



SPRINGFIELD FAMILY CENTER

AUGUST 2024 NEWSLETTER

Hello, Friends!



What's New:

We are up and running in our new space!

The Springfield Family Center (SFC) is excited to announce that we have officially moved into our new location in the Springfield Shopping Plaza, Suite #9 (in the space formerly known as Precision Pools/Aubuchon's Hardware).

We are excited to be closer to town in a more accessible space and look forward to

serving our food insecure neighbors.

Since our relocation the increase in meals has been substantial with most days seeing close to 125 plates per day ~ a 45% increase from our prior location.





Giving Thanks:

We could not have accomplished our goals without you!

Heartfelt thanks to the following for making our new space a reality:

Kevin Douglass of Spring Hill Construction, LLC
Dave Gould Electric
Sherwin Williams who donated all paint
The Rotary Club and Karen Longo for donating shelving

Grants that helped with renovating the new space:

Ben & Jerry's Foundation
Agnes Lindsay Trust
Alma Gibbs Donchian Foundation
The Vermont Foodbank
The Windham Foundation
The Tarrant Foundation

Businesses who donated funds:

Muse & Associates
HB Energy Solutions
Willow Farm, Inc.
IVEK Corporation
Crown Point Board of Realtors

We also received a resounding \$22,550.00 from YOU in our community!

Our physical move would not have been possible without the aide of staff from the following organizations ~

Springfield Supportive Housing Program
Senior Solutions
Health Care & Rehabilitation Services

Our Friends in the Community:

Springfield Lions Club
Springfield Rotary Club
Malcolm Fowler and his incredible team of pastors
Carol Knight
Springfield Family Center Board of Directors

New Space; New Name?

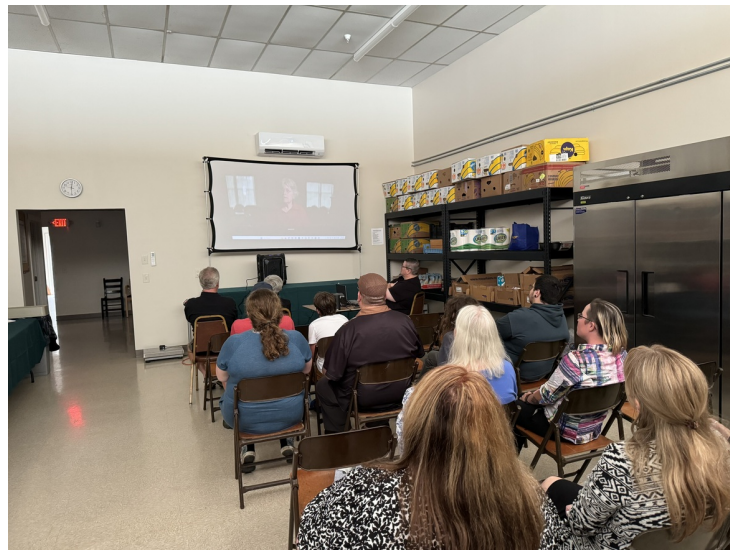
The Springfield Family Center's mission has recently changed to being a community-based charitable food organization dedicated to providing resources to our food insecure neighbors in the communities of the greater Springfield area.

In conjunction with a new space and an updated mission, Springfield Family Center is considering a name change. As we consider this change, we are interested in hearing your input on whether you think this is a good idea?

Do you think the Springfield Family Center should change their name?

Click the link below to vote "yes" or "no" for the name change. If yes, please consider sharing your ideas for a new name.

Name Change Survey



Open House:

All of us at Springfield Family Center want to thank all of you who came out to support us and who helped make our open house a success! So many amazing people came through with great questions and sincere interest in the work we do! Truth is, we could not do what we do without the overall support of our community. As an organization whose services are free to the community we rely heavily on grant writing, fundraising and the generosity of others to meet the increasing needs in the community. Sadly, ongoing inflation and rising food costs continue to burden individuals and families who are struggling to make ends meet. Food insecurity must be treated as the urgent crisis it is. Springfield Family Center's food shelf and hot meal programs provide sustenance and nutrition to those who would otherwise go hungry.

The Need is Greater than EVER in Springfield!

Springfield Family Center (SFC) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit that serves our food insecure neighbors in the greater Springfield area. Many in our community struggle with knowing where their next meal will come from:

1 in 3 of Springfield residents faces food insecurity

The poverty rate in Springfield is 47% higher than Vermont's average

During the last fiscal year, SFC helped alleviate this problem by providing the community with:

30,282 prepared meals served 5 days a week

Over 700 visits to the food shelf serving over 1361 people cumulatively

Distributed loaves of bread, produce and fresh dairy to over 6,146 people

102 holiday themed boxes feeding over 300 people

In addition, SFC partners with local schools and other organizations such as North Star Health, Senior Solutions and Springfield Adult Day Care to develop programs that target particular populations with nutritional needs.



Current Happenings:

Back Pack Drive ~ Backpacks, Notebooks and Pens... Oh, My! It's almost time for school, and together we can make sure our youngest community members have the supplies they need to succeed.

We are looking for new school supplies such as:

Backpacks, Calculators, Lunch Boxes, Rulers, Notebooks, Scissors, Markers, Pens, Boxes of Tissues and Reusable Water Bottles.

Please drop off your donations at our new space. All supplies will be brought to local schools for distribution.



Recipe Boxes:

Springfield Family Center has partnered with the Vermont FoodBank's VT Fresh program to enhance utilization of unique produce donated to our organization. This program helps reduce waste as well as encourages individuals to incorporate more fresh foods into their cooking routines that they may not have known how to utilize prior. Each recipe kit includes a fruit or vegetable, instructional recipe guides, some extra tips & tricks, and all ingredients/seasoning needed to make the recipe.



Recipe of the Month:

How to cook summer squash using a microwave.

Ingredients: Summer Squash/Favorite Toppings

Items You'll Need: Microwave, Chopping knife, Microwave-safe bowl and Cling wrap.

Directions:

- * Wash your squash
- * Cut your squash and place in microwave-safe bowl
- * Cover your bowl with cling wrap and microwave to 2 to 4 minutes or until soft. If you need more time add it in 1 minute increments.

* Remove from microwave and drain.

* Add your favorite seasonings and ENJOY!

Recipe Adapted From: <https://www.beeyondcereal.com/microwave-yellow-squash//>



Buy a Meal for a Neighbor:

Your small donation buys an entire meal for one of our food insecure neighbors. Five dollars covers the cost of ingredients from the food shelf to make a meal for one person and ten dollars covers the cost of the ingredients from the food shelf to make a meal for a household of 2-3 people.

[Donate Now](#)

See you in September,

Your Friends at the Springfield Family Center

802 885 3646



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