

OPEN DOORS

Of Washington Township

A FOOD AND CLOTHING PANTRY



Open Doors Food and Clothing Pantry

PO Box 196
19360 Tomlinson Rd.,
Westfield IN 46074
(317) 867-8670

www.opendoorswestfield.org
[Facebook](#)

Hours of Pantry:

Tuesday, Thursday & Saturday
8:30 am – 12:00 pm
Monday
4:00 – 7:00 pm

Spring 2025

SERVING THE WESTFIELD COMMUNITY SINCE 1990

MESSAGE FROM the PRESIDENT

*"For I was hungry
and you gave me
something to eat,
I was thirsty
and you gave me
something to drink.
I was a stranger
and you invited me in,
I needed clothes
and you clothed me."*

Matthew 25:35

I wish you all the best as we begin to enjoy the warmer weather of spring. It's time to get out into our yards and clean them up from winter. I want to thank all the volunteers that put in the many hours to keep Open Doors running and satisfying the need of our many clients.

Bill Black, head of Church Relations, has been successfully working with our member churches to schedule monthly food drives. Bill provides a list of most needed items to focus the donations where it will help the most. This provides the Pantry with a good flow of foods throughout the year. Thanks to the churches that have already run food drives to help keep our Pantry stocked.

Carrie Larrison works with Westfield schools to schedule monthly food drives. These kids are excited to help the Pantry and provide plentiful food drives to support our student programs. Like the churches, they help keep the Pantry stocked with food for our client families throughout the school year.

The Meijer Simply Give program is once again benefitting Open Doors through June 28. At the Westfield store, pick up a card and have it scanned at the register for \$10, \$20, \$30, \$50 or more. All donations will be matched by Meijer. On June 14, Meijer will Double Match all donations made that day. Meijer then provides Open Doors with gift cards which we use to purchase food items that we need and are not normally donated.

The past couple of months, we have been preparing for the Letter Carriers' food drive. Volunteers have folded thousands of bags, and we have now moved to the stapling of post cards phase of this project. Carmel and Westfield letter carriers will distribute the bags in mailboxes the week of May 5 and pick up donations on Saturday, May 10. This food drive provides Open Doors with much of the foods needed throughout the summer.

On June 7, Kroger and the Westfield Police Dept. will hold the annual Pack the Cruiser food drive at the Kroger store on Springmill Rd from 10:00am to 2:00pm. This event helps provide food for the students while they are on summer vacation. A list of items needed will be available as you enter the store. Officers will be on hand to collect donations and load them into their cruisers.

As you can see, our volunteers will be very busy sorting the food donations brought in through these various food drives. We are very blessed to live in such a giving community. We thank you all for your generosity.

I hope you have a safe and fun summer.

Bruce Watson, President

OPEN DOORS OFFICERS

Bruce Watson
President

Kurt Wanninger
VP of Operations

Carrie Larrison
VP of Special Programs

Jerry Rosenberger
Treasurer

Kathy Patterson
Secretary

COORDINATOR REPORTS

Advocates

We are continuing to assist multiple new families each month – 21 new families first quarter alone. It is estimated that we assist 190 unique families each month.

We are running out of space in the front room. Rearrangement options will be discussed at the next Operations Meeting. We also need to discuss ways to manage outgoing food from the front room.

Clothing

Things are going well. We still get overloaded on a daily basis from the amount of donations coming in, but we manage to get through it all. We currently have plenty of volunteers in the clothing area. A record 10,000 clothing items were distributed in first quarter 2025.

Pantry Operations

We will not be participating in the TEFAP (The Emergency Food Assistance Program) through Gleaners. USDA changed to “open” eligibility so those pantries who restrict the area they serve, as we do, are no longer able to participate.

Gleaners has been bringing a semi to Grand Park on the second Tuesday of each month for a mobile pantry. We have been lucky enough to be the recipient of some of their remaining supply at the end of the day, including meat, canned items and shelf-stable items.

Warehouse Operations

Things are running smoothly. The team is getting things organized before the influx of items from the Letter Carrier’s Food Drive in May. We are once again in need of 10-ream paper boxes that are in good condition.

With the new laser printer in the front office, please write the date on the cartridge when replacing the toner. This will allow us to track the consumption rate of the cartridges.

The poster features a blue background with a white grid pattern. At the top, the 'SIMPLY give' logo is displayed. Below it, the text 'together, we can help end hunger in our community.' is written in white. A red banner in the center reads 'double match day June 14'. Below the banner, white text explains the match day offer: 'On double match days, Meijer will match each \$10 Simply Give card contribution up to a maximum Meijer donation of \$10,000 per pantry/campaign.' It then instructs to 'Pick up \$10 donation cards at your local Meijer:' followed by the address '225 W. Spring Mill Pointe Drive, Westfield' in a white box. Below this, it says 'to provide food to families in your community at:' followed by 'Open Doors of Washington Township' in a white box. The Meijer logo is at the bottom, with the website 'visit meijercommunity.com for more details' below it. A small code '0324.F1448376_S1456713.LL' is in the bottom right corner.

Meijer Simply Give Program – Spring 2025

Buy a Simply Give card at the Meijer on Spring Mill Pointe Drive in Westfield between March 30 and June 28, 2025, and Meijer will match your \$10 donation for a total of \$20 to Open Doors of Washington Township.

Do this on **Double Match Day – June 14, 2025** – and your \$10 donation becomes \$30!

While Simply Give cards can be found at the checkout lanes in store, volunteers can find specially coded cards at Open Doors by the sign-in sheet. Please use these to show that our people participate in the program.



