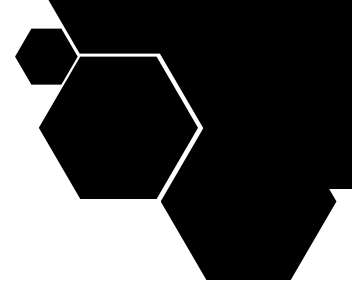


# 2025 Annual Report

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# Who We Are



Coopersville Cares exists to compassionately serve our neighbors in need – meeting tangible needs with dignity, respect, and unconditional love. We seek to build a community where every person is cared for, valued, and equipped to thrive because no one should face hardship alone.

## **Compassion**

We respond with empathy, grace, and genuine care, seeing each person as a neighbor deserving of kindness and love.

## **Dignity**

We believe help should lift up, not tear down, and that every interaction honors the worthiness and agency of the individual.

## **Respect**

We welcome all people without hesitation or judgement, serving every person with equity, honesty, and transparency.

## **Community**

We invite anyone seeking to share in our mission to partnership in meeting needs together, building local unity through shared care.

## **Stewardship**

We use our resources wisely and transparently, ensuring every gift serves its intended purpose and honors the work of the person who provided it.

## **Hope**

We believe every act can spark hope – a reminder that love is stronger than struggle, that better days are possible, and that we can do hard things.

**We are neighbors  
helping neighbors.**



# A Message from our Director

## HELLO, FRIENDS ...

When I wrote that first Annual Report message, I had been here less than six months. Now, a year later, I'm happy to report that we are growing in nearly every way possible.

As expected with ongoing policy changes at the federal level, we continue to see both growing numbers of folks in need as well as those needs themselves getting bigger. What used to be enough to prevent an eviction or get the heat turned back on now costs twice as much. Through some hard work and hard decisions, though, we are so far keeping up with needs by actively increasing our targeted giving campaigns and intentionally working to get the most we can out of each dollar we receive.

We are welcoming 2026 with a rebrand, big plans for expanded programming, and a renewed effort to make the move you have all been waiting for – a space of our own.

A year ago, the 'new building' was a pandemic-paused dream that I was barely brave enough to put in the 'sure, someday' pile. Today, I can confidently say that we are not only dreaming, but making actual plans for the move we need to continue our dynamic growth into the go-to social service agency in northeast Ottawa County. I could not be more excited for the possibilities the coming months hold.

None of this would be possible without our absolutely incredible team of volunteers, a Board of Directors that does not get too terribly scared when I suggest big, crazy ideas, and a dedicated community of donors who show their support through financial contributions and full donation bins. I am absolutely humbled by the support you continue to show me and this organization. Your faith and trust in my leadership both during the initial transition and through this first full year have been fuel for my drive to dream the big dreams and then make them happen.

I really do work with the most amazing collection of volunteers, supporters, and clients – all neighbors with whom we will continue to prioritize compassion, kindness, and transparency. If you ever find yourself thinking, "well, maybe they should think about trying ...", I urge you to come for a chat or send us an email. My primary inspiration will always be the lived experiences of the people in this community. If you can dream it, we can at least talk about doing it.

Please know that my door is forever open to anyone seeking assistance, a chat about local needs, or more suggestions on how to turn this ever abundant farina into things people will actually consider eating.

All the best,



**MANDI GARVEY**

MPH, EMT, ILC  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



## Executive Summary 2025



15,935  
people fed

250,000+  
lbs of food

\$645,000  
retail value

\$28,591  
cost

0.11 cents/lb  
of food



\$27,000+  
rent paid to  
prevent  
eviction

41 families  
impacted

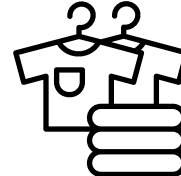
partnerships  
with several  
other local  
organizations  
to meet need



