



August, 2025

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Thank you for your support

In May, we sent out a special appeal for funding to help meet our fiscal year-end goals. We were actually down about 25% from what we needed for the year. That's quite a bit to make up by the end of June. I wish I could say that we made up for the total shortfall, but we did not. However, with the many donations we received in June, it was a very good month. Not only were we "back in the black", but we were \$6000 over expenses for the month. In addition, we received more donations in July so that July was also "in the black", despite some larger expenses that were due.

We want to say thank you so much for our regular supporters and for those who sent extra gifts during this time. With your help, we ended the year well and we have started the year well. It is a month-by-month process. So, if you were not able to help at this time, perhaps you can in the future and partner with us in helping our neighbors in need.

Menasha Corporation gives back

"Menasha Packaging is the largest independent provider of packaging and supply chain service solutions in North America, designing, printing, and fulfilling graphic packaging, display and merchandising solutions for over 1800 brands, both in-store and online." Have you seen displays of Nutrigrain Bars, Cheetos, or Miss Vickie's chips? Those are just a few of the items packaged right here in Alsip by the Menasha Corporation local branch.

But, that is not all they do. They believe in being involved and supporting causes in the local community. Recently Operation Blessing was one such organization! Thank you Menasha for your generous donation to support our food pantry and help families in the South Suburbs.



What led you to volunteer for Operation Blessing?

My name is Esther Castrejon. I retired from my job in 2023 from the City of Chicago as an Aviation Security Officer at Midway and O'Hare airports. I worked there for 25 years. After being settled in as a retiree, I decided to volunteer at Operation Blessing. My friend, Linda, who volunteers there asked if I would be interested in being a prayer counselor. This was out of my comfort zone, but I remember reading where it says in the Bible in Matthew 9:37 "the harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few". I felt the Lord was leading me to go there. I have now been volunteering at Operation Blessing since last year and I find it very rewarding to pray with people and tell them of the love that Jesus Christ has for them.

July Statistics

Heads of Households	717
Individuals	2271
Prayed with	624
Professions of Faith	10

Mike Will, Secretary; Marsha Jakobi, Treasurer; Don Cyze, Director; Brian Cottrell, Operations Manager

Operation Blessing of Southwest Chicagoland is a 501(c)3 not-for-profit charitable organization