



The Food Pantries Newsletter - May 2024

We're getting back into the swing of releasing a monthly email newsletter! Keep an eye out for updates on what's been going on at The Food Pantries, info on upcoming events, highlights on member pantries and our programs, and much more.

We'd love to get your feedback. What do you want to see in our newsletter? Any questions you'd like answered or specific things you'd like us to highlight? Please let us know.

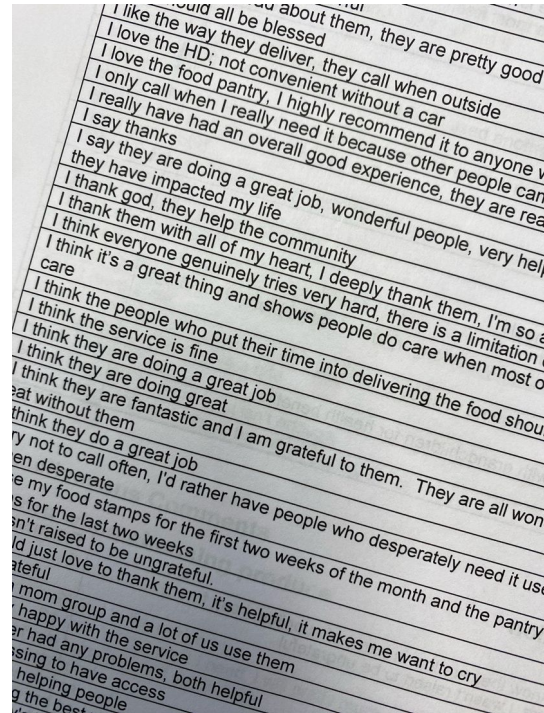
Thanks so much for your interest and support!

Home Delivered Groceries - Addressing Barriers to Access

We have been working with coalition pantries to provide home delivered groceries since the 2020 COVID shutdown. In the last few years, we've prioritized the creation of a sustainable home delivery program to get groceries out to those who are not able to reach a pantry and don't have access to deliveries via pantries close to them.

In 2023, our Referral Team coordinated 8,521 home deliveries. Through the 1st quarter of 2024, we have coordinated 3,172 home deliveries, a 21% increase from the same period of time last year (2,617 referrals in 1st quarter of 2023).

The image at right is a sample of responses to a survey recently administered to home delivery recipients by Dr. Cynthia Bott and Sarah Toledano. We're excited to share more of their great work with you!



United Way's 518 Day of Giving - Saturday, May 18

We're proud to be participating in United Way of the Greater Capital Region's annual 518 Day of Giving campaign. This event aims to harness the power of community to connect nonprofit organizations with new and existing donors, while

Help us feed our neighbors and keep local food pantries stocked!



Donate now through May 18 to help us reach our goal of filling 3 trucks with healthy & nutritious foods

raising funds and awareness of the nonprofit community. Collectively, over 125 participating nonprofits are hoping to raise \$518,000 to continue to provide vital supports and services throughout the Capital Region.

We are aiming to raise enough money to fill 3 trucks with healthy and nutritious foods to distribute out to coalition pantries. One truck holds 10,000lbs of food and costs \$1,600 to fill, so we're looking to raise about \$5,000. If you'd like to help, please click the link below and make sure to check out the other amazing local groups that are participating in this great campaign.

More info: [The Food Pantries 518 Day of Giving Page](#)

CANstruction 2024 - Now through Sunday, May 19 at Crossgates Mall

CANstruction returned to Crossgates Mall this year with the theme Dream STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Math). The 10 CANstructions are made up of over 50,000 non-perishable items and were meticulously designed and built by local architecture, engineering, and construction firms, along with a local Girl Scout Troop.



Stop by Crossgates before Monday, May 20 to check out these awesome builds and drop off a non-perishable or hygiene item in the shopping cart by your favorite design to cast your vote for the People's Choice Award! And let us know which is your favorite on social media! All food and funds will be donated to The Food Pantries after deCANstruction on May 20. Huge thanks to all involved with this great project!

More info: [Capital Region CANstruction website](#)



Our Newest Coalition Member: Braman Hall Food Pantry in Delanson (Schenectady County)

A warm welcome to the newest coalition member!

Braman Hall Food Pantry is located at 7963 State Rte 30 in Delanson, on the western edge of Schenectady County. They are a client choice pantry and are also able to provide clothing and household items. We're thrilled to have Braman Hall as a member!

At our last Albany/Schenectady member meeting, Braman Hall Food Pantry Coordinator, Judy Warner said, "We're very happy to be part of this Coalition, and even though it's a big benefit to us, we want to be helpful to you too." As our Associate Executive Director, Angie Pender-Fox told the meeting attendees, Braman Hall is already doing just that. The previous week, our Referral Team received a call from someone in rural western Schenectady County

who could not get to a food pantry and was desperate for food. Braman Hall was contacted and stepped up to make sure a food delivery went out to the guest.

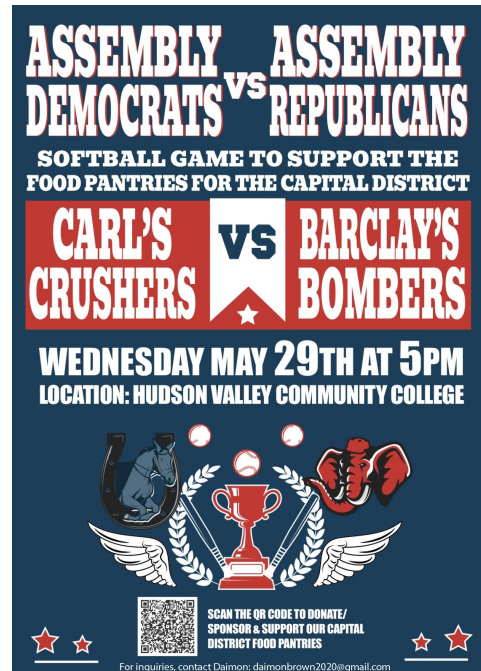
More info: You can find Braman Hall, the other 69 food pantries in our coalition, and many other resources on our [Food Connect Map](#).

Upcoming Event: Benefit Softball Game to Support The Food Pantries - NY Assembly Democrats vs Republicans at HVCC - Wednesday May 29 5pm

Mark your calendars and spread the word! Members of the NYS Assembly will be playing a friendly (but probably a bit competitive) softball game to raise money for The Food Pantries. Come see Carl's Crushers take on Barclay's Bombers to find out which party will have bragging rights, at least until November.

This event is free to attend. Donations are greatly appreciated and sponsorships are being accepted. More info is at the link below.

More info: [NY Assembly Benefit Softball Game](#)



Thanks so much for reading our May 2024 Newsletter! If you would like to get involved, please reach out to us for info on [volunteering](#), [hosting a food or fund drive](#), or any other ideas you have. We would love to hear from you and we greatly appreciate your support and participation in our work to end hunger in the Capital District.

Together we can do more than any one of us alone!

[Donate](#)



The Food Pantries for the Capital District | 32 Essex Street | Albany, NY 12206 US

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