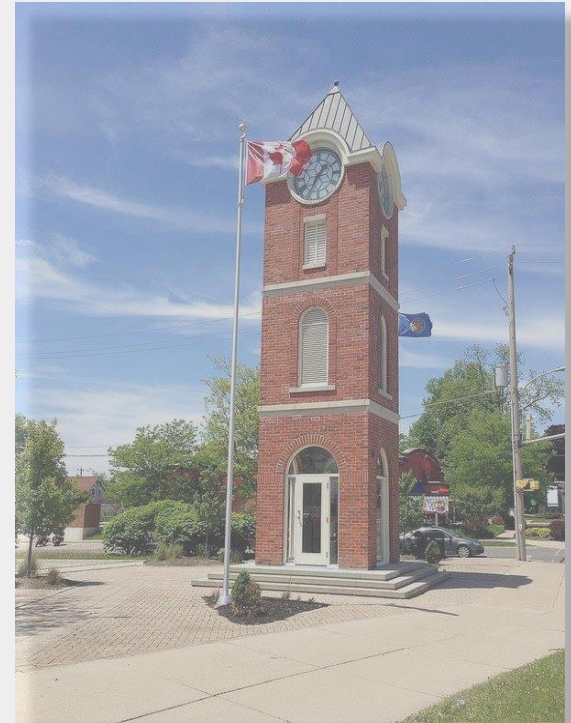


Tillsonburg Community Pantry



- What is a Community Pantry?
- Community Pantries in Ontario
- Why a Community Pantry?
- Tillsonburg Food Calendar
- Local Statistics
- Project Overview
- Community Consultation
- Location
- Next Steps
- Questions



Take what you need. Give what you can.



A Community Pantry is an initiative where local residents can **donate** and **access** safe and reliable food, **24/7**. It is **open to everyone** to help support those facing food insecurity and is **free** to those that need it.



It is organized and operated by dedicated **volunteers and community groups**. There is an opportunity to partner with **grocery stores, food banks and community gardens** to promote food waste reduction through sharing.

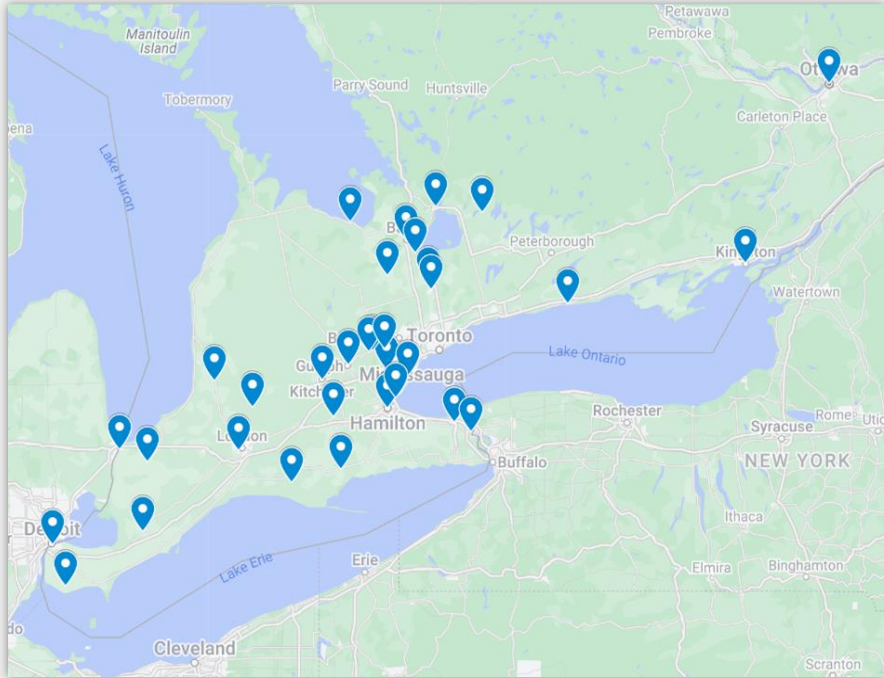


We are seeking to address the **gaps in existing food programs** through mutual aid and community sharing.

