

OPEN DOORS

Of Washington Township

A FOOD AND CLOTHING PANTRY



Open Doors Food and Clothing Pantry

PO Box 196
19360 Tomlinson Rd.,
Westfield IN 46074
(317) 867-8670

www.opendoorswestfield.org
[Facebook](#)

Hours of Pantry:

Tuesday, Thursday & Saturday
8:30 am – 12:00 pm
Monday
4:00 – 7:00 pm

Winter 2025-2026

SERVING THE WESTFIELD COMMUNITY SINCE 1990

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

*"For I was hungry
and you gave me
something to eat,
I was thirsty
and you gave me
something to drink.
I was a stranger
and you invited me in,
I needed clothes
and you clothed me."
Matthew 25:35*

Happy New Year! I want to thank all our volunteers for their dedication in serving at Open Doors this past year, and I hope 2026 brings us continued success and prosperity!

I am grateful for the confidence that has been placed in me to continue the valuable work here at the pantry. Thank you to Bruce Watson for his many years of leadership and for his continued support during this transition. I am blessed to join a board of long serving members who care about our community.



We have just finished another successful holiday season for our pantry. We received a record amount of donations, in both financial resources and food contributions. Many of our volunteers put in extra hours to help with the workload and organization of these donations, and we are starting off the new year with our pantry and our hearts full. The Thanksgiving and Christmas distributions helped to assist just shy of 200 families each, and the Meijer gift cards were once again much appreciated. Thank you to Carrie Larrison and Leanne Zentz for their many hours of hard work on these important holiday projects.

Our first Volunteer Appreciation Dinner was held on January 13th at the new Shamrock Station venue. Nikki Heflin and the Westfield Foodies did a wonderful job hosting, and we were thrilled to be their very first event in this beautiful space. We love to help support the community who is always supporting our mission. Many thanks to Cindy Olsen and Melody Wisely for planning this evening of celebration.

I look forward to working with everyone in 2026 to continue to serve the Westfield community. I appreciate the time, dedication and passion of our volunteers and grateful for the impact you have made in the lives of our clients. As we start this new year, I am excited to get to know all of you as we help those who need our support.

Jen Goldberg, President

OPEN DOORS OFFICERS

Jen Goldberg
President

Kurt Wanninger
VP of Operations

Carrie Larrison
VP of Special Programs

Jerry Rosenberger
Treasurer

Kathy Patterson
Secretary

TRANSITION OF LEADERSHIP



Bruce Watson

Bruce Watson is stepping down after serving as President of Open Doors since 2018. We appreciate all that Bruce has accomplished during his tenure, and we are happy that he will remain a volunteer at the pantry.

Bruce is known around our community as the face of Open Doors and we will continue his passion to serve and bring awareness to our organization.

“It has been an honor to have been the President of the Open Doors Pantry for the past eight years. I thank our many volunteers who make the Pantry the wonderful resource it has become for our community. I am confident that our new President, Jen Goldberg, will continue to maintain the high standards Open Doors has become known for.” – Bruce Watson

On behalf of the Board, thank you for your exceptional leadership and dedication during your eight years as Board President. Your steady guidance, thoughtful decisions, and unwavering commitment have strengthened this organization in lasting ways. We are deeply grateful for everything you have poured into this role.



Jen Goldberg

Jen Goldberg was elected the new President of Open Doors on January 8, 2026. Jen has been a volunteer here for over seven years and can usually be found at the front desk or in an advocate office.

“I am honored to serve at Open Doors in this role. Open Doors is an important resource in our town, and I am excited to help support this organization through this time of growth in Westfield. Thank you for this opportunity to make a real impact in our community.” – Jen Goldberg

COORDINATOR REPORTS

Advocates

Having reviewed the numbers for 2025, here are some interesting facts...

- More than half of the clients coming in only visit once that month
- There was a monthly average of 402 family visits
- There were 21% more family visits in 2025 vs 2024
- There was a 14% increase in Advocate food and 34% increase in Front Room food in 2025 vs 2024
- More than 42,000 clothing items were given out

Receptionists need to be sure to click the "New Client" box in the computer system when a new family is setup for the first time.

Church Relations

Our member churches exceeded our food drive goal for 2025 with 5,033 pounds donated – a 17% increase over 2024! Thank you to all who participated.

New Joy and Crossroads shared plans to focus food drives on a handful of specific items or non-food items.

