

AROUND THE

Circle Newsletter

Circle of Concern
Food Pantry



Our Community Steps Up Once Again!

We want to thank our community and all of our volunteers for stepping up so generously and supporting our clients in so many ways during this busy season. With a surge of food donations coming in, our volunteers have been hard at work sorting contributions, stocking shelves, meeting with clients, and lending a hand wherever it's needed. Their dedication has helped us keep pace with the demand ensuring that every donation reaches the families who need it most.

We are grateful for all that our neighbors and volunteers do to move our mission forward. Between late October and mid-November, we received nearly **10 tons of food** to support families impacted by job cuts and delays in SNAP benefits and other services. With your support, **over 200 client families received extra food, thanks to you.** We're grateful to everyone who has contributed so far. You are making a difference!

Dear COC,
I don't think I've ever received the truly
non-stop, no-strings variety of giving
that you've blessed me & my son with
this year. I don't know where we'd be without
your help. Thank you for keeping the lights &
heat/ac on & giving us food. So basic -
so needed. **SO BLESSED!**

Current Needs:

- Boxed Potatoes and Rice
- Canned Beans
- Canned Chicken
- Canned Tomatoes (15 ounces and larger)
- Dinner Helpers

OUR MISSION:

Circle of Concern feeds the hungry and provides assistance to low-income families living in our community.

OUR VISION:

Improving every life in our community by reducing hunger and poverty.



Circle of Concern
FOOD PANTRY

Feeding Families is
Just the Beginning

A Note from Cyndi

Being a part of the Circle of Concern “village” is rewarding in many ways. We experience the dedication and sense of service that our volunteers bring to every scheduled shift. We see the extraordinary generosity of our community partners and contributors; and we witness the perseverance of our client families as they navigate life’s challenges.

Bringing together those in need with those who want to help is both an honor and a privilege, and sometimes the words of those impacted encourage and inspire us deeply.

I recently spoke with a woman—a full-time working mother of two—who benefited from Circle’s pantry and wraparound services for several months last year. She and her sons are doing well now. The food, financial assistance, camp and counseling programs helped greatly following the unexpected loss of her job earlier in the year. However, it was the *care* shown by the staff and volunteers that made a lasting impression. She said, ***“The love that you all showed to me and my boys will stay with me forever.”***

When you support Circle of Concern Food Pantry, you provide much-needed, practical support – food, supplies, rent and utility assistance to families in crisis. But beyond these basic needs, you make possible the “bringing together” that leads to hope, healing and so much more.

We thank you for being a part of our village, and we wish a very happy holiday season!

Warmest Regards,

Cyndi

Cynthia R. Miller
Executive Director

Thank You Christian Brothers Automotive

We want to extend a heartfelt thank you to Christian Brothers Automotive for serving our clients on their National Day of Service! Reliable transportation is something many of us take for granted, but for our clients, unexpected car repairs or maintenance costs can be overwhelming and even life-changing.

Thanks to Christian Brothers Automotive, several individuals and families who may not have been able to afford these services now have safe, dependable vehicles to get to work, school, and important appointments.

We’re so grateful for our partnership with CBA and for the way they continue to serve with excellence and compassion.



Don't Forget About Your Donor Advised Funds (DAFs)!

A donor advised fund (DAF) is one strategy for smart giving. A donor contributes funds (cash, securities or other assets) to a DAF, and then recommends grants to a favorite IRS-qualified public charity—like *Circle of Concern*. The donor may benefit from an immediate tax benefit, while the fund grows tax free.

Sometimes, those DAF funds are forgotten, so we want to take a moment to remind DAF donors to think about the impact those dollars can make when directed to area nonprofits. Grants made to Circle of Concern help us to feed families, to help our neighbors stay safely housed, and to provide enriching, meaningful programs for area youngsters. DAFs are an important part of our funding! Many thanks to those who remember Circle of Concern in their charitable giving!

In Honor and Memory

June 1, 2025 - October 31, 2025

When you give in Honor or in Memory of a loved one, you also honor Circle with your gift that ensures families in our area can eat nutritious food and access critical social service programs. Thank you!