\$12,500  
paid to  
prevent  
shut-offs

21 families  
affected

electric most  
common,  
then heat,  
then water



1478 family  
visits

40,906 items  
provided

4,503 bags of  
donated  
items

695 books  
found new  
homes



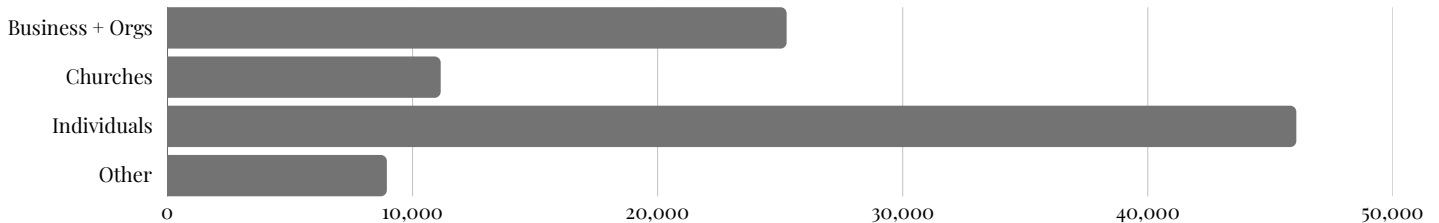
312 kids provided  
Christmas

100+ kids  
provided  
school supplies

120 Thanksgiving  
meal baskets

100 Easter  
baskets

## Funding Summary



## ☀️ THANK YOU ☀️

To the Coopersville community & our amazing volunteers for your continued support of our mission. We are simply neighbors helping neighbors walk through difficulties with the compassion & dignity everyone deserves, and your donations of items, funds, & time are all vital. We could also use your prayers as we continue to work on our next steps.

We are actively working on some exciting new projects we can't wait to tell you about, including a long-awaited move to a building of our own. We can't wait to share what 2026 has in store!

### Contact Us



616.997.8602



coopcares4u@gmail.com



coopersvillecares.org

Tues/Thurs 10a-12p  
+ by appointment

# What We Do

"Ours is not the task of fixing the entire world all at once, but of stretching out to mend the part of the world that is within reach." - *Clarissa Pinkola Estes*

Weekly Food Pantry

Emergency Needs Closet

Rent & Utility Assistance

Holiday Helper Programs

Monthly Food Trucks

Community Referrals

# Our Impact



84,006  
pounds

1,690  
families

4,956  
people

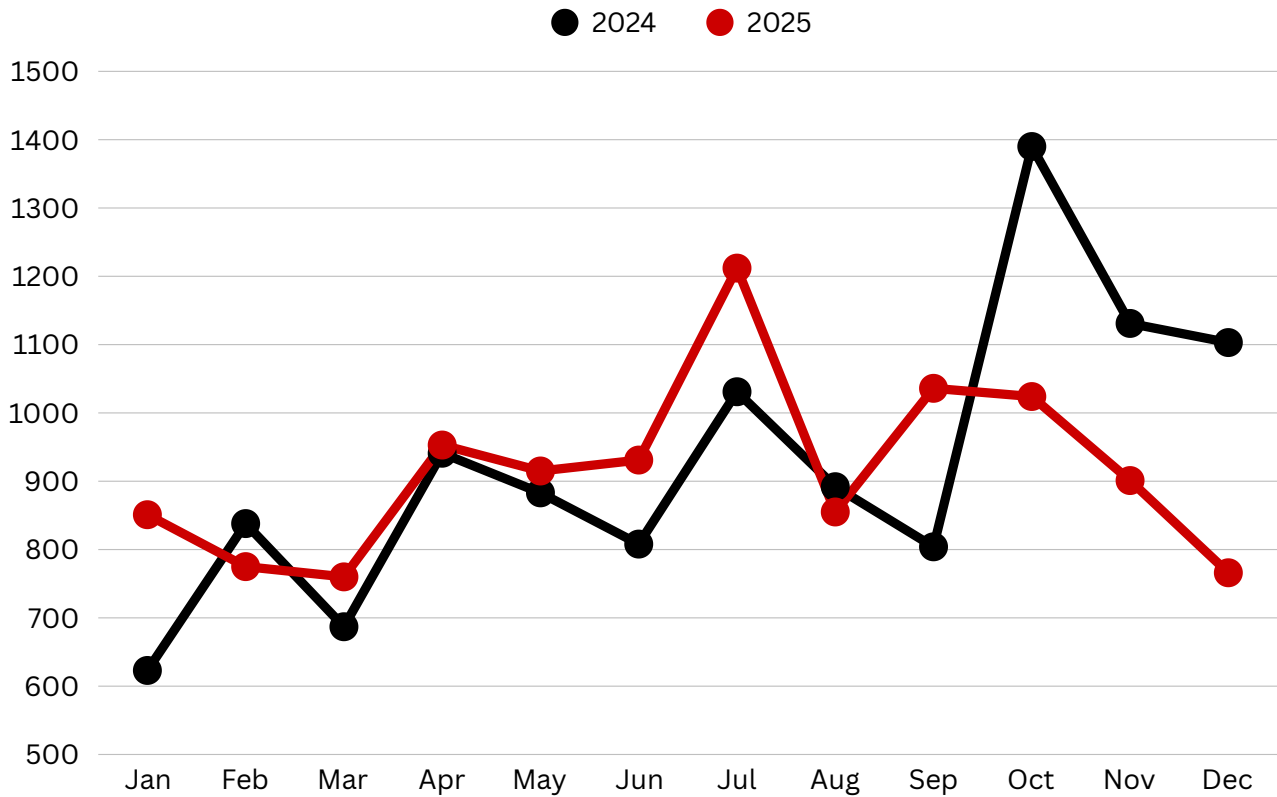
3,126  
kids &  
seniors

Our monthly food truck is a cornerstone of our efforts to end hunger in our community. Through our partnership with **Feeding America West Michigan** we were able to provide \$216,735 worth of food while only paying \$12,000. **That's less than 15 cents per pound!**

