



SPRINGFIELD FAMILY CENTER OCTOBER 2024 NEWSLETTER



Hello, Friends!

The "Spooky Season" has arrived! Here's a look at some goings on this month at the Springfield Family Center!

40th Annual Vermont Apple Festival & Craft Show:

The Springfield Family Center will be at this year's 40th Annual Vermont Apple Festival hosted by the Springfield Chamber of Commerce.

Join us for a kids activity!



If you are able, we ask you to join us in our hunger relief work in the form of a donation. Every person who makes a monetary donation at the event will be entered into a drawing to win a night out for pizza and a movie!

Where: Riverside Middle School
13 Fairground Rd
Springfield, Vermont

When: Saturday, October 12th
(Rain or Shine)

Time: 9am-4pm



Food Drive:

Chester Boy Scouts will be hosting a FOOD DRIVE to benefit the Springfield Family Center!

When: Saturday
October 12th

Where: Springfield
Shaw's Plaza

Time: 9am-1pm

Please consider stopping by to donate in-date, shelf-stable, food items to help combat food insecurity in our community OR use the button below to make a donation today!

School Pantry Items

Save the Date Documentary Viewing:

Springfield Family Center will be offering refreshments at the screening of "Just Getting By" a new documentary film by Bess O'Brien on Vermonters struggling with food and housing insecurity in Vermont.

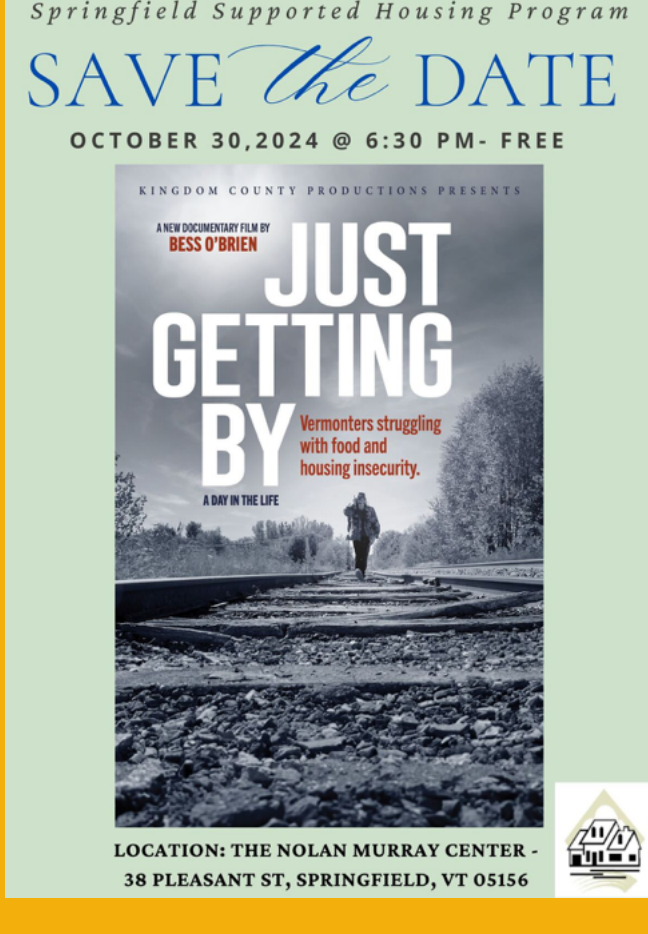
We join Springfield Supported Housing Program and other great organizations dedicated to combating homelessness as well as food insecurity.

What: Free Screening of Bess O'Brien's documentary: "Just Getting By"

When: October 30, 2024

Where: The Nolan Murray Center
38 Pleasant Street, Springfield, VT

Time: 6:30pm



Annual Basket Raffle:

The Springfield Family Center is gearing up for the Annual Basket Raffle Fundraiser! This annual event truly brings out the creativity in our community. Each basket donated is unique and fun! 100% of all proceeds go directly to support the Springfield Family Center's Local Food Programs.

Interested in getting in on the fun? Consider donating a basket! Baskets can vary ~ you can promote your business, hobby, or just have fun by putting together a collection of items to be raffled off. Containers do not need to be baskets and may be based on the theme of the items ~ a pail, a pot, or even a box will do! Here are a few themes to get the creative juices flowing: Movie Night, Coffee Lovers, Sports, Self-Care, Game Night, Kitchen products, Animal Lovers, and so much more!

We will be collecting baskets throughout the month of October for a November launch!

Interested in donating a basket? Please give us a call at 802-885-3646 or email us programsatsfc@gmail.com.

Volunteer Spotlight:

We would like to shine the light on M&T Bank and their dedication to helping the community in meaningful ways. M&T Bank recognizes the value of time as a gift and supports their employees to donate 40 hours of their time to the organizations that speak to them.

This month's volunteer spotlight focuses on our volunteer, Mariah,

who has been assisting in whatever capacity has been needed since our move into our Springfield Plaza location. Her time in our establishment has been in conjunction with our partnership with M&T Bank. When asked, Mariah shared her thoughts on volunteer work and how she got started, "I got started in April of 2024. When volunteering, I feel that I get to be a part of a great community helping people in need. It makes me feel as if what I'm doing is important and that I'm making a positive impact in my community."

For her, the most important part of giving back to the community and others is "Being there for someone during tough times. You never know what someone is going through or what their situation is."

Her advice for others on how to get into community service, "Do it! Nothing feels better than helping the community. It makes you feel like you have a greater purpose, because doing something so small can make such a big impact on someone else's life."

Thank you for all that you do to help us help others, Mariah!



Colder Weather:

The colder weather is starting to set in... Often, this is a time of pleasure for many as they enjoy warm days, cool nights, and all the excitements fall has to offer! However, far too many others are

beginning to worry as they are burdened with trying to figure out how to navigate the challenges the change of seasons brings. The changing of temperatures equals increased costs for individuals and families already struggling to make ends meet. This doesn't even include the stress of also trying to prepare for the holiday season.

In Springfield, over 30% of the households are cost-burdened - - which means that the occupants pay more than 30% of their income to housing. In such a case, there is often not enough money to pay for other basic needs, including healthy and nutritious food.

With this in mind, Springfield Family Center is asking for your help as we prepare to meet the increased needs of our community.

Donate Here

Here are ways you can help us help others!

- Host a food drive
- Donate Shelf stable-in date food
- Donate fresh fruits and vegetables
- Donate frozen Hams and turkeys
- Start a workplace challenge food drive
- If you are able make a Monetary donation
- Become a sustaining donor-as little as \$10/month can "buy" a pre-made meal for one person or enough ingredients from the food shelf to provide a meal for 2-3 people.

SPRINGFIELD
FAMILY CENTER

FOOD INSECURITY IN SPRINGFIELD

2 out of 5

Vermonters do not know where their next meal is coming from. Springfield in particular, suffers from a poverty rate that is 47% higher than Vermont's average. Out of 9,000 residents, roughly 2,430 are living at or below the poverty line.

YOU can help by buying a meal for a neighbor. With as little as \$10.00, you can "buy" an entire prepared meal for one person or enough ingredients from our food shelf to provide a meal for a household of 2-3 people.

Scan the QR code and make a donation today!

www.springfieldfamilycenter.com

With SFC's recent move to a more accessible location, we have seen a steady increase in the number of meals we serve each day as well as an increased use of our food shelf.

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.

See you in November,

Your Friends at the Springfield Family Center

802 885 3646

