

Did You Know...

serving locally >>>

Each Tuesday you can meet with a NENCAP representative at the Washington County Food Pantry. They can help with SNAP, payment assistance, WIC, child car seats, weatherization food commodity applications and veteran's services. Call Candy at 402.721.0619 to make an appointment.



Easter Pantry Hours

April 3rd 10—12:30 & 1:30 —3
April 6th 10—12:30 & 1:30 —3
April 7th 10—12:30 & 1:30 —3
April 8th 9 am—Noon

Wishing you a blessed and happy Easter!



Make a difference today!

follow us on Facebook

www.josephscoat.org

WCFF Board of Directors: Jim Brown, Steve Doolin, Gine Gile, JoEllen Maras, Gregg Miller, Kelli Shaner, Cece Tonn and Cathy White
WCFF Strategic Director: Denise Cada

1737 Washington Street
Blair, NE 68008
402.426.0440

WASHINGTON COUNTY
FOOD PANTRY
at Joseph's Coat



Looking for a service project for your company or organization? Contact us! We can help you organize a food drive or provide you ideas for a community service project.



Want to hear more about what we do? We will speak at your group meeting. We also give tours of the pantry (please call ahead to schedule the time).

did you realize?

We help complete

SNAP Applications

United Way Basic Needs Assessments

in this issue >>>

Here For Good

Schools Fight Hunger

Bayer Fund Grant

By the Numbers

Food for Thought

Here For Good Kick Off

New Video, Coffee & Connections and Open House

The Washington County Food Pantry board of directors announces the launch of a comprehensive "Awareness Campaign" during 2023. "Here for Good" is the name they have given to this campaign that seeks to educate the community about the Washington County Food Pantry and its future goals.

Food Pantry Strategic Director, Denise Cada "Here for Good" is meant to convey a feeling of stability, security and commitment to our patrons and Washington County in its entirety. According to Cada, "We want our patrons as well as our supporters to know that we are actively working to build a secure future - we plan to be here for the long run and continue to change and grow to meet the needs of our communities."

JoEllen Maras, current board president states, "We have found that the lack of a centralized system for assistance really drives people to come visit us and seek help. Because of this, our board and staff are working hard to develop a plan for our future. We recognize our need for more physical space to serve patrons, more space for a larger thrift store and also space to offer vital services to those in need. It's an exciting time for our organization and we invite the general public to stop by and say hello! Find out what we're all about - I think they might be surprised at what they'll find."

Board Vice President Jim Brown also shared, "Our partnership with the Washington County Community Foundation allows the community to make a legacy gift to our endowment fund that will support the long-term sustainability of the Washington County Food Pantry."

WASHINGTON COUNTY
FOOD PANTRY
at Joseph's Coat

Spring 2023

www.josephscoat.org



"We have seen the pantry and thrift store become a 'community hub' of sorts. A place for assistance if food insecure, a fun place to shop and also a safe harbor to seek help with other forms of assistance."

-Denise Cada
Strategic Director

Coffee & Connections
April 4th 7:30 am—9 am



Stop in for treats and refreshments 10 am—5 pm

Check out our campaign video!
www.josephscoat.org



HARVEST FOR HUNGER

Spring is on the way!

Fresh produce is always welcome at the food pantry.

When planting your garden this spring, **please consider purchasing and caring for a few extra plants and bringing the harvest to the pantry.** Your neighbors will appreciate it!

Great Family Project!



Giving Generously

Washington County Community Foundation Provides Enormous Boast to WCFP



The Washington County Food Pantry received a \$4,000 grant for a much needed replacement freezer. "We could not have easily replaced this freezer with out the help from the Foundation. Thank you WCCF, for supporting the nonprofit organizations in our county. It makes a difference to so many people," commented JoEllen Maras, WCFP Board President.



L-R Ryan Palmer, Emily Petersen, Jordan Rishel, Denise Cada & JoEllen Maras

Good Things Happen Here



L-R Jesse Schulz, Director-Fresh, Denise Cada, WCFP, and Joseph Hunter, Senior Director of the Blair Distribution Center

DOLLAR GENERAL

The Blair Dollar General Distribution Center opened in October. They donated \$2,000 to the food pantry. Thank you Jesse and Joseph for giving back locally!



The WCFP@JC team hosted an open house and served lunch for Washington County Gives.

"Washington County Gives 2022 was a tremendous day for the food pantry. People are so generous. We could not fulfill our mission without their giving. The WCCF works diligently and tirelessly for the good of our entire county," noted Denise Cada.

WCCF Executive Director, Jordan Rishel, "The WCCF truly enjoys partnering with the WCFP. They do a great job of spreading the word about all they offer to Washington County. On Gives Day they are a great example of a group of people working towards a goal and really engaging their supporters."

Christmas for the Coat a Drive Thru Success

A fabulous morning for the community! The weather was chilly, however that did not stop the line of cars wanting a hot breakfast and wave from Santa. We appreciate everyone who supported Christmas for the Coat and all of the volunteers who ensure its success. We will see you again in December!



8.2 TONS

Washington County Recycling picked up over 8.2 tons of cardboard from the food pantry in 2022.



WASHINGTON COUNTY
FOOD PANTRY
at Joseph's Coat

By the Numbers

In an average month we serve

- **114 FAMILIES**
- **336 INDIVIDUALS**
- **7,028 MEALS**

We help 9 new families each month

In 2022 we distributed 157,708 pounds of food to families, seniors and children struggling with hunger in our community.

\$40 provides dinner for a family for 1 week

Most commonly needed food items: rice, pasta noodles, tuna, soups, jelly, canned corn and green beans, crackers, oatmeal, and toilet paper.

how to donate >>>

We are a 501(c)(3) organization. All gifts are tax deductible.

- 1 **Joseph's Coat**—please give gently used clothing, toys, books, household items and small furniture and kitchen appliances.
- 2 **Walmart Sparkgood**—select Joseph's Coat as your giving charity on Walmart.com and round up each time you make a purchase.
- 3 **Donorbox**—donations are accepted online at www.josephscoat.org/support.
- 4 **Monetary Donations** are always accepted in person or by mail.

Washington County Food Pantry
1737 Washington Street, Blair, NE 68008



We have a donation bin located in Fort Calhoun next to the splash pad (12th & Adams St). Donate your gently used household items & clothing.