## FOOD PANTRY INDIVIDUALS SERVED

**2024** --11,131    **2025** - 10,979

Difference: -1.3%



*"Never worry about numbers. Help one person at a time, and always start with the person nearest you."*  
*- Mother Teresa*

## COMMUNITY CLOSET ITEMS PROVIDED

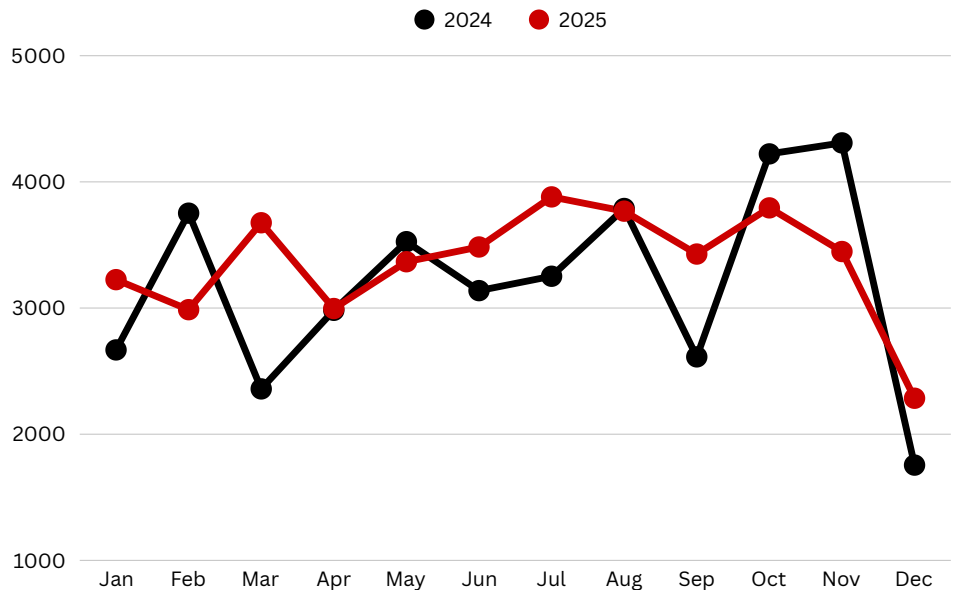
**2024** --38,365    **2025** - 40,906

Difference: +6.6%

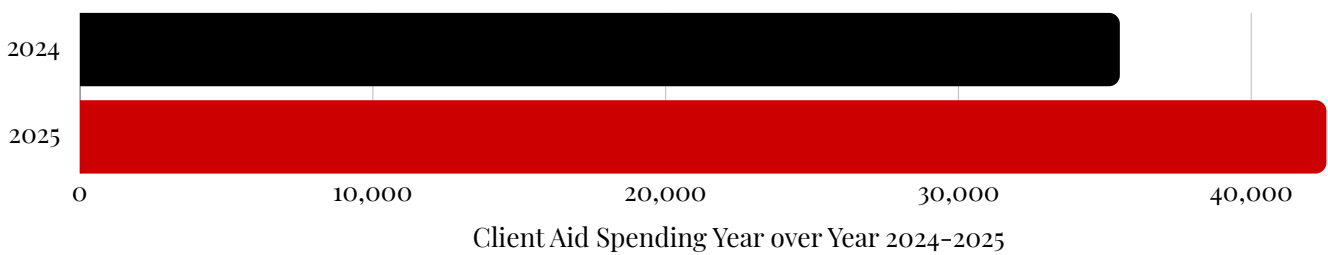
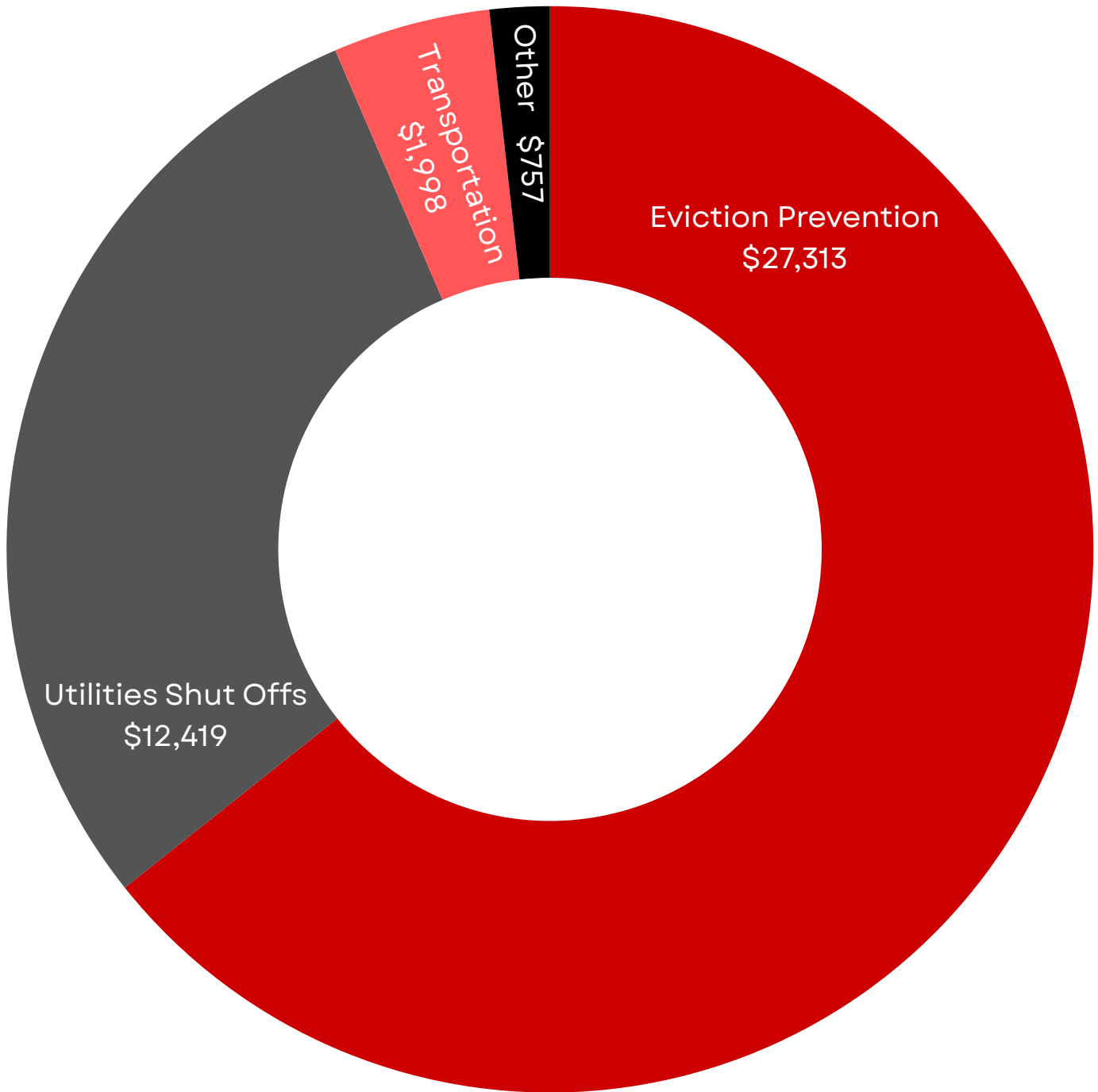
Value of Items Distributed  
\$80,679

