RRVP Mission Statement:
Rock River Valley Pantry fights hunger in the community by providing nutritious food to those in urgent need.

It’s Easy To Make a Difference - Become A Donor!
- Monetary gift
- Volunteer
- Food Rescue
- Warehouse
- Client Intake
- Client Selection
- Garden

Food
Fighting Hunger One Meal at a Time

How We Are Making a Difference in YOUR Community

The RRVP helps your neighbors, the child that goes to school with your child, the person sitting next to you in church, even your colleagues at work.

Today, we assisted a person who was working in the cafeteria at one of the public school’s lunchrooms and due to an illness can no longer work. We also assisted an older woman who is homeless and struggling with a mental health issue, a working mom with three young children, and an older gentleman with social security benefits who is not eligible for SNAP benefits. That is just a snapshot of the clients that received assistance.

“...I was laid off, and while I do get unemployment it’s a fraction of what I made. If it wasn’t for the pantry I’d starve. A single woman doesn’t get much help from the State.”
Nancy – Age 59

So Much Good is Happening Around Us!

This is the second year of Mayor Tom McNamara’s Hunger Lunch, which this year benefitted the Greater Rockford Pantry Coalition.

More than 250 guests gathered together to raise awareness of the hunger issue in our community! The proceeds will help the ten member Coalition that assist the hungry in the Rockford area. Next year’s event is on October 6th and we’d love for you to join us.

Teachers from the REA, Westminster Church, and SwedishAmerican recently held cereal drives to provide children with a nutritious start to their day.

From Cheerios to oatmeal, all types of cereal were welcomed by our clients. If you would like to host a cereal drive please call us, as we need 3,000 boxes a month!

Thanksgiving in August
donor’s included individuals, businesses, places of worship, and foundations. Thank you to all that contributed to the holiday meal. Because of YOU, 450 households were able to prepare a traditional hot meal that the family could gather around. Memories were made!

Costco, Meijer, Walmart, Aldi, Schnucks, and Choices have all contributed to the retail rescue program. Their contribution of frozen meat, bakery items, produce, dry goods, and dairy makes a difference to the households that receive food from the Rock River Valley Pantry.

From Cheerios to oatmeal, all types of cereal were welcomed by our clients. If you would like to host a cereal drive please call us, as we need 3,000 boxes a month!

Thanksgiving in August donors included individuals, businesses, places of worship, and foundations. Thank you to all that contributed to the holiday meal. Because of YOU, 450 households were able to prepare a traditional hot meal that the family could gather around. Memories were made!

Costco, Meijer, Walmart, Aldi, Schnucks, and Choices have all contributed to the retail rescue program. Their contribution of frozen meat, bakery items, produce, dry goods, and dairy makes a difference to the households that receive food from the Rock River Valley Pantry.
Presidents’s Message

Greetings from the RRVP Board of Directors

I would like to introduce myself. My name is Dorice Royce and I am the new Rock River Valley Pantry Board President. I discovered the Rock River Valley Pantry 10 years ago when my son needed volunteer hours for a community service badge for the Boy Scouts. I was also looking for a place to volunteer, so I joined my son. Volunteer every Friday here at the RRVP and I have been on the Board of Directors for 4 years.

The Board of Directors would like to thank you, our donors, for supporting the Pantry during this Thanksgiving season. We are so thankful for your monetary gifts, food donations, donors who attend our fundraisers and our volunteers who donate their time and talents here at the pantry. Men, women, and children will have food to eat and their kitchen cabinets and refrigerators will not go empty, because of your donations.

Please talk to your family, friends, work family, church and your community groups about the Pantry and how hard we are working to fight hunger in our community. We cannot do this without you.

Happy Thanksgiving,

Dorice Royce
Board President

94 cents of every $1 spent on Program Services!

With your support, it allows us to monthly provide four days of food for every member in the household. Household members may receive the recommended daily amounts of fruits, vegetables, dairy, grains, and protein. When our organic garden is in production, during the summer months, we also offer additional fresh produce.

Monetary donations allow us to purchase the food we are most in need of, keep the lights on, the freezers running, and put gas in our food rescue van. If you’d prefer to be hands on to make a difference we encourage you to volunteer. We have more than 125 active volunteers!

“This pantry has helped me quite a bit. I lost my job after 7 years but I still need to pay my taxes and don’t want to lose my house. It’s hard to get hired at my age. I know I am better off than a lot of other people. I am not interviewing well because I’m sad.”

MaryAnn – Age 58

Corporate Social Responsibility

Simply put, local businesses helping others that live in our community are improving the overall well-being of the community. If your employer isn’t practicing CSR ask them to engage in helping to meet a very basic human need: Food!

Would they consider matching a monetary gift that you make to the RRVP? Maybe they would plan a Volunteer Day and help in the warehouse. Maybe even sponsor the Got Milk 4 Kids program for a month, or fund a grant that would allow us to buy food, or donate tires to keep our rescue van on the road. Call us and ask how your employer can practice CSR.

Host A Food Drive Today!

Call 815-965-2466 to schedule your barrel drop off/pick up!

Recent Pantry Happenings

- On average 28 residents of the Luther Ctr. participate in a special morning monthly pantry. This is a partnership program with the Alpine Kiwanis
- 430 families were registered to receive a Thanksgiving food box. Families will pick up their food boxes on the Saturday prior to Thanksgiving. Thank you to Woodward and all the individuals that made the Thanksgiving program possible.
- Teachers from the REA provided cereal to over 400 households thanks to their Back 2 School cereal drive.
- 2500 pounds of produce from the RRVP organic garden were distributed to clients throughout the growing season. “Green” thumbs up to all the gardeners that made this possible!
- 370 gallons of milk are distributed weekly to families and older adults thanks to fundraising efforts.

“PANTRIES like this give people hope. It kept me alive when I didn’t have much to eat and no money to spend.”

Jeffery – Age 30

Pounds of Food Distributed in FY19

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Commodities</th>
<th>466,364</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Purchased</td>
<td>488,894</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donated/Rescued</td>
<td>462,601</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Garden/PAR</td>
<td>22,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>1,440,159</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>