coordinator
communitychestvolunteers@gmail.com

Webster Community Chest is committed to helping those in our community in need and does not discriminate on account of race, color, ethnicity, age, national origin, physical or mental disability, creed and/or religion, sex, including sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, pregnancy, pregnancy outcomes, and reproductive autonomy or otherwise as may be prohibited by federal and state law.