Value of Items Passed On  
\$26,225

Cost to Closet Visitors  
\$0

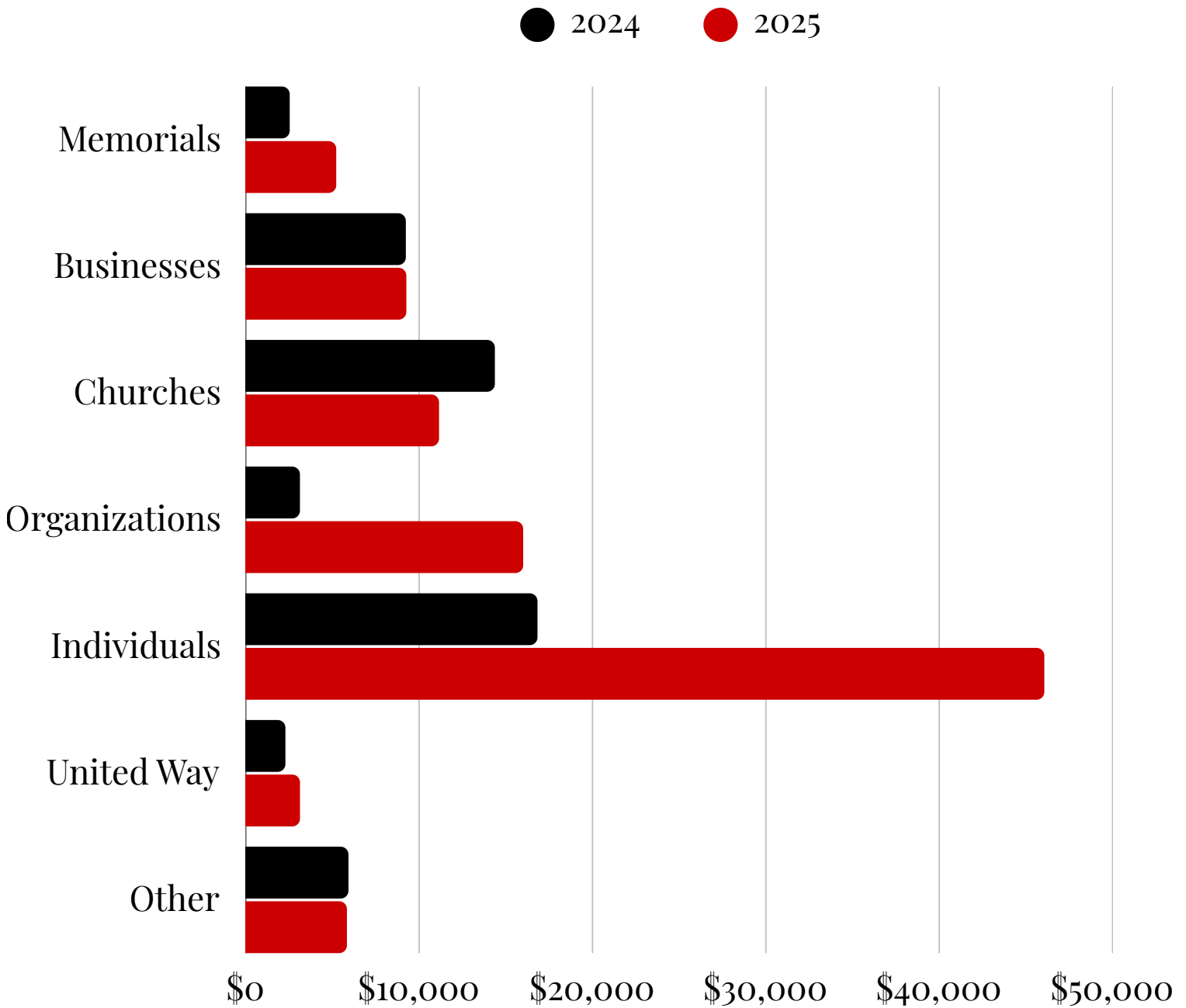
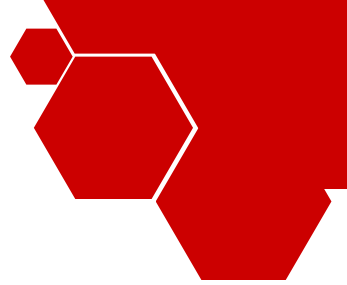


# Neighbor Assistance Programs



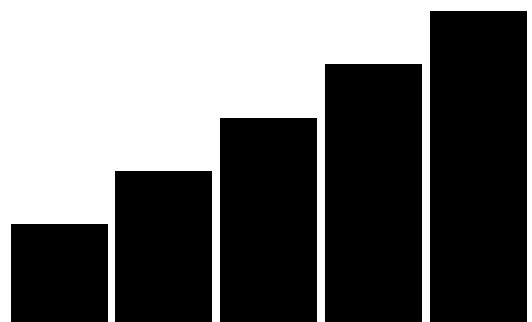
Client Aid Spending Year over Year 2024-2025

# Our Financials



## Income by Source

Year over Year



# A Look at the Numbers ...

Category	2025	Percent Change over 2024
Donations	\$83,004	+ 31%
Total Income	\$125,875	+ 13%
Event Expenses	-\$6,225	+ 90%
Tax Payments	-\$3,806	+ 29%
Administrative Expenses	-\$36,843	-5.3%
Building Fund	\$512,304	+ 1%
Client Aid	-\$59,202	+ 14%
Net Income	\$22,604	+ 241%

“The only right stewardship is that which is tested by the rule of love.”

– John Calvin

Increasing donations and decreasing expenses continue to be our primary strategy for meeting the ever growing needs of our neighbors in this current economic environment. We endeavor to stretch every dollar as far as possible with creative funding solutions, expanding community partnerships, and old-fashioned Midwestern thriftiness. Even the increases in event expenses this year were covered by targeted-donor fund grants allocated specifically for things like holiday gifts and winter clothing.