What is a Community Pantry?



A few of the Ontario pantries:

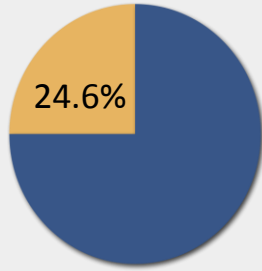


Petrolia
Collingwood
Milton
New Tecumseth
Halton Hills
Sarnia
Orillia
Harrow
Windsor
Chatham
Hamilton
Barrie
Kirkfield
St. Catharines
Acton

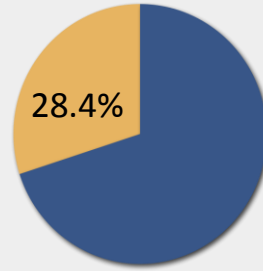
Georgetown
Kingston
Coburg
Ottawa
Charlottetown
Niagara
Hensall
Guelph
Oakville
Bayham
Holland Landing
Paris
St. Mary's

Food Insecurity in Ontario

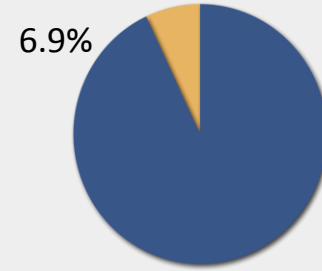
Food Insecurity is **not having enough money to buy food**. Food is sacrificed to pay for the cost of living.



In 2023, 1 in 4 households struggled to access sufficient food.*



In 2023, 28% of children lived in households facing food insecurity.*



In 2023, 6.9% of households are experiencing severe food insecurity.*

Food Insecurity has **negative impacts on physical and mental health** as well as our social well-being and increases the burdens on our healthcare system. The severity is increasing with each year.

• Source: <https://proof.utoronto.ca/2024/new-data-on-household-food-insecurity-in-2023/>

Gaps in Food Availability

A Community Pantry is not meant to replace the exceptional work of existing food programs, it is meant to augment and support their work and to provide food, **unconditionally**, at **times of day** when they cannot.

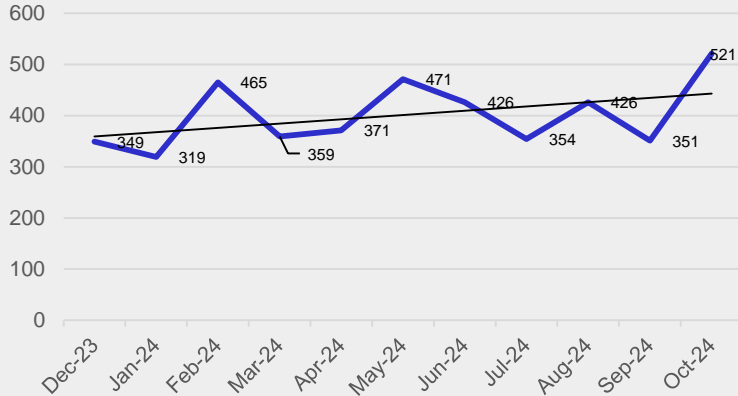
Organization	Availability	Conditions?	Avg Served/Month
Saint Vincent de Paul	Limited	Yes	55
St Paul's Church Dinner	Once a week	No	225
Helping Hand Food Bank	Weekly	Yes	586
Salvation Army - Emerg Food	On Request	Yes	70
Salvation Army – Meals	Daily	No	1,300
Cycles of Life Outreach Table	Weekly	No	400
Dinner at Upper Deck	Once a week	No	225
Faith Presbyterian Church Dinner	Once a week	No	180