Clothing

While we have seen a small slowing of donations, we still have plenty and have not been overwhelmed. We have plenty of winter items and already saved about 20-25 bins of spring/summer items. We appreciate items that are in like new condition.

Special Projects

This is the first year we did not serve families from Good Samaritan who are not clients of Open Doors. Normally, we assist close to 300 families from Good Samaritan. This year, we had 180 families for Thanksgiving and 190 families for Christmas sign up for assistance. If our clients showed up on distribution days and had not signed up, we did give them food. Because we received so many food donations around the holidays, we did add additional food to the holiday boxes. We had less families who did not pick up their food or Christmas gifts.

Just Some of the Generous Food Drives and Donations from Nov & Dec 2025



Munciana Volleyball



Chatham Hills and Eagles for Children - \$4000 grant



6th grader Brody Overturf held a food drive for his birthday – that's awesome Brody!



Coca Cola Caravan at Market District – Westfield provided 35 holiday food bags with Open Door volunteers helping bag



Scouting for Food with Troops 107 and 1070 and others



Gingerbread House Competition at Westfield in Lights. Each design needed to incorporate Open Doors. Jen Goldberg, Cindy Olsen, Melody Wisely and Maria Debie served as judges.



COORDINATOR REPORTS *continued*

Pantry Operations

We have received an avalanche of food donations in December – what a wonderful “problem” to have! Many volunteers have spent hours and hours sorting, dating, and trying to find a spot to store all these donations. God is good!

During the holiday food giveaways, we again set up tables in the front room to allow clients to take additional items. We gave out approx. 1500 pounds at Thanksgiving and 800 pounds at Christmas.

It seems Open Doors is about the only pantry in Hamilton County that continues to be open between Christmas and New Years. This allowed us to pick up food rescue at some new places for Open Doors during that week – in addition to our usual stops. This made for busy days for drivers and those receiving those deliveries. We gained a lot of meat and shared surplus items with Good News Mission and Wheeler Mission (dropped off by volunteers with their personal cars).

Bruce Watson made a trip to Hamilton Harvest which resulted in a box of good vegetables and 4 boxes of non-food items.

Food Procurement

With the influx of food donations in December, purchases have mainly been for non-food items.

Volunteers

Open Doors has over 150 regular volunteers who give their time and talents to serve the Westfield community. Coordinators for each area are:

- Front Room/Pantry Sarah Clark
- Warehouse/Annex/Drivers..... Kurt Wanninger
..... Bruce Houtman
- Clothing Karen Sutcliff
- Special Projects Carrie Larrison

Once again, we thank Ann Godby for her faithful service over the 30+ years as Volunteer Coordinator. While she stepped down from the coordinator position, Ann will continue to volunteer in many other areas. Job well done, Ann!

Warehouse Operations

While we were swamped with donations during the holiday season, it has tapered off some now. As a result, we’ve moved some 2028 veggies to the Annex area to free up space on the warehouse racks. Some of the excess corn and green beans have been donated to Wheeler Mission.

We are in the process of updating our inventory records. Bear with us as we get it all straightened out – hopefully by the end of January.

If you know if any sources for 10-ream paper boxes, please bring them in as we are in need.

Kurt Wanninger, Scott Pratt and Danny Maine are working on a plan for updating all the computers in the pantry as current computers are in need of updates and are no longer supported by Microsoft. They plan to utilize existing monitors to reduce expenses.

Donated by the Reynolds family, we now have a “Dock Box” to store scraps for Cory, the chicken farmer. This keeps the scraps out of the elements and keeps out critters.

Spiritual Concerns

The prayer team is led by Laura Zeunik. This has been a wonderful ministry to share prayer concerns of our volunteers as well as clients who request prayer.

Client Comment

A client sent in a Christmas card with the following note to everyone at Open Doors...

“I want to thank all of you for everything you’ve done for my family and me. I don’t know what we would have done without you. You all set the perfect example of the life Jesus taught us to live. Thank you and have a wonderful Christmas!”

Know what you do matters. And, every small act of kindness can mean the world to the other person.

Volunteer Appreciation Dinner

On Tuesday, January 13, 2026, Open Doors held its first Volunteer Appreciation Dinner at the newly opened Shamrock Station in Westfield. With more than 150 volunteers on record and Open Doors being 100% volunteer run, an evening to recognize those efforts was in order.

There was plenty of fellowship with old friends and getting to know those who haven't worked together before. Thank you to Melody Wisely and Cindy Olsen for coordinating the event.