We see every dollar that comes through the door as another potential meal for someone’s child, and take very seriously our responsibility to steward those dollars as diligently as possible. Trending decreases in administrative expenses across the last 18 months in particular, down 29% compared to FY2023, highlight the impact our intentionality can have.

# Our Volunteers

We could not do any thing we do without our dedicated crew of volunteers. Upwards of 20 people each week are required to run the pantry and the closet, plus the extra hours spent picking up food donations, stocking shelves, or sorting the nearly constant stream of items dropped in our 24-hour donation bin. They accomplish so much each week, and they do so with a kindness and compassion that protects the dignity of our visiting neighbors and provides them a few kind words – sometimes the only ones they’ll hear.

Our volunteers build community not only with our neighbors in need, but also with each other. They celebrate birthdays and milestones. They socialize and go on the occasional adventure together. Volunteering at Coopersville Cares is not solely about helping us serve those in need – it’s about joining a family of like-minded individuals who support each other as well as their community.



To join in the fun and become a Coopersville Cares volunteer, simply reach out to our office or complete the interest form on our website at [www.coopersvillecares.org](http://www.coopersvillecares.org).

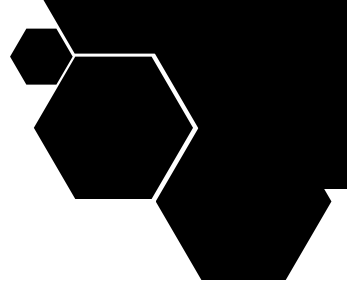
# Our Donors

Aaron & Kim Westrick  
Alayna McClellan  
All Shores Wesleyan  
Alysha Kropewnicki //  
Amaryllis Doula Service  
Amanda Osterhart  
Anderson Family Trust  
Angela Backing  
Anita Kramer  
Ann & Steve Sterk  
Anonymous  
Anonymous Family  
Foundation  
Barbara Hargrave  
Becky & Jon Poel  
Berlin Fair Committee  
Bernie Feringa  
Bernie Klein  
Biggby Coffee of Coopersville  
Bill & Anne Vanderjagt  
Bill & Sue Liddie  
Bloom Credit Union  
Bob & Barb Veeneman  
Boy Scout Troop 4  
Brad Kraker  
Brenda Lindberg  
Brittany Linstrom  
Burnips Equipment  
Coopersville  
CAPS Alumni Association  
CAPS Class of 1975  
CAPS Education Association  
CAPS High School HOPE  
Squad  
CAPS High School Student  
Council  
CAPS Middle School Student  
Council  
Carol Westveld  
Carolyn Cushway  
Central Family Worship  
Center  
Cherry Lee Trust  
Choice One Bank  
Christ Temple Congregation  
Church of the Saviour, RCA  
Circle of Friends  
Claudia & Paul Bradfield  
Colleen Camiller  
Conklin Reformed Church  
Coopersville Area Community  
Foundation  
Coopersville Area Public  
Schools  
Coopersville Bible Church  
Coopersville Christian  
Reformed Church

Coopersville Community  
Concert Band  
Coopersville Elementary  
Students  
Coopersville FFA  
Coopersville Hardware  
Coopersville Heating &  
Cooling  
Coopersville Polkton Fire  
Department  
Coopersville Reformed  
Church  
Coopersville Sportsmans  
Club  
County Line Community  
Church  
Cub Scout Pack 3004  
Cynthia Avink  
Danielle Wolters  
David & Debra Clelland  
David Busman  
David Hastings  
David Shabluk DDS & Staff  
Dawn & David Zolinski  
Delly Belly Bakery  
Delphine Hogston  
Dennis & Barb Emery  
Dennis & LeeAnn Rosel  
Dennis Klein  
DeVries Meats  
DeWys Metal Solutions  
Dick & Mary Ellen  
Dunneback  
DLI Homeschool Co-op  
Doug & Brenda Kroll  
Douglas & Karen Kulicamp  
Trust  
Douglas & Luanne DeVries  
Trust  
Dr Ira & Valerie Engeltjes  
Dr Jeffrey & Carolyn  
Johnson  
Eastmanville Reformed  
Church  
Ed & Tracy Vandenach  
Elizabeth Postema  
Elizabeth Richardson  
Emily Denhof  
Emma Mull  
Eric Brink // Painter Man  
Faith Community Church  
Family Fare Coopersville  
Francis & Catherine  
Gagnepain  
GHACF Anonymous Fund  
Girl Scouts of Coopersville,  
Kenowa, & Comstock Park

