

2025 Food Pantry Report

This past year reminded us just how powerful our community can be. Through challenges, growth, and moments of both joy and loss, the pantry continued to serve as a lifeline for families facing food insecurity.

The year began with strong community support. January brought abundant food and monetary donations, though a commercial freezer failure resulted in the loss of several thousand dollars' worth of meat. In February, significant snowfall forced a one-day closure, but we were encouraged by new food drives, including a pet supply drive from St. John's Community Outreach Committee. A second freezer issue was caught just in time, preventing further loss.

A bright moment came in March, when an anonymous donor generously funded a new commercial freezer. April marked its arrival, while also bringing the heartbreaking loss of our dear volunteer, Alan Eickhoff. He is deeply missed. During this time, pantry attendance continued to grow beyond last year's numbers. We provided 106 Easter dinners to our clients and donated 14 hams to the Church of the Advent for their Easter community dinner.

In May, client visits dipped slightly, but pantry shelves grew thin. Just in time, we received news of approval for a Montgomery County grant beginning July 1. The annual "Stamp Out Hunger" postal drive helped restock our shelves, followed by Grocery Outlet's "Independence from Hunger" campaign in June.

The late summer months brought growth and new beginnings. In August, we welcomed 31 new families and began purchasing food using grant funds. September food drives helped supplement those purchases.

In October, the pause in SNAP benefits and government employee layoffs led to a sharp increase in pantry visits. We registered 63 new families in that month alone.

The holiday season brought an overwhelming outpouring of generosity. In November and December, donations poured in from longtime supporters, corporations, government agencies, and individuals responding to the growing need. We registered 42 additional families, provided 136 complete Thanksgiving meals, and—thanks to continued generosity—distributed over 100 Christmas dinners to our clients.

We are truly blessed by the compassion of our community and deeply grateful for our dedicated volunteers. Your support makes it possible for us to serve families with dignity, care, and hope—today and throughout the year.