The New Milford Food Bank Fighting Hunger Through Healthier Food Choices & Wellness Education

The New Milford **Food Bank**

Non-perishable donations can be delivered to the food bank at the office of NM social services located on the playground side of JPCC,

during the hours of-

Monday-Thursday (8:30am-4pm)

Friday (8:30am-2pm)

We request that donors check to see that the items are not expired, damaged, or open.

Please do not drop off perishable donations without notifying us ahead of time for proper screening.

Distribution of food is on Thursdays from 9am-4pm. Please see office staff for details on receiving food and participating in this program.

Donations can be made out to the New Milford Food Bank and mailed to

> **New Milford Social Services 2** Pickett District Road New Milford, CT 06776

Phone: 860-355-6079 Fax: 860-355-6019 Socialservices@newmilford.org

"This institution is an equal opportunity provider"

Sponsored by The Connecticut Food Bank

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Wellness Education

Food

and



A program of New Milford Social Services for local families and individuals who are in need of food.





New Milford Food Bank



The food bank offers weekly food choices including shelf-stable non-perishable food, bakery items, seasonal fresh local produce, frozen meat, eggs , dairy, and meals from The Community Culinary School of Northwestern CT, when available.

Participants are counseled by a social worker before registering. Referrals are made to other services that provide on-going assistance, such as Connecticut's Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP – formerly called Food Stamps), local food co-ops and farmers markets, and the Loaves and Fishes Hospitality House (soup kitchen).

The program operates primarily on donations of funds and food. 100% of gifts go towards meeting client needs. We do receive some USDA commodities to assist with food emergencies..

Monetary donations also help provide emergency vouchers to enable clients to purchase fresh food and personal care items at our local grocery stores.

There are over 400 households registered for the food bank; with about 290 different households utilizing the Food Bank at least once a month; mostly once a week. Currently we are distributing an average of 178 bags of groceries each week (equaling a distribution of over 5,900 non-perishable food items monthly). (2018)

**We also accept donations of diapers/wipes, personal hygiene products, paper products, and household cleaning supplies.

<u>Please see details on accepting</u>

<u>FYI</u>



Food Insecurity is when an individual or family lacks consistent and adequate access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food to meet their dietary needs for healthy and productive lives.

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 12% (437,530 persons) of CT households struggle with food insecurity (low and very low) .- Litchfield County is 19,870 [CT Food Bank]

• 30% (232,258) of children in CT live in low-income families [of that number: 34% (77,592) of children under age 6 live in low-income families]. [National Center for Children in Poverty]

 A household of four with a gross earning of \$45,516 a year <u>cannot</u> qualify for SNAP (food stamps). 1525 New Milford residents rely on SNAP. [Dss 2016]

Food Security is when all people at all times have physical and economic access to sufficient food to meet their dietary needs for a productive life.

- The New Milford Food Bank distributes over 8800 bags (over 72,000 meals) of non-perishable food every year. Additionally, offering thousands of pounds of vegetables, meat, dairy, & bakery items.
 - Over 700 people benefit from the New Milford Food Bank on a <u>monthly basis</u> (including seniors



and families with children)