Key Difference

February Tillsonburg Food						Oxford County Community Health Centre	2025
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
Helping Hand Food Bank By appointment - Call 519-688-3434 Tuesday Mornings Salvation Army By appointment - call 519-842-3231 x104 Mon-Thurs 9-4 Fri 9-12 St. Vincent De Paul's, St. Mary's Call 519-842-3224 x 4, leave a message, emergency food							St. Paul's United Church 10:30-12:30
2 "In the Light" Community Dinner 5:15pm	3 The Hub 9:15-12 & 1-3	4 The Hub 9:15-12 & 1-3	5 The Hub 9:15-12 & 1-3	6 Community Outreach Table 10:30-12:30 The Hub 9:15-12 & 1-3	7 Open Doors Community Meal 5pm The Hub 9:15-12 & 1-2	8 St. Paul's United Church 10:30-12:30	
9 "In the Light" Community Dinner 5:15pm	10 The Hub 9:15-12 & 1-3 St. Vincent De Paul 4-6:30	11 The Hub 9:15-12 & 1-3	12 The Hub 9:15-12 & 1-3	13 Community Outreach Table 10:30-12:30 The Hub 9:15-12 & 1-3	14 Open Doors Community Meal 5pm The Hub 9:15-12 & 1-2	15 St. Paul's United Church 10:30-12:30	
16 "In the Light" Community Dinner 5:15pm	17	18 The Hub 9:15-12 & 1-3	19 The Hub 9:15-12 & 1-3	20 Community Outreach Table 10:30-12:30 The Hub 9:15-12 & 1-3	21 Open Doors Community Meal 5pm The Hub 9:15-12 & 1-2	22 St. Paul's United Church 10:30-12:30	
23 "In the Light" Community Dinner 5:15pm	24 The Hub 9:15-12 & 1-3	25 The Hub 9:15-12 & 1-3	26 The Hub 9:15-12 & 1-3	27 Community Outreach Table 10:30-12:30 The Hub 9:15-12 & 1-3	28 Open Doors Community Meal 5pm The Hub 9:15-12 & 1-2		

Cycles of Life

Numbers Served 2024



Average of 400 people served per month.
There was an increase of 13% from Q1 to Q3.

Helping Hands Food Bank

2023 Statistics*

Total Services: 2723

First Time Accessing Services: 75
Individuals Served: 705
Households Served: 347

*2024 statistics have not been published

Phase 1 - Planning

Plan development, location approval, council approval

Phase 2 - Preparation

Expand team, finalize design, by-law review, fire department review, public health review, insurance validation

Phase 3 - Mobilization

Source donations, coordinate fundraising, conduct risk analysis, confirm volunteers, train volunteers

Phase 4 - Documentation

Establish oversight board, create operations manual, order materials, develop maintenance plan

Phase 5 - Construction

Receive materials, construct and decorate pantry

Phase 6 - Project launch

Start of normal operations

We have discussed the pantry project with community organizations to **gather feedback on its benefits, concerns, and potential challenges.**

Helping Hands Food Bank

Station Arts Centre

Salvation Army

St Paul's Community Kitchen

Cycles of Life

BIA

United Way Oxford

St Vincent DePaul

Their inclusion here does not indicate endorsement, but to demonstrate collaboration and due diligence.

Optimal Location Requirements



Close to downtown to be accessible to those with the greatest need.



Design drafted in collaboration with existing community pantry groups. We estimate an 8'x 8' footprint with 4'x 8' insulated enclosure.



Access to electrical power to operate a fridge and freezer, interior and exterior lighting and security camera (optional).



Existing concrete pad (ideally).



Accessible

All costs related to construction and operation will be the responsibility of the Community Pantry Project.

Location Proposed



We estimate an 8'x 8' footprint with 4'x 8' insulated enclosure.



Requesting approval for the use of exterior space at 41 Bridge St (Station Arts Centre) per the conditions of the approved Station Arts Board motion.

Requesting support on any zoning, by-law etc requirements

Questions?

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