

# 'It's really rough out there these days'

Already working in a retail job, Brenda\* added a house cleaning job to try to make ends meet. With rent and food prices increasing, she's **trying new things to feed her family**, including grandchildren. A common story as so many families fight to survive right now.



\*names changed to protect neighbor

Will you help your neighbor today? Help them put food on their table? Help them stay in their home? Help them keep the lights on?

With your \$35 gift, you can help put food on your neighbor's table, and support all the work we do with your neighbors.

Your donation today prevents hunger in your community.

Can we count on you?

**YES! I will help my neighbors.**

Please Use My Gift to Help My Neighbor:

- \$35 to help a family eat this week
- \$100 to feed my neighbor
- \_\_\_\_\_ to help as many hungry people as possible

Set up a recurring donation at [www.networkscoop.org/donate](http://www.networkscoop.org/donate)

Give online today: [www.networkscoop.org/donate](http://www.networkscoop.org/donate)



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## GOOD NEIGHBOR

# CONNECTIONS

Fall 2023

### NUGGETS

NETWorks Nugget #1

**18.7%**

Food Insecurity Rate for Children in US District 4

NETWorks Nugget #2

**43%**

Of the household members we serve are children

NETWorks Nugget #3

**100-125**

Pounds of Food Each Person Needs Each Month

NETWorks Nugget #4

**75**

Pounds of pantry food allotted each month for each household member



### How You Are Touching Lives

Shopping for food. Picking out personal care items. Helping with rent or a utility bill. Those are the most well-known ways neighbors receive assistance in our food pantry. But your support helps in so many more ways!

People who don't have a stable homeplace need a reliable mailing address. A street address is required to receive many benefits and to register to vote. They can pick up mail at our food pantry every day that we're open.

Need to get to a job interview or doctor's appointment? Your generosity provides a round trip on MARTA for folks needing that extra boost to get around town.

Struggling to put gas in the car? Your donations have purchased a significant number of gift cards for use at a local gas station, ensuring that individuals can afford transportation to work, school, or the doctor's office. Thank you!

Visiting the pantry as a last resort, but you don't live



nearby? You can get food today and resources closer to your home, making life easier.

Your gifts provide much more than a bag of

Your generosity provides more than food—we offer many types of service!

# YOU TOUCH LIVES

STORIES FROM THE PANTRY

## 'It All Hit At The Same Time'

Freda\* is a hard-worker and a loving mother of an energetic 6-year-old son. She manages her living expenses on her meager wages without financial assistance from other resources. She is proud to be able to stay ahead of her bills and be a great steward of her financial resources. That is, until Freda was faced with unplanned expenses that changed (or challenged) her course.

With the little one now attending school full-time, and her own work hours going until 5 pm, Freda faces a new childcare monthly expense. This expense presented at the same time her car became disabled and required emergency repairs. The sum of the two events was more than chal-

lenging for Freda. Not only were her resources limited, but she was now met with notices advising of late fees and

disconnection of services she and her son had become comfortable with, like gas and electricity.

Freda turned to NETWorks in her time of need. While she did not know what NETWorks could do, she remained hopeful the organization could be of some help. Because of your generous support, Freda was able to meet with the Case Management team, who

worked with her to assess her situation and develop a plan for recovery.

**Your support means Freda will receive the financial boost she needs to overcome her financial set-back.** She will also visit the NETWorks client-choice Food Pantry to help cut costs to her food budget.

Freda is excited that she will soon be ahead of her bills again thanks to the newly formed relationship and assistance she is receiving from you, through NETWorks.

Your support will help Freda\* recover from the financial surprises she experienced and get back in control of her finances.

Thank you!

## Books Are Always A Winner

Many of our pantry visitors bring their children when they shop for food. While we can't provide child care, we do **try to make the kids comfortable.**



One of the most appreciated parts of our lobby is the Kids' Corner. We have a few

toys for the young ones to play with, but perhaps the most popular feature of the corner is the book rack.

Managed by one of our regular volunteers, the book rack holds a variety of books for various ages and reading levels. Kids can look at books as they pass the time in our lobby, waiting for their family's turn to shop. Because of the generous donations of books we receive, every child can take a book home—to keep—every time they visit our pantry.

People don't want to have to get help at a food pantry. We realize that. **Because of your generous gifts** of time, talent, and treasure, our **visitors feel welcomed, seen, and heard.** And a book to take home tells your neighbor just how much you care.

Thank you  
for your  
Prayers  
Food  
Toiletries  
Funds



## Top of My Mind

A friend I had just met said, "I dropped of a couple

of cans the other day. It's not much, but I hope it helps."

It helps. **Every thing you do for your neighbor helps,** from the prayers you say to the donations you make to the time you give making our programs strong, successful, and deeply caring.

Most of the food donations we receive are anonymous. You give out of the goodness of your heart, purely to help your neighbor. No need for recognition or thanks.

Many of our volunteers don't want their work acknowledged outside of their volunteer time. The reward comes from giving back, they tell us.

But we **see you, and we thank you.** That can of beef stew may have been the menu for dinner one night for a man living in the woods nearby. Without it, his night would have been colder and harder. That conversation with the neighbor having a rough morning meant they could face whatever struggle they were dealing with a little more self-confidence and support.

However you choose to help your neighbor, thank you. I know we couldn't do this work without **YOU!**

~David Fisher, Executive Director

# ONE NEIGHBOR AT A TIME