THE OPEN DOOR

A FRESH APPROACH TO ENDING LOCAL HUNGER

April 2025

GET FOOD DONATE VOLUNTEER

THE GRAPEVINE

THE OPEN DOOR'S MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Inside: Star Tribune Coverage, March Campaign Update, Spring/Summer Volunteer Opportunities, Snack Packs are Back!

Star Tribune Reports on Food Pantry Demand

Last month, the Star Tribune featured **a front-page article on the rising number of food pantry visits across Minnesota**. We're glad the work we and so many other organizations are doing in hunger relief is getting the headline coverage it needs. Just like the food shelves mentioned in the article, The Open Door has seen an increase in the number of people we're serving. That's due just as much to the incredible generosity of our community as it is to new demand for our services.

The Open Door has dramatically expanded its services in the past two years. We've created over 1,300 new monthly opportunities for families to access fresh, healthy food. It's important to understand that this reflects not only new need, but also our increased ability to reach those who have struggled for too long. Every time we create an opportunity to get help, the line gets shorter… but there is still a line.

The numbers in this article show that our work isn't done.

But these numbers also show that we are closer than we have ever been to meeting the need in our community and across Minnesota.

It Might Be April - But March Campaign 2025 Is Still Underway

March Campaign, the largest grassroots food and fund drive in the state, actually ends on April 6th. Donations made during this campaign are proportionally increased by Minnesota FoodShare, maximizing your impact!

We're still working towards our goals of raising $200,000 and collecting 200,000 lbs of food, and while we're on track for food donations, **we need help reaching our funds goal**. Any amount helps – please donate by **clicking this link**.

SPRING CLEANING

APRIL'S FOOD & FUND DRIVE THEME

Dust off your generosity this April! Our Food & Fund Drive theme for this month is 'Spring Cleaning'. Host a drive and collect personal care item essentials like deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrushes, and body soap.

Have questions? Reach out to our Food & Fund Drives Coordinator, **Lisa Wendt**.

PROGRAM UPDATE

Snack Packs are Back!

Support The Open Door's Mobile Lunch Box program this summer by packing kid-friendly snack packs. It's as easy as 1-2-3: purchase the snacks, pack them into bags, and drop them off at our Eagan Pantry. Help us reach even more kids this summer! Reach out to our Neighborhood Programs Manager, **Nicole Tyrrell** for more information.

A NOTE FROM:

Lisa Wendt,

Food & Fund Drives Coordinator

"Thank you to everyone who participated in our March Campaign! We are especially grateful to the local schools, churches, individuals, and groups whose generous support made a meaningful impact. Your contributions and efforts help us continue our mission, and we truly appreciate your dedication to making a difference in our community."

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES - SPRING/SUMMER 2025

Our Spring/Summer 2025 volunteer opportunity flyer is here! Whether you're looking to help out individually or with a group, we have plenty of ways for you to get involved and support our mission. **Click here to download the flyer** and explore all the opportunities!

UP-AND-COMING EVENTS

Party for the Pantry - Tickets on Sale Now!

Don't miss out on the magic! **Tickets for The Open Door's Party for the Pantry on May 15th are selling fast - we've already sold over 50%!** Join us at Royal Cliff Event Center for an enchanting evening with dinner, entertainment, and fundraising to support food for all. **Get your tickets here** ($100 per individual ticket or $1,000 for a table of 10 seats) before they disappear!

FROM OUR CLIENTS

"Best pantry in the world. Staff members are welcoming and kind."

-C. Aranda

(On Google Reviews)

FROM OUR DONORS

"I was able to donate a lot of above mentioned [medical supplies] to our local food shelf, The Open Door Pantry. They were beyond grateful. People go to the facility for so many things other than food."

-Holly C.

FROM OUR VOLUNTEERS

"We served 135 families last week at Eagle Ridge. So fun to see my friends each month and happy more are joining us. Good job Open Door."

-Sandy D.

(On Facebook)

(On Nextdoor)

THE PANTRY'S MOST WANTED

These are the items we're in need of the most at the Pantry this month, and a general range of how much they may cost at the grocery store. **Drop off a bag** 24/7 in our office vestibule, or **learn how to host a food drive** to really maximize your giving!

Pasta
$1.00 - $4.00

Toilet Paper
$0.50 - $3.00

Ground Coffee
$4.00 - $12.00

Rice
$2.00 - $6.00

Pasta Sauce
$2.00 - $5.00

Paper Bags
3 for $1.00

…or, donate the combined total of these items as a cash donation!

Donate $10.50 as a budget-conscious shopper

Donate $31.00 if your grocery shopping is a bit more lavish.

The Open Door is a 501(c)3 organization. Your donation is tax deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law.

Want to hear from us more often?

Connect with us on social media!

Thank you to our Annual Partners!

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