

ST. JOSEPH FOOD PROGRAM

Fighting Hunger  Sustaining Hope

GROW WITH ST. JOE'S

St. Joseph Food Program, Inc. Capital Campaign

OUR HISTORY -

St. Joseph Food Program has been serving the Fox Valley for over 41 years, providing supplemental weekly nutrition to food insecure individuals. Since 1996, we have been housed at 1465A Opportunity Way in a building that was built for us for that purpose. At that time, because of the generosity of a local family foundation, St. Joe's paid \$100 for our then brand new 20,000 square foot facility! Increased need and changes in our distribution model necessitate that we reconfigure our space to maximize our ability to continue to serve food insecure individuals and families within our current footprint.

IMPACT -

Since our founding in 1982, St. Joe's has served tens of thousands of individuals millions of pounds of food. St. Joe's continues to provide pantry services four days a week and we have significantly expanded our outreach to other Fox Valley nonprofits.

- ✓ **Pantry services** – those needing food assistance can come to the pantry weekly and will receive all essentials, including 7 fresh fruits and vegetables, milk, eggs, meat, and nonperishable items. Pantry services now include delivery to those who are home bound.
- ✓ **Outreach services** – St. Joe's currently assists 40 other Fox Valley organizations representing 1,753 individuals. This service includes organizations like pantries, meal sites, homeless and domestic abuse shelters, and other programs that are serving the disadvantaged of our region.
- ✓ **Reach for Kids** which includes Backpack Food Assistance Program and support to 6 Boys and Girl's Clubs.
- ✓ **CHAMP Nutrition (Community, Health, Activity, Motivation, Prevention)** - St. Joe's believes in providing the best nutrition possible to help food insecure individuals and families achieve or maintain better health. CHAMP Nutrition includes the following: Grow-A-Row for St. Joe's, the CHAMP meal, nutrition education, and Food Farmacy.
- ✓ **Food Farmacy** – this program provides diet-specific nutrition for those challenged with diabetes, pre-diabetes, heart health issues, or Celiac disease or gluten intolerance. This program started two years ago and currently 120 individuals are enrolled.

2023 Outreach	Individuals Reached	Pounds of Food	Value of Food
Clients	5,797	2,568,872	\$5,343,254
Reach for Kids	1,986	231,337	\$280,553
Agencies	857	217,262	\$451,905
Alliance Pantries	732	297,612	\$619,033
TOTAL	9,372	3,315,083	\$6,694,745

Mission Statement

Supplementing nutritional needs, free of charge, for the economically distressed in our local communities.

OUR CHALLENGES -

Throughout our 28 years at Opportunity Way, we have not expanded the original 1996 footprint of our building. Because of our new distribution model, spaces such as our lobby and interview offices are no longer used as intended and the need for reconfiguration is necessary. To continue to efficiently serve our client families and the community, we have devised a plan to make the most of the space available to us. By moving forward with this project, we will create more square footage for programming and group volunteers and continue to serve our pantry clients and outreach organizations in the most effective, compassionate, and dignified manner possible.

WHY NOW? -

Currently, we are serving just under 7,000 individuals on a weekly basis. Client numbers were on the rise with each month in 2023, up 25-50% over 2022. Costs are continuing to increase as well, and we expect to serve even greater numbers of families as we progress through 2024 and into the future. This project will reconfigure existing space to more effectively utilize our facility to better meet the needs of the community we serve. More specifically,

1. **Increase our ability to meet the growing need for our Backpack and Food Farmacy Programs.**
2. **Grow more fresh food using our hydroponic units to meet the need for nutritional greens for those we serve.**
3. **Drive in-kind donations by creating a safe, easily identifiable donation area that optimizes interaction with donors and encourages future gifts.**
4. **Increase understanding and assess the needs of potential client families with dignity and respect, by creating a confidential space in which to conduct in-person qualification interviews.**
5. **Volunteers drive our mission, and we need to create more space to accommodate our volunteer force.**

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

- ✓ Donate to this campaign
- ✓ Pray for the success of our mission
- ✓ Share our story

Our building reconfiguration is much more than a bricks and mortar investment. It is your opportunity to invest in a proven nonprofit community effort that provides vital services to residents of the Fox Valley region. The total funds necessary to complete our project are \$1.95M. A matching gift up to \$500K has been provided.

Mission Statement

Supplementing nutritional needs, free of charge, for the economically distressed in our local communities.