

## ***Extracted from the Chapter 0304 October 2025 Newsletter***

### **Resources for Federal Employees in Need During the Shutdown**

As federal employees (and retirees), we fairly much live paycheck to paycheck. If you, during this shutdown, are furloughed, excessed, or working without pay, you may need to make decisions about where to put your remaining money: food, medication, or transportation to work (which you might lose if you fail to show up and work without pay during the furlough period). Note: As of this moment, retirees will receive their annuity during the shutdown.

In the replies below are links to resources and food pantries in Michigan. The list is not exhaustive, but it is an attempt to include locations in most counties of Michigan. If there is no listing for your county, please do a Google search on:

Michigan + your county + food pantry (or food bank)

Most Michigan counties list food banks under the County Health department. Several Michigan rural counties are supported by a Health Department serving multiple counties.

Some resources are duplicate entries because this is a cut and paste from past newsletters.

As federal employees we are proud of our service and do not usually need help. We pay it forward by helping others directly or through contributions over the years to organizations such as CFC, a faith community, or other charitable groups. Now, it is our time. If you need help, please accept help.

***Extracted from the October 2024 Newsletter***

**UNITED WAY: A Lifeline in times of Crisis**

If you need assistance, please call 211 from anywhere in the state of Michigan or go to:

<https://unitedwaysem.org/get-help/community-resources/>

The United Way's 2-1-1 helpline provides referrals to programs to assist with food, housing, financial assistance, utility assistance and more. Help is available 24 hours a day, every day of the year, from anywhere in Michigan. If you need help finding resources in your area, dial 2-1-1, or send an email to United Way at <https://unitedwaysem.org/gethelp/>

You can browse United Way's online database to access more than 30,000 different statewide programs and services. If you experience problems dialing 2-1-1, dial 1-800-552-1183.

***Extracted from the Dec 2023 Newsletter***

**Bountiful Harvest-Livingston**

Bountiful Harvest is a food pantry that is a non-profit organization run completely by volunteers. With support from the local community and food banks, Bountiful Harvest provides groceries, meals, clothing and access to employment agencies to people in need. They are located in Brighton and serve the entire Livingston County.

To give or receive help, go to:

<https://bountifulharvest-mi.org/>

email: [info@bountifulharvest-mi.org](mailto:info@bountifulharvest-mi.org)

Or call: 810-360-0271 / 810-534-7275

**Gleaners-Wayne, Oakland, Macomb,  
Livingston and Monroe**

Headquartered in Detroit, Gleaners serves five Southeast Michigan counties: Wayne, Oakland, Macomb, Livingston and Monroe. Gleaners provides food to nearly 400 partner soup kitchens, food pantries, shelters, schools and other agencies across the region, and supplements the efforts of those partners by offering direct service drive-up grocery distributions. In

its fiscal year 2023, Gleaners distributed more than 50.9 million pounds of food to neighbors in need. Every dollar donated provides three meals and 92 cents of every donated dollar goes to food and food programs. Gleaners relies on volunteers to help feed children, families, seniors, veterans, and other vulnerable neighbors across Southeast Michigan. Volunteers at our warehouses and distribution centers sort and pack food, from fresh fruit to frozen vegetables to canned goods and more. Other times, volunteers help operate mobile grocery sites, tend community gardens, enter data, distribute food at pantries, and more.

To volunteer, go to:

<https://www.gcfb.org/give-time/volunteer-opportunities/>

To receive help, go to: <https://pantrynet.org/>

Or call 866-GLEANER (453-2637)

## **MONROE COUNTY OPPORTUNITY PROGRAM (MCOP)**

### **Area Agency on Aging**

MCOP works with Gleaner's and Feeding America to offer several food programs. The Emergency Food Assistance Program supplies food on a quarterly basis to low-income individuals and families at sites throughout Monroe County. The County-wide Food Bank coordinates a network of food pantry locations in Monroe County. The Emergency Food Box Program is a one-time emergency offering for low-income residents in need. The Lord's Harvest Pantry offers a client choice pantry that residents in need may utilize up to 6 times per year. A mobile Food Pantry is also offered at various locations throughout the year. Must be a low income and a Monroe County resident in need. MCOP also assists Monroe residents in need with utility assistance, friendly callers, in-home respite, transportation, housing and food vouchers.

[https://aaa1b.org/caregiver\\_services/monroe-county-opportunity-program/](https://aaa1b.org/caregiver_services/monroe-county-opportunity-program/)

To give help, go to: <https://aaa1b.org/volunteer-opportunities/>

To find help, go to:

[https://aaa1b.org/services-and-seniors/information-andassistance/#ia\\_contact](https://aaa1b.org/services-and-seniors/information-andassistance/#ia_contact)

Or call (800) 852-7795

### ***Extracted from the Oct 2024 Newsletter***

Food Banks (In No Particular Order)

#### **Food Gatherers (Washtenaw)**

<https://www.foodgatherers.org/what-we-do/how-it-works/>

If you need help finding food or would like to help, go to

[www.foodgatherers.org/find-help/](http://www.foodgatherers.org/find-help/)

Call 734-761-2796

Email: [info@foodgatherers.org](mailto:info@foodgatherers.org)

#### **Muskegon YMCA**

If you need help finding food or would like to help, go to:

<https://muskegonymca.org/give/>

Call (231) 722-9622

Email [info@muskegonymca.org](mailto:info@muskegonymca.org)

#### **Feeding America West Michigan**

If you need help finding food or would like to help, go to:

<https://www.feedwm.org/findfood/>

or call 616.784.3250

#### **Bountiful Harvest-Livingston**

To give or receive help, go to:

<https://bountifulharvest-mi.org/>

email: [info@bountifulharvest-mi.org](mailto:info@bountifulharvest-mi.org)

Or call: 810-360-0271 / 810-534-7275

## **Gleaners-Wayne, Oakland, Macomb, Livingston and Monroe**

To volunteer, go to:

<https://www.gcfb.org/give-time/volunteer-opportunities/>

To receive help, go to: <https://pantrynet.org/>

Or call 866-GLEANER (453-2637)

Monroe County Opportunity Program (MCOP) Ageways

To find help, go to:

[https://aaa1b.org/caregiver\\_services/monroe-county-opportunity-program/](https://aaa1b.org/caregiver_services/monroe-county-opportunity-program/)

To give help, go to: <https://aaa1b.org/volunteer-opportunities/>

Or call (800) 852-7795

## **Otsego County Food Pantry**

116 E. 5th St., Gaylord, MI 49735

Hours of Operation: M-F 12pm to 2pm

Phone: 989-732-8929

<https://www.otsegocountyfoodpantry.org/>

<https://www.facebook.com/OtsegoCountyFoodPantry/>

## **Ottawa County Department of Public Health**

**Nutrition & Food Assistance Resources**

### **Ottawa Food**

Finding Help: Dial 211

<https://ottawafood.org/findfood/>

**continued on next page**

## ***Extracted from the Chapter 0304 Nov 2025 Newsletter***

### **National Food Resources & Advice**

**Feeding America:** These guys have a nationwide network of 200 food banks. From those food banks, they have 60,000 partner pantries from which they can serve every community across the United States. This is an awesome resource, and they have already begun serving Federal employees affected by the government shutdown.

<https://www.feedingamerica.org/our-work/hunger-relief-programs>

### **Applying for SNAP benefits**

<https://www.feedingamerica.org/our-work/hunger-relief-programs/snap>

**Your School District:** To save on food and ensure your kid eats breakfast and/or lunch free (less stress and worry for you), notify the district of your furlough. No income is an emergency and normally qualifies you for the free meal program.