GR Catholic Central HS  
GR Section of ASQ  
Grace Lutheran Church  
Grand Haven Area  
Community Foundation  
Groundwork Center for  
Resilient Communities  
Harland Throop Memorial  
Christmas Fund  
Harold & Kay Woodard  
Harry Willis  
Howard & Karen Vanderjagt  
Hungry for Christ  
Images Salon by LK  
Jacqueline Haystead  
James & Kristie Van Huis  
James & Ruth Jensen  
Janice Jordan  
Jared McDuffee  
Jeff & Denise Parish  
Jen Quint  
Jeremy & Daniela Deppe  
Family Fund  
Jerry & Joanne Julien  
Joanne Louise Cooper  
John & Judy Prichard  
John Mostacci  
Joy Flanders  
Julie Palma  
Kalvin Veeneman Trust  
Karen Gereaux  
Karen Toogood  
Kathy Walt  
Kevin Kozuch  
Knights of Columbus #9909  
Kurt Andrews  
Lakeshore Food Rescue  
Lamont Christian Reformed  
Church  
LaRae Stream  
Laurie & Ernie Klein  
Laurie Carlson  
Lewis & Luann Marsh  
Linda Kark  
Lisa DeBone  
Little Farms Chapel  
Lois Adema  
Lori & Lee Randolph  
Lori Greyerbiehl  
Lorraine Veeneman  
Lost Art Brewhouse  
Lyndsey Kosten  
Mafwa Kuvibidila  
Marcia Bernhardt & Jodi  
Sidor  
Marcia Ferguson  
Marcia Masters

Margaret LeMieux  
Marie & Jack Cunningham  
Marie & Ronald Pattyn  
Mark & Denise DeWys Family Fund  
Mark & Jacquelyn Carmean  
Mark & Linda Doane  
Marne American Legion + Auxillary  
Marne United Methodist Church  
Mary Bueche  
Matthew Vandersys  
Meijer Simply Give  
Michael Michalak  
Mik & Joanne Walberer  
Mike's Processing LLC  
Mitten Insurance  
Molly Jane Thiss  
Mr. & Mrs. Zylstra  
Nancy Edgecomb  
NEOFC  
Ottawa County Public Health  
Pam Moore  
Paul & Evonne Doctor  
Pete VanKempen  
Phillips Jewelers  
Quality Life Science QLS Logistics  
Rachel Hopkins  
Rasch Cherry & Apple Market  
Raymond & Dorothy Lubberts Trust  
Renee LeClear Gavin  
Richard & Nancy Klein  
Richard & Vicki Zemaitis  
Roger Gobrogge  
Rotary Club of Coopersville  
Roy & Joan Visser  
Ryan & Diana Brechting  
Samantha Bos  
Shana Hansma  
Sharon Reeves Trust  
Sons of the American Legion Marne  
SoundOff Signal  
Spartan Nash Foundation  
St Joseph Catholic Church Wright  
St Mary's Catholic Church  
St Michael's Catholic Parish  
Stuart Vander Laan  
Tena & Robert Veihl  
The Benefit Sale Committee  
Thomas Pearce  
Thomas TL Lowe  
Thomas Walters  
Tim & Julie Brouwer  
Toys for Tots of the Lakeshore  
Trinity Lutheran School & Co-op  
United Way Heart of MI  
United Way of Dallas  
United Way of Greater Cincinnati  
USPS Coopersville Letter Carriers  
Women's Division Chamber  
Zylstra Building & Remodeling



# Our Future

## Building a Community for Tomorrow

We are focused in 2026 on creating a space of our own where programming can run efficiently and expand as both demand and our strategic visions dictate. We endeavor to house our food, clothing, and assistance programs under one roof with program space available for community events, personal finance mentorship, and congregant meals to better support our neighbors. We are encouraged by the widespread community support historically for our growth toward a home of our own, and are ready to re-energize our capital campaign to make big moves in the next year toward stability in our own space.

## Expanding Social Support Programs

With your support, we are excellent at providing for the basic needs of those who seek us out. What we plan for the next year, though, is to move beyond simply putting out fires and toward preventing them in the first place through community-based mentorship programs in personal finance, kitchen cost-savings, and parenting. While we are happy to help folks who find themselves in hard spots, we want to continue building a social safety system that banks on preventing the fall the net is there to catch.

## Enhanced Volunteer Experiences

The next year will focus on expanding our volunteer base substantially so that we can extend our available hours and accommodate all levels of physical ability in our closet and pantry. To that end, we are instituting additional volunteer recognition programs and will be making a renewed effort to recruit folks interested in supporting our mission with compassion and kindness.