COORDINATOR REPORTS *continued*

Kroger Food Rescue Program

We are in good shape and have plenty of drivers and helpers – 15 drivers and 10 helpers.

With the LIV Golf Tournament scheduled on Saturday, August 16 at Chatham Hills and the school parking lot being used to for the tournament. Open Doors will be closed, but we are working out how to ensure access to the pantry for the much needed food rescue pickups.

Food Procurement

Logistics are running smoothly. Carrie is doing all the communications with Meijer.

Volunteers

This quarter, three new volunteers were trained. We also trained three volunteers to become front-room receptionists.

Thank you to Sarah and Tom Clark for doing such a great job while Ann was out for two months.

Special Projects

Summer bags are coming up.

Schools have been doing monthly food drives to help support the student programs like weekend bags, summer bags, etc. Recent donations came from Monon Trails Elementary and Shamrock Springs Elementary.

Church Relations

We are well on our way of hitting our 2025 goal of 5500 pounds of food donations from our member churches! Almost 3500 pounds of food came in just in first quarter alone. Special shoutout to LifePoint Church which raised over 2000 pounds in March. With pantry shelves and inventory low, this was much appreciated.

Scheduled second quarter 2025 food drives include:

April..... Christ United Methodist Church

May none scheduled due to Letter Carriers' Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive

June New Joy Lutheran Church

Thank you to Thrive Christian Church for providing a group of volunteers to help sort after the Letter Carriers' Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive.

Spiritual Concerns

There are many prayer concerns from our clients. Sometimes we hear back how prayers were answered.

Building and Grounds

It's that time of year that weeds will be popping up around the building. This is a great volunteer opportunity for those groups looking to help out.

We have been working with Westfield Police to form a safety plan for the building and volunteers.

Lights, Camera, Action...

Westfield Washington Township Trustee, Jamie Goetz-Mills, is looking to promote their Community Partners (Student Impact, WYAP, etc.). They have already posted signage in city buildings. They are now working on a video series to highlight each organization on social media. The goal is to give the community a closer look at the valuable services and programs offered throughout Westfield Washington Township. And, they want to kick off the series with Open Doors!

Be on the lookout for Chelsea McCarty, Marketing Manager for the Westfield Washington Township Trustee, and her camera! She would love to find a few volunteers to answer a couple of questions – “What do you do?” and “How can the community help?”.



2025 Calendar of Events

Board of Directors Meeting Dates

January 16
April 10
July 10
October 9

Annual Meeting

October 9

Letter Carriers' Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive

May 10

Pack the Cruiser

June 7 (10am-2pm)

Back-to-School Backpack Giveaway

August 2

Thanksgiving Food Giveaway

November 22

Christmas Toy & Food Giveaway

December 13

Pantry Closed

January 1
August 16
November 22
November 27
December 13
December 25



Open Doors of Washington Township 1990-2025

Providing assistance to residents of Washington Township for 35 years
and still 100% run by volunteers

MEMBER CHURCHES

Christ United Methodist Church

318 N. Union Street
Westfield, IN

Crossroads Church at Westfield (PCUSA)

19201 Grassy Branch Road
Westfield, IN

Eagle Creek Evangelical Friends Church

18235 Eagletown Rd.
Westfield, IN

Hortonville United Methodist

3080 W. SR 38
Sheridan, IN

Lifepointe Church

3233 W. 166th Street
Westfield, IN

Mts. Runn Baptist Church

250 S. 775 E.
Zionville, IN

New Joy Lutheran Church, ELCA

316 156th Street
Westfield, IN

North Circle Church

20101 Grassy Branch Rd
Westfield, IN

Northview Church

Westfield Campus
17171 Ditch Road
Westfield, IN

Radiant Christian Life

16162 Carey Road
Westfield, IN

The Journey Church

17716 Eagletown Road
Westfield, IN

Thrive Christian Church

15091 Towne Rd.
Westfield, IN

Trinity Baptist Church

1415 E. 191st Street
Westfield IN

Westfield Friends Church

324 South Union Street
Westfield, IN

Westfield Bible Methodist Church

219 W. 161st Street
Westfield, IN 46074

SHOP and CONTRIBUTE

KROGER...

Register with your Kroger PLUS CARD (free at the store service counter) on the [CommunityRewards Website](#). Select number **WY292** for Open Doors. Every time you swipe your card, KROGER will donate a percentage of your purchase to Open Doors.



AMAZON...

QR CODE and LINK CREATED for OPEN DOORS AMAZON WISH LIST. Scan code with camera and be taken to our Wish List. Select items to purchase, and they will be sent directly to Open Doors. This makes it easier for people who do not have the time to go to the store for donation items and deliver to Open Doors.

https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/2LWM3RXR49QKR?ref=wl_fv_le



OPEN DOORS LINKS

*Pantry Needs, News,
General Information, COVID-19 Protocols*
www.opendoorswestfield.org

Suggestions, Ideas, Photos for Website and Newsletter
bruce@westfieldconsult.com

Suggestions, Ideas, Photos for FACEBOOK
Kurt.Wanninger@hotmail.com

*Volunteering:
Individuals, Groups (school, church, community)*
jagodby59@aol.com

Like us on Facebook
Open Doors of Washington Township

Receive newsletter via email.
Email "subscribe" in the subject line to
OpenDoorsWestfield@gmail.com

OPEN DOORS COORDINATORS

Warehouse
Tom Clark

Advocate
Lorna Mills

Clothing
Karen Sutcliffe

Church Relations
Bill Black

Volunteers
Ann Godby

Food Pantry
Margie Smith

Kroger Food Rescue
Kurt Wanninger