



October, 2025

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NEIGHBORS STRUGGLE TO PUT FOOD ON THE TABLE

25% 

of people in the Greater Chicagoland area are facing food insecurity

36% 

of households in the Greater Chicagoland area cannot afford the basic cost of living

THE COST OF LIVING IS ON THE RISE

20% 

increase in grocery prices since 2020

27% 

increase in housing rent prices since 2020

These statistics come from the 2025 Greater Chicagoland Hunger Report released by GCFD, the Northern Illinois Food Band, and the NW Indiana Food Bank to raise awareness about growing food insecurity in our region. As Kate Maehr, head of GCFD, said to ABC & News: "Food Inflation continues to be a concern for families that go to a grocery store and all of a sudden have to pay \$5 more, \$10 more. That's often the thing that tips you into needing a food pantry". As we look at these statistics, remember that behind them are real people struggling to provide for their families and make ends meet.

Prayer is an important too!

Sue, one of our long-time interviewers had this to say about the importance of praying with people who come in. "I think people feel good because someone is coming alongside them in their problems and praying with them. A lot of time we'll see people over and over again and they feel like they're not alone in the world. I've had people coming in crying, saying they were so thankful that we were there for them when they were going through their extremely difficult time and help them get through it".

Only 75 days until Christmas!

Only 63 days until our Operation Blessing Toy Day. This year it will be held on Saturday, 12/13. We are looking for new toys for kids, 3yr to 14 yrs old, boys and girls. How about holding a toy drive with your small group, school class, or Sunday School Class? We have a flier available if you need it to help you. If you have questions, contact Marsha at 708-218-2130.

September Statistics



Heads of Households	657
Individuals	1985
Prayed with	562
Professions of Faith	22

Mike Will, Secretary; Marsha Jakobi, Treasurer; Don Cyze, Director; Brian Cottrell, Operations Manager,
Don Wilson, Board Member, Caudiest Daniels, Board Member

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

Annual Pancake Brunch



To benefit

Operation Blessing
Of



Southwest Chicagoland



Saturday, Nov.15 2025

8 am—12 pm

Moraine Valley Church

6300 West 127th ST.

Palos Heights, IL.



Bake Sale too!



Suggested donation:
\$10.00 per person -
\$25.00 per family

A tradition for over 40 years!