IN HONOR

Jean Barker
Drew Beitel
Deanna Bender
John Bender
Todd Bender
Braefield National Night Out 2025
Jim and Rose Brennan
Greg Christoffel
Penny Christoffel
Circle Volunteers
Circle's Work
Mary Ann Cutelli's Birthday
Dixie Davis
Karen Dunne
Ann and Dana Elwell
Steve Hager
Bob and Betty Hartman
Jean Heinemann's Birthday
Claire Heinrich's Work
Barry Highbloom's Birthday
Bill Hohmeier's Birthday
Terry Hurley and
Jill Larson's Wedding
Boyd and Barbara Jones
Barbara Jones' Birthday
Georgia King
Ronald Kosednar
Roger C. Krasnicki
Don Loso
Jackie Martin
Cyndi Miller
Meghan Nenninger
Betty Nishimura's Birthday
Linda Patton's Birthday
Betty Quicksall
Sofia Reinken
Penny Ryan's Birthday
Baker and Jackson Sharpe
Rick and Patti Siefert's
50th Wedding Anniversary
Sisters of Good Times
Alan Stephenson
Judd Stroh

Sharon Wear's Birthday
Fred Wear's Retirement
Chris Wiley's Birthday
Nancy Wilson's Birthday
Janie Wolfangel

IN MEMORY

Kelly Anthony
Bill Bachman
Monte Banister
Donald F. Barr
Don and Elaine Baumbach
Jeff Baumgartner
George Biderman
Terrace Boudinier
Judy Brandvein
Ken Brockmann Jr.
Charlie Brune
Kenneth Buermann
Dan Carlsen
Beth and Kory Costello
Ted Cruz
Jeannette Daugherty
Pat Devoti
Joan Duffey
Louise DuMontier
Don Erhardt
Alicia Mendez Feito
Stanley Gawedzinski
The Rev. Dr. Howard Gleason
Nancy Good
Jean Haefner
Molly Hall
Ronald Hanson
Evlewt Groene Harman
John Harmon
Bonnie Hawk
Lelia "Lee" Headrick
Mary Hessel
Florence and Roy Hicks
Mae Hudson
Patricia Ann Koenen
James Korn
Jane Kostelc

Floyd Krickhahn
Rosemary Lakin
Bryan Lamunion
Lorene Lane
Randy Leach
Patrick Livingston
Grace Loeffelman
Jean Luedde
William Luedde
Hazel Mabrey
Pete Makulec
Connie McCauley
Betty McMullin
Dominic Mikal
Marlene Muir
My Father
Wayne Peters
Val Petru
Marylee Pratt
Charlotte Pullen

Joe and Grace Reiner
Theresa Ryan
Art Schnatterly
Anthony Schnur
Rosemary Schrappen
Dominic "Doc" Schuckman
Leo Charles "Charlie" Senay Jr.
Anna Mae Sherman
Jeff Sievert
Mary Sneed
Marian Steinkamp
Lillian Steller
Marian Struckhoff
Sheree Talbert
Judy Taub
John P. Tierney Jr.
Shashidhara Vasishta
Richard Wagner Sr.
Leo Kennedy Wiethop
Carolyn Wolff



Students from Covenant Christian School stopped by to donate 880 pounds of food!

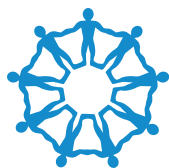
Circle's 2025 Holiday Program

You can help Circle families
this holiday season by
scanning the QR code



You bring the joy that fills a holiday wish list. When you give to Circle's Holiday Extras Program, you're helping a client write their own story for the holiday season; empowering families with choice and the dignity that comes with providing for those they love. You're making sure children, seniors, and individuals feel remembered and celebrated. A simple gift card turns a small gift into a meaningful memory for a client.

Will you help spread holiday cheer this year by supporting our holiday gift card program? Thanks to your generosity, the season shines a little brighter for every client we serve. With heartfelt appreciation, we thank you for making holiday magic happen. Scan the QR Code to support our Holiday Extras Program!



Circle of Concern FOOD PANTRY

112 St. Louis Ave.
P.O. Box 444
Valley Park, MO 63088
Address Service Requested

NONPROFIT
AUTO
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
ST LOUIS, MO
PERMIT NO. 3252

Serving Our Community: Good News Inside Winter 2025

Board of Directors:

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John Heskett
Susan Nunez
Edie Quick
Andrea Trapet

We share many donations with our clients:

- Food, Canned and Packaged
- Fresh Garden Produce
- Dry Pet Food, Litter
- Personal Care Items

Donations are accepted:

Mon, Tues, Fri 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Wed 9 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.
Thurs 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Sat 9 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Your monetary gift or food donation
can qualify for MO Food Pantry
Tax Credits. Contact [Circle@](mailto:Circle@circleofconcern.org)
circleofconcern.org to find out more.



"LIKE US" on Facebook and Instagram. Visit us online at www.circleofconcern.org.

Important Dates:

December 24 & 25	Circle Closed
December 26, 29, 30, 31	Circle Closes at Noon
December 31	Last day to submit 2025 donations for tax advantages!
January 1	Circle Closed
January 17, 19	Circle Closed



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