



OCTOBER 2025 VOLUNTEER NEWSLETTER

Thanksgiving Collection Going on Now

Guess what is right around the corner? Our Thanksgiving Collaborative Distribution! Webster Community Chest is the LEAD AGENCY for this event and we need all the help we can get to fill 250 bags with all the fixings for a festive Thanksgiving dinner plus extra food and non-food items for all families who register for this program. Each bag will have an estimated value of \$50 to \$80. We are looking for donations of **broth, sugar, flour, boxes of macaroni and cheese, spray cleaner, and dish soap**. We are also asking for "Yarn Artists" to make crocheted or knitted scrubbies for these bags. If you can make some, please contact us for instructions. **The Thanksgiving distribution is scheduled for Tuesday, November 18 from 4:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.**

Can you or a group you are a part of pledge to donate a certain number of these items? Please let us know via contact information below. Another option is that we can accept gift cards or monetary donations and we will do the shopping for you. Drop off of donated items will be at our October distribution on Thursday, October 30 at Immanuel Lutheran Church, 131 W Main Street, Webster **from 3:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. ONLY**. Please DO NOT drop off donations at any other time.

Call us at (585) 671-2060 or email us at webcommchest@gmail.com with any questions or if you need to drop off donations at another time or arrange for pick up. THANK YOU for helping us bring a wonderful Thanksgiving to many Webster families!

Meal Distribution Night

Thank you to our September Meal Center and HomeHub volunteers: Denise, Fred, Bob H, Harb, Bill, Alex, Brittany, Heather, Ellen & Russ, Garrett & Addy, Trish, Nancy, Jean, Deb, Gabriella, Usha, Sharon & Mary Lynne. We had a lot going on and, as usual, you all rose to the occasion. THANK YOU!

Here is a summary of our September Meal Center distribution: 91 families were fed this month. The meal bags had four meals each. We also had bags of apples, hygiene products, peanut butter, and kid treats. Many clients visited the Monroe County

Recruiter and twenty visited the HomeHub. One lucky client got a beautiful bouquet of flowers.

Thanksgiving Distribution: Tuesday, November 18 from 4:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Remaining Meal Center 2025 Monthly Distributions: 3:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. on October 30, November 20, and December 18.

Christmas/Winter Holidays Gift Program

Thank you to Alex Scialdone for volunteering to shadow our current coordinator for this event this season. He will take over running the program in 2026. Thinking of sponsoring a child this season? Here's some important information: We ask that each child sponsored receives a minimum of two gifts with a minimum total of \$50 value. Teens (ages 13+) will receive a gift card of \$50 value. Gifts should not be wrapped. We will give you information on your child's age, size, wish list, etc. If you are interested in our program, please respond to Tracy at webcommchest@gmail.com.

Coat Closet

Last winter we launched a coat closet for our clients. Anyone who needed a coat was welcome to come "shop" for one. It was a very successful program and we plan to continue this season. Right now, we need someone to be the point person for this. Clients can come on our monthly distribution night and pick out a coat that is just right for them. If you are interested in taking on this project or shadowing the current leader, please reach out to Tracy at webcommchest@gmail.com

HomeHub

60 families have "shopped" in our new space. A huge thank you goes out to everyone who has donated items, helped sort and stock donations, and helped during open hours.

We accept the following donations:

- Gift cards to any place that sells home goods – we will shop for special request items
- New and gently used (clean) items in these categories:
 - Small appliances: coffee makers, microwaves, toaster ovens, air fryers
 - Serving/cooking utensils, flatware sets
 - Serving bowls, everyday dishes, glassware (nothing too delicate, please)
 - Pots, pans, baking dishes
 - Bedding (sheet sets, blankets, quilts, mattress pads)

- Towels
- Kids' books

Please contact WCC to get more information on donation drop off or arrange for pick up. webcommchest@gmail.com or (585) 671-2060.

Women's Empowerment Programs

Every Thursday night the Webster Community Chests hosts our Women's Empowerment Programs at the Webster Recreation Center.

One week: Women's Self Defense classes, taught by Master Jason Lee of Kuk Sool Won of Ontario. 6:15 p.m. - 7:15 p.m. 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 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. 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! For more information on all of these programs, please contact us at webcommchest@gmail.com or (585) 671-2060.

Help Us Build a Business Mailing List - a work-at-home project

For our annual fund drive, we have not solicited businesses in many years due to the lack of a mailing list. We would like to build a list of local businesses from members of the Webster Chamber of Commerce. We need several volunteers who can look up members at their website and copy their names and addresses into a document. Detailed instructions will be provided. Contact Michael Grenier at mgrenier@frontiernet.net if you can help with this or would like more information.

Meal Center

If you are interested in volunteering with the meal center in any of these capacities, please call Bonnie Reynolds at (585) 770-3326.

- 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.
- We need shoppers who can go into the store and buy cases of canned food.
- Our Meal Center always needs food donations (we are overflowing with bags so hold off on those for now)! Any donations can be brought to our monthly food distribution or dropped off at the Webster Public Library (look for the drop off 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. We have the van, we need the donations of food, and we just need you to help us make this happen!
- 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 a list of items we need, 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 sites, 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 this email address for us to investigate.

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.