



## **Christ the King Food Pantry Community Development Block Grant Proposal**

Christ the King Food Pantry, an outreach ministry of Christ the King Parish, is seeking to construct a new building to house its operation serving the needs of the poor. For many years, the parish has been exploring options to offer a better home for the Food Pantry but with limited resources had been unsuccessful. In January 2022, the parish received a specific Food Pantry bequest of \$1,000,000 from a parishioner, Theresa A. Downing, who had been involved with the Food Pantry and had a passion for feeding the needy. With this generous gift, the parish feels it now has a good a base from which to work toward the construction of a new Food Pantry building.

The Food Pantry has been in operation for more than forty years providing food to those in need from the broader community, not just our parish. Services are provided without question to clients regardless of race, color, sex, marital status, disability, age, national origin, or religion. There is no evangelization and clients are not required to make any religious declarations. Each month the Food Pantry typically provides food stores for three meals per day for three days to 1,400 family members at no cost.

The Food Pantry has been financially self-sufficient and is not seeking funding for operating expenses. Food is acquired through non-profit organizations and government agencies, such as the New Hampshire Food Bank and Community Action Program, or is purchased at discounted prices through local suppliers, such Associated Grocers of New England. Generous donations from Christ the King parishioners and other individuals provide the operating funds for the Food Pantry.

The food pantry has about sixty volunteers, many of whom are retired and/or have physical limitations. There is no paid staff.

The Food Pantry is in a small, poorly ventilated two-story house. The extremely limited basement storage is for canned, non-perishable items; this requires volunteers to transport this stock up and down the stairs repeatedly. An additional freezer and expanded refrigerator storage are essential but there is insufficient room to house these appliances. At times we are not able to handle all the food that is made available to us because there is no place to store it. The area available for serving clients is also inadequate. Only one family can be helped at a time, requiring others to wait outside. This has caused additional hardship in inclement weather.

Many of the design elements of the proposed building were added in response to Covid-19. The setting would be like a small grocery store with enough room to allow multiple families to be served simultaneously in a dignified manner with proper social distancing. Additional ventilation was added to allow for a safer environment. More storage, particularly for frozen items and those requiring refrigeration, would mean being able to provide more food to more people during this time when so many are in need.

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**RE: Proposed Christ the King Food Pantry**

Dear Donna,

Per our discussion this morning, I am forwarding where we are currently with the above-mentioned project. Bartlett Survey is in the process of surveying the project site. Nobis Engineering has been hired as the civil Engineer and is waiting in the wings to complete the City of Concord Permit Design. Warrenstreet will be providing Architecture, TF Moran structural, and WV Engineering MEP design. Our goal is to have all permits in hand and the building design complete by late fall 2022.

The goal is to replace the current pantry building, long obsolete and very difficult to respond to the current market conditions. Food stores are in the basement and hard to access. Because the existing is so small and on multiple floors, currently patrons trying to access the building are required to wait outdoors in the weather.

The new building is planned to be approximately 5,550 sf on one floor, with 2,400 sf of storage in the basement and 1,700 sf of storage in the attic. The current proposed design mimics a typical supermarket whereby patrons can access the store with dignity, pick only the food stores that they will use and are accustomed. There will be two offices to provide some social service interaction. An enclosed loading area and warehouse with direct access to the store which will greatly reduce the burden on volunteers handling food donations.

Plans are attached. Please call with any questions you might have. Thank You.

Respectfully,

**WARRENSTREET ARCHITECTS**

  
Jonathan Halle, AIA, ASLA  
Managing Member  
Architect & Landscape Architect