

Neighbors Helping Neighbors ENews Brief

4 February 2024

This week, Hot Meals served 120 meals. The pantry served 380 people groceries, an increase of 40 people. We ran out of bags by 1pm. Hygiene & Harm Reduction served 50 people supplies. And Clothing Closet served many people clothing!

CULTIVATE INITIATIVES

Our partner, [Cultivate Initiatives](#) (CI), brings their shower truck every Saturday (11-2pm) to provide showers, laundry, hygiene supplies and clothes. Every week, they serve an average of 47 people and provide 12 showers.



As we also provide hygiene, harm reduction supplies and clothing, we partner with CI to provide a one-stop-shopping experience for our neighbors. Neighbors come to the CI tent and find everything they need in one spot!

CI partners with Concordia College Nursing Program to provide nursing students and a Preceptor. They provide basic medical care. And they team with us to distribute hygiene supplies and clothing, and respond to medical and mental health incidents.

The Cultivate Initiative story is amazing, inspiring and loaded with lessons about inclusive communities that are welcoming to our unhoused neighbors. I'll share just the beginning of their story here. Go to their webpage to learn more. And then, stop by and thank them for the incredible service they bring to our neighbors!

In 2018, a new shelter for Veterans experiencing houselessness was started in the Mill Park Neighborhood. While some housed neighbors protested, others organized an Eat & Greet event to welcome the shelter residents as neighbors. This community engagement brought together a group of people determined to make spaces of community, safety, and belonging for all...[Read on!](#)

2024 GOALS

ORIENTATION

Please complete your annual orientation prior to your next shift. Thanks!

Woodstock Pantry Volunteers - [Woodstock Pantry Volunteer Orientation Log 2024](#)

Hot Meals Volunteers - Please check with your Team Lead [Hot Meals Volunteer Orientation Log 2024](#)

CONTINUOUS QUALITY IMPROVEMENT

We operate using Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI). CQI is a process of systematically and continuously improving our work. We select a process, identify ideas to make it work better, experiment with our ideas, adjust them until they work, and then adopt the new process.

We used CQI to develop our procedures, which are recorded in the FIFO document for your shift. As we've used them these past 1½ years, we've learned a lot. So now, we will integrate our lessons into our procedures. Here's how it will work.

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You are doing your annual orientation. As part of that orientation, you are reviewing the FIFO document. We will improve that document. As you review it, note things that are outdated and new ideas we've implemented that aren't reflected in the document.

Woodstock Pantry - at the beginning of each shift, we will spend a few minutes working on the FIFO document. We will identify improvement ideas and try them out on the job. The ideas that work will be incorporated into the procedures. Then, we will support everyone to learn and implement them.

Hot Meals - Team Leads will communicate with their teams and then work in the Team Lead Meetings to make changes to the procedures.

VOLUNTEER SIGN-UPS

Woodstock Pantry Volunteers sign up each week for the shifts they want to work.

NOTE: We have a new signup sheet. January's no longer works.

[WP SIGN UP SHEET FEBRUARY](#)

Hot Meals uses Saturday Teams. Contact [Kristen](#).

Clothing Closet and **Hygiene & Harm Reduction** Contact Kristen.

If you are interested in trying out a program, contact Kristen.

THE WOODSTOCK PANTRY FUNDRAISER & FRIENDRAISER

The foundation was poured this week! Next week, they start building the structure.

Thanks so very much to everyone who has contributed! We still have a way to go.

Please help us close the gap! You can:

1. contribute on our [gofundme.com](https://www.gofundme.com) page, or with this QR code
2. share this request with your colleagues, friends and family as well as community organizations and businesses (add to your social media, send emails, make calls).



THANK YOU ALL FOR EVERYTHING YOU DO!

Celebrate...

It Takes a Community, And We Are It!