



Circle of Concern
FOOD PANTRY

Around the Circle

Fall 2026



A Busy Time for Circle of Concern

Fall is an extra busy time of year for Circle of Concern's Food Pantry, with large community food drives, donations from area churches for Thanksgiving meals, and a holiday extras program for our clients. We are so grateful for how our community supports the Food Pantry in every season. But we are especially grateful this year as the need for our services grows.

Nationwide, since 2025, more than five million people have lost food assistance benefits because of new restrictions on the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). More people in our community need help from Circle of Concern. Our client numbers have increased by 10% over last year and we're serving over 800 families each month.

And, while assistance is decreasing, many people are feeling the sting of higher prices for groceries and gasoline.

Our vision at Circle of Concern is to improve every life in our community by reducing hunger and poverty. As the saying goes, "A rising tide lifts all boats."

When our community works together to alleviate hunger, more families remain housed and healthy, and our local economy grows.

How you can help this holiday season

At Circle of Concern, we want our clients to have a joyful holiday season.



With Thanksgiving coming up soon, Circle is helping eligible clients create a holiday feast of their choosing. Beginning October 26th, the Food Pantry will have a special "Thanksgiving Shelf" with a selection of side dishes donated by the always-generous churches in our service area. Each eligible client also receives a \$30 grocery gift card to round out their holiday meal with the food they most enjoy.

Beginning in November, eligible clients will receive \$50 gift cards for each member of their household for the purchase of holiday goodies and gifts.

Please consider supporting the Holiday Extras Program with a gift today. Your donation makes it possible for Circle clients to have a joyful holiday season.

Donate now through our website at www.circleofconcern.org/programs/holiday-program. Or by mail to Circle of Concern, 112 St. Louis Avenue, Valley Park, MO 63088.

Current Needs

- Peanut Butter
- Pasta Sauce
- Baking Items
- Canned Chicken
- Condiments
- Cereal
- Snacks



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.



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*Feeding Families is
Just the Beginning*

Kudos to Caring Kids

We are so impressed by the kids in our community who spend part of their summers collecting food and raising money for Circle of Concern. From lemonade stands to Scout collections to neighborhood-wide food drives, these young people really stepped up to alleviate hunger.

Thank you to all of these generous, caring kids!



Aubrey donated \$113.



The Waldman children raised \$150.

Nutritious PB&J



The Vacation Bible School at St. John's United Church of Christ.



Tallie's senior project.

Neighborhood Food Drives



Boy Scout Evan collected 59 pounds of food.



Sofia and her team collected 2,700 pounds of food.

Partner Spotlight - St. Louis Area Diaper Bank



Circle of Concern is so fortunate to have the St. Louis Area Diaper Bank as one of our partner organizations. It costs an estimated \$1,000 per year to diaper one child. That expense isn't covered by any public programs. Circle is able to offer clients two packs of diapers per visit because of our partnership. Many thanks to the St. Louis Area Diaper Bank for helping our families with young children!



Follow Us on **Facebook,**
Instagram and **LinkedIn.**

Visit us online at
www.circleofconcern.org

Missouri Food Pantry Tax Credits

A pantry tax credit is available to any Missouri taxpayer (individual, corporation or trust) making a monetary donation to Circle of Concern.

The credit is equal to 50% of the donation amount up to a maximum of \$2,500 per year per taxpayer.

Donation	\$5,000	\$2,500	\$1,250	\$1,000	\$500	\$250
Mo Tax Credit	\$2,500	\$1,250	\$625	\$500	\$250	\$125
Total Cost to Donor*	\$2,500	\$1,250	\$625	\$500	\$250	\$125

*Your actual tax savings may be different. Please consult with your tax advisor to determine individual tax savings. Gifts-in-kind and stocks are not included.

The Missouri Food Pantry Tax Credit (FPTC)

reduces the amount you pay for your state income taxes. With a simple form verified by Circle of Concern and filed with your state tax return by April 15, you can earn up to \$2,500 in tax credits when you donate up to \$5,000 in 2026. Couples filing jointly can earn up to \$5,000 in credits when they contribute up to \$10,000.

When you donate \$200 or more to Circle of Concern, we'll proactively send you a completed Missouri Food Pantry Tax Credit Form in late January to submit with your Missouri Income Tax Return.

Please consider supporting Circle as you plan your year-end giving. The good you give comes back to you through the FPTC! For information please visit: <https://dor.mo.gov/tax-credits/fpt.html>; or call us at 636.861.2623.*

**If claims exceed \$1,750,000, the Missouri Department of Revenue will apportion credits in an equal ratio among all valid returns filed.*



Baking Kits

Who doesn't love the smell of freshly baked goodies in the holiday season?

One way to make the season extra special for our clients is through donations of baking items. A baking kit might consist of basics such as flour, sugar, and vanilla, or simply a cake mix and apple pie filling for a dump cake. See more suggestions below—and please keep all donations in the original packaging, with an expiration date at least 6 months in the future.

BAKING BASICS

Flour
White Sugar
Brown Sugar
Baking Powder
Vanilla Extract
Cinnamon
Cooking oil

PANCAKES

Pancake Mix
Syrup
Fruit Pie Filling

GLUTEN-FREE PANCAKES

GF Pancake Mix
GF Syrup
GF Fruit Pie Filling

BAKING SPICES

Cinnamon
Nutmeg
Ginger
Pumpkin Spice
Cloves

PEACH DUMP CAKE

29 oz Canned Peaches
White Cake Mix

APPLE DUMP CAKE

21 oz Apple Pie Filling
Butter Pecan Cake Mix

CHERRY DUMP CAKE

21 oz Cherry Pie Filling
Yellow Cake Mix

GUIDELINES

4 SERVINGS PER KIT • NO GLASS • EXPIRATION DATES
AT LEAST 6 MONTHS AFTER DATE OF DONATION
KEEP ITEMS IN ORIGINAL PACKAGING
PACK IN A CLEAR BAG (LARGER ZIPLOCS ARE GREAT)

Thank You McKelvey Homes!

Look who dropped by from McKelvey Homes with a generous contribution to Bobbie's Birthday Club! Jim and Rose Brennan do so much for the community. We are so grateful to have their support for our children's programs.



Pictured from left to right: Jim Brennan, Bobbie Siesennop, Rose Brennan, Cyndi Miller, Executive Director



"I don't think I've ever received the truly nonstop, no-strings-attached variety of giving that you've blessed me and my son with this year. I don't know where we would be without your help. Thank you for keeping the lights and heat/AC on and giving us food. So basic. So needed."
—Circle of Concern Client



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

A Busy Season at Circle Fall 2026

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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 am – 3 pm
Wed 9 am – 6:30 pm
Thurs 9 am – 12 pm
Sat 9 am – 1 pm

IMPORTANT DATES

November 25 Closing at Noon

November 26–28 Closed for Thanksgiving

December 24–26 Closed for Christmas

January 1, 2027 Closed for New Year's



**Your monetary gift or food donation can qualify for MO Food Pantry
Tax Credits. Contact Circle@circleofconcern.org to find out more.**

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