Laura Zeunik kicked things off with prayer followed by a delicious meal prepared and served by Foodies Rock, Westfield Culinary Arts students. This was their first event in this venue. While the students were all volunteers this night, Nikki Heflin, head of Westfield Culinary Arts, shared the students will soon be employed at Shamrock Station.

As dessert was served, Bruce Watson introduced Jen Goldberg as the new President of Open Doors. Jen thanked Bruce for his many years of service and looked forward to stepping into this new role.

Sarah Clark thanked Ann Godby for her 30+ years of service as the Volunteer Coordinator with a fun game of "Who Ya Gonna Call?" (hint, the answer was always "Ann Godby"!)

Both Bruce and Ann were presented with a prayer plant in recognition of their many years of service to Open Doors.

Finally, Girl Scout Troop 1785 presented Jen with a \$2634 donation from their Gingerbread House Competition in December (see *page 3* for a photo of that event).



Bruce Watson and Ann Godby



Thank you to all our wonderful volunteers – We can't do it without you!

2026 Calendar of Events

Board of Directors Meeting Dates

January 8

April 9

July 9

October 8

Annual Meeting

October 8

Letter Carriers' Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive

May 9

Pack the Cruiser

June --

Back-to-School Backpack Giveaway

August 15

Thanksgiving Food Giveaway

November 21

Christmas Toy & Food Giveaway

December 12

Pantry Closed

January 1

August 22 – due to LIV Golf traffic

November 21

November 26

December 12

December 25



**Open Doors of Washington Township
1990-2025**

Providing assistance to residents of Washington Township for 35 years
and still 100% run by volunteers

MEMBER CHURCHES

Christ United Methodist Church

318 N. Union Street
Westfield, IN

Crossroads Church at Westfield (PCUSA)

19201 Grassy Branch Road
Westfield, IN

Eagle Creek Evangelical Friends Church

18235 Eagletown Rd.
Westfield, IN

Hortonville United Methodist

3080 W. SR 38
Sheridan, IN

Lifepointe Church

3233 W. 166th Street
Westfield, IN

Mts. Runn Baptist Church

250 S. 775 E.
Zionville, IN

New Joy Lutheran Church, ELCA

316 156th Street
Westfield, IN

North Circle Church

20101 Grassy Branch Rd
Westfield, IN

Northview Church

Westfield Campus
17171 Ditch Road
Westfield, IN

Radiant Christian Life

16162 Carey Road
Westfield, IN

The Journey Church

17716 Eagletown Road
Westfield, IN

Thrive Christian Church

15091 Towne Rd.
Westfield, IN

Trinity Baptist Church

1415 E. 191st Street
Westfield IN

Westfield Friends Church

324 South Union Street
Westfield, IN

Westfield Bible Methodist Church

219 W. 161st Street
Westfield, IN 46074

SHOP and CONTRIBUTE

KROGER...

Register with your Kroger PLUS CARD (free at the store service counter) on the [CommunityRewards Website](#). Select number **WY292** for Open Doors. Every time you swipe your card, KROGER will donate a percentage of your purchase to Open Doors.



AMAZON WISH LIST...

QR CODE and LINK CREATED for OPEN DOORS

AMAZON WISH LIST. Scan code with camera and be taken to our Wish List. Please do not ship directly to Open Doors as the building is not always open and deliveries sit outside.



https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/2LWM3RXR49QKR?ref=wl_fw_le

If you would like to make a financial donation to Open Doors, please go to our website [OpenDoorsWestfield.org](https://www.opendoorswestfield.org) and look for the yellow Donate button at the top. A current list of most needed items can also be found on our website.

Donate

OPEN DOORS LINKS

Pantry Needs, News, General Information

www.opendoorswestfield.org

Suggestions, Ideas, Photos for Website and Newsletter

OpenDoorsWestfield@gmail.com

Suggestions, Ideas, Photos for FACEBOOK

Kurt.Wanninger@hotmail.com

Volunteering:

Individuals, Groups (school, church, community)

OpenDoorsWestfield@gmail.com

Like us on Facebook

Open Doors of Washington Township

Receive newsletter via email.

Email "subscribe" in the subject line to

OpenDoorsWestfield@gmail.com

OPEN DOORS COORDINATORS

Warehouse

Tom Clark

Advocate

Lorna Mills

Clothing

Karen Sutcliffe

Church Relations

Bill Black

Pantry/Front Room

Volunteers

Sarah Clark

Food Pantry

Margie Smith

Kroger Food Rescue

Kurt Wanninger