



JANUARY 2026 VOLUNTEER NEWSLETTER

Spaghetti Dinner (Submitted by Michael Grenier)

The Masonic Lodge on Orchard Street in Webster is hosting a Spaghetti Dinner to benefit the Webster Community Chest on Friday February 6, 2026, from 5 to 7 p.m. We need volunteers to run this pop-up Italian restaurant. It is fun, social, and we'll feed you afterwards! In the past, we have raised approximately \$1,000 at this event.

If you can help, please respond to this email mgrenier@frontiernet.net and we will have a board member contact you.

Helping Our Neighbors (Submitted by Kathy Taddeo)

WCC's Friends of Phillips Village Program is seeking additional volunteers to shop and deliver monthly to the Phillips Village Food Pantry at 100 Krieger Rd (off Phillips Road). There are 500 units in this lower-income housing community, so there is much need for food assistance, especially now.

If you are interested in joining an active and organized team of neighbors helping neighbors, contact Kathy at ktaddeo5@icloud.com (Subject line: PV Pantry) for further information. We promise you will get more than you give!

Banner Year for Phillips Village (Submitted by Kathy Taddeo)

Volunteers for WCC's Phillips Village Project delivered over \$10,000 worth of groceries to the food pantry at 100 Krieger Road in 2025. They also repaired and refurbished the pantry, installed McAllister Sign Co.'s donated sign (www.mcallistersign.com) helping residents contact WCC and HOPE for more help. The pantry was filled by these volunteers on a regular schedule at least 12 times a month and often more.

On behalf of Phillips Village residents, we thank dedicated volunteers Judith, Gina, Heather, Drew/Brianna, Ellen, Christina, Tracey, Nancys H and R, Deborah, Alex/Augie, Kathy, Tracy and Carol.

Christmas Santa Program Summary (Submitted by Tracy Dennis)

HUGE Thank You to Alex Scialdone and his wife, Lady Alex, for all their help co-leading our Christmas Santa program this year. Our program helped 12 families with a total of 22 children. All children received gifts and winter gear from their adoptive donors. Families were provided with a filled stocking as well as donated gift cards to Wegmans, Mark's Pizzeria, and Walmart. Each family received cookie decorating kits (thanks to Thomas High School and two very kind last-minute donors). They each received a recipe and ALL the ingredients to make a yummy lasagna at home! Santa was a HIT with all clients who came to the monthly distribution with his rosy cheeks, happy smile and candy canes.

Here is one thank you we received from one of the families: "I am blessed to have you in our life. My granddaughters always talk about you and how much you love them. Thank you so much."

Meal Center Report from the OUTSIDE Team (Submitted by Tracy Dennis)

THANK YOU to our December Meal Center OUTSIDE & DELIVERY teams: Fred, Bob H, Bill C, Michael, Judith, Harb, Mary Lynne, Will S, Heather, Ellen & Russ, Rick, Carol, Alex, Lady Alex, Mary L & Santa. Successful Meal Center Distributions cannot happen without YOU and you are very much appreciated. THANK YOU!

December saw 135 families fed. Each meal bag contained 4 meals. There were leftover "pop-up" bags, kid goodie bags, hygiene bags, brown bags (cereal, apples, cheese, and milk) that were also distributed. We gave away 13 poinsettias and one HomeHub client picked up some plates.

Here are some notes received from our clients:

- "Thank you so much for everything and all you do, Merry Christmas"
- "Good morning! I am very grateful to you for your help and your work! God bless you!"
- "I just wanted to wish you guys a Merry Christmas! I will definitely be there tomorrow, but greatly appreciate the help & warm welcome into the Webster community. We lived in East Rochester for 12 years and I'm only sad we didn't move to Webster sooner! Even the schools have been so accommodating and welcoming. I just love this town so much! So thank you again for welcoming us into your community and helping us with the holidays just to make it that much brighter! So thank you and Happy Holidays!"

- “I just want to thank you all so very much. Words are not enough. I am so blessed to have you in my life, and I totally appreciate all and everything you do. Talk soon. Have a Very Merry Christmas and an Awesome Happy New Year”

Meal Center 2026 Monthly Distributions

All Thursdays, 3:30-5:00: 1/29, 2/26, 3/26, 4/30, 5/28, 6/25, 7/30, 8/27, 9/24, 10/29, 11/19, 12/17. Holiday/seasonal distribution dates have not been determined for 2026. If you are not a regular OUTSIDE/DELIVERY volunteer on Meal Distribution day and you are interested in seeing what the process entails, please contact Tracy at: webcommchest@gmail.com or (585) 671-2060.

Meal Center (Submitted by Bonnie Reynolds)

Many thanks to inside helpers who bagged, sorted, picked up food, stocked shelves, and loaded and unloaded at food drives. It was a tremendous effort to get out 175 meal bags, 100 pop up bags, 100 hygiene bags and 150 apple, cereal, and cheese bags. Thanks Denise, Judith, Linda, Cheryl, Ann, Lynn, Trish, Jean, Bill, Mark, Tom, Sue, MaryLynn, Jane and Charlie. A huge thanks to Nancy who put together over 100 kids treat bags and to Charlie who has been delivering to clients who couldn't make it to the distribution. Special thanks to Spry Middle School students that came in one evening to put bags together.

January should be a little easier. We will be looking for baggers on Jan 21 and possibly 26 if needed, probably 2pm.

We have been asked to assist Meals on Wheels to provide a meal bag to a few Webster residents who are on a waiting list. This is a once-a-week commitment to deliver to a senior or disabled person with a quick greeting to make sure they are OK. If you are interested in doing a delivery, please let me know. Please know that your effort is not only appreciated by the families we serve but also by us as well. We couldn't do it without you! (585) 770-3326, Bonnie.

We will be looking for helping hands as the season for food drives is upon us. WCC will need volunteers to pick up these items from collection sites and deliver them to our meal center.

Food donations can be dropped off at the Webster Library. There is a wagon across from the checkout desk labeled “Webster Community Chest.”

If you or someone you know would like to coordinate a food drive for our meal center or host a “Fill the Van” food drive, please let us know.

Our Meal Center is a perfect location to hold a DRIVE-UP Donation Drive. Would you like to organize one for us? We will supply the place and volunteers to receive the food... we just need YOU or YOUR organization/company/group to organize a drive for us! Let us know if you are interested!

To see our ingredient list, click on this link and scroll down to the bottom section of the page: <https://webcommchest.org/meal-center>.

If anyone knows of any additional potential\drop off place, please let us know. We can use convenient places for the community to drop off donations.

Do you have any recipes for meals that we can add to our Meal Center repertoire? Please send your ideas to Bonnie at bonniebythebay2025@gmail.com.

Women's Empowerment Programs: Want to join us? (Submitted by Tracy Dennis)

Every Thursday night the Webster Community Chests hosts our Women's Empowerment Programs at the Webster Recreation Center. We alternate between two programs and you are invited to join us at any time.

One week: Women's Self Defense classes, taught by Master Jason Lee of Kuk Sool Won of Ontario. 6:15 - 7:15 pm. These classes are for women of ALL ages 13+ and ALL fitness levels and abilities.

Alternating weeks: CAFES: Creative Amazing Friendship Empowerment & Support: 6:00 - 7:30 pm. Community building for women through structured craft activities. Join us to learn a new craft, spend time with some amazing women, or even teach us a craft if you would like to be a guest artist! JOIN US IN 2026! For more information on all of these programs, please contact us at webcommchest@gmail.com OR 585-671-2060.

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.