“We make a *living* by what we get, but we make a *life* by what we give.”

– Winston Churchill

# Support Coopersville Cares

"Don't judge each day by the harvest you reap, but by the seeds you plant." -  
Robert Louis Stevenson

## Monthly Giving

Monthly and other recurring donors are at the core of how we plan for the year ahead. When you decide to support us monthly, you add to the certainty and sustainability of our organization and make us better able to weather the changing seasons of occasional giving. Recurring donations can be set up right on our website and changed or cancelled any time. Through our partnership with [Zeffy](#), an online merchant service company, we don't even pay processing fees so every dollar goes directly to our program budgets.

## Program Specific Giving

For donors who prefer single or sporadic donations as the mood strikes or finances allow, program specific giving is the solution. A one-time gift can be made to our Neighbors Helping Neighbors campaign via the website anytime, and you can choose which of our programs you would like to direct your dollars to. Really concerned about childhood hunger? Food Programs! Want to make the holidays more festive with some additional giving to our Christmas programs? Holiday Helpers! Program specific giving lets you choose the when and where of how your dollars will be used.

## Corporate Partners

We love collaborating with corporate partners for creative donation opportunities. From holiday drives to employee matches, to overstocked inventory and payroll deductions; we are supported by a variety of businesses and organizations in town in several ways. Companies willing to offer their employees the option of payroll deductions directed to Coopersville Cares are particularly sought after in a world where the majority of payroll giving programs like those from the United Way have gone to the wayside. Those small donations really add up across companies and those dollars buy food that sometimes goes directly into the tummies of their co-workers' and neighbors' children.

*Shout out to Coopersville Area Schools staff who donated over \$1100 through payroll deductions in 2025!*

# Support Coopersville Cares

## Congregational Partners

Coopersville Cares was founded by local church partners as a clearinghouse for the generosity efforts of the community, and continues to thrive with the cooperation and support of local congregations. When church families partner with Coopersville Cares, they have a ready-built way to live out Galatians 5:13, “to serve one another humbly in love”. Our organization has the specialized logistical skills to meet our neighbors needs and our local congregations have the resources, energy, people, and most importantly, prayer that we need to accomplish that mission. Church partnerships allow both Coopersville Cares and the individual churches to have much greater impacts and overall reach than if either were to try to meet this community where it is alone. We are incredibly thankful to our current church partners and will continue actively seeking to engage other congregations looking for meaningful service that builds community trust and does the hands and feet work of the gospel.

## Legacy Donors

Legacy planning is not really anyone’s idea of a fun way to spend a Saturday afternoon, but knowing that you will continue to impact an organization that aligns with your values can be one of the most fulfilling ways to make a lasting difference. Most donations we receive focus on short-term or immediately pressing needs. Those who give planned gifts provide us the opportunity to look further into the future needs we anticipate seeing in the years to come. Supporting a cause like Coopersville Cares can be a natural progression of a lifetime of service, and provides a gift beyond recognition – security for the future of Coopersville Cares and the honor of a life well lived.

## Needed In-Kind Items

### We always welcome ...

Foods, both perishable and fresh or frozen like ... canned fruit & vegetables, boxed dinners, soup, cereal, peanut butter, noodles, & canned meats

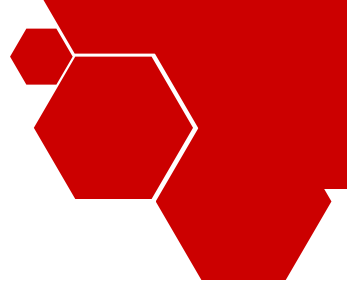
Clothing items that are gently used and free of stains, rips, & holes including socks & shoes

Basic household goods necessary for survival ... cookware, dishes, silverware, bedding, etc

Office supplies like printer paper, pens, clipboards, paper clips, and toner cartridges

Program specific items like stockings at Christmas, baskets at Easter, and school supplies ahead of the start of the new school year.

# Contact Us



616.997.8602



coopcares4u@gmail.com



www.coopersvillecares.org

## Our Board

Rev. Cori Conran // President  
*Faith Community Church*

Emily VanderZwaag // Vice President  
*At-Large*

Sara Lothschutz // Secretary  
*CAPS + St Mary's Marne*

Kim Ramirez // Treasurer  
*ChoiceOne Bank*

Chris Busbee  
*Busbee Auto + Coopersville Card Vault*

Kim Culver  
*Delly Belly Bakery*

LeaAnn Tibbe  
*At-Large*

Deb Timmerman  
*At-Large*



**Coopersville Cares**  
neighbors helping neighbors