



# ANNUAL REPORT 2025

**More Than A Food Pantry —  
Investing In the Future of Our Rural Communities**

The Gathering Source, W7115 State Road 16-60, Juneau, WI 53039  
(920) 927-1702 [www.TheGatheringSource.org](http://www.TheGatheringSource.org)



# WHO WE ARE

Our Mission: We are **DEVOTED** to caring for hunger, education and wellness in our RURAL communities in partnership with our schools, organizations, churches, businesses and caring individuals.



We are a food pantry where anyone can pick up a wide variety of nutritious food, based on their household size, every week at no cost to them. Our patrons self-certify their need for food.

We provide weekend meal packs to students in nearby schools where 10% of the students rely on their schools' weekday meal programs as their main source of food.



We provide students at Hustisford and Dodgeland Schools receive backpacks filled with essential school supplies, providing the necessary tools for success in their classes. Without this assistance, many students would lack the resources they need to thrive.

We are a local service provider, as over 95% of the households served are within a 10-mile radius of our location. Our commitment extends beyond immediate assistance; we aim to empower individuals and families with the resources and knowledge they need to build a brighter future.





# 2024 YEAR IN REVIEW

2024 was another successful year for The Gathering Source!

**225,000**

POUNDS OF FOOD AND  
SUPPLIES DISTRIBUTED

In total, our weekly pantry distributed over 225,000 pounds of food and personal care items to 3,364 households and 10,712 members, an increase of 30% over 2023. The increase in food pantry needs, the current economy, and our community outreach efforts attract more households needing our assistance.

**2,940**

WEEKEND MEALS  
DELIVERED IN 2024

Weekend meal packs were delivered to about 75 students on average each week at the Dodgeland and Hustisford schools. 231 school supply backpacks (up 5% over 2023) were provided to students from these same schools. In addition, students conduct food drives and perform volunteer activities for TGS. We exchange needed products and services for the benefit of both TGS and the schools.

**4,349+**

HOURS OF VOLUNTEER  
SERVICE

We have over 60 caring, active volunteers who, in total, provided over 4,000 hours of service to TGS. Volunteers manage the pantry (distribute food, stock shelves, clean, etc.); pick up, receive, and sort food; deliver food to the schools; prepare and distribute the school supply backpacks; perform office support functions; and assist with many other activities.

**475**

POUNDS OF FRESH FOOD  
GROWN

In 2024, our volunteers grew and harvested almost 475 pounds of fresh produce distributed in our food pantry.

**175**

DONORS

In 2024, we had over 250 financial donations for operations from approximately 175 donors (foundation grants, other not-for-profits, corporations, and individuals).



# TAKING CARE OF OUR COMMUNITY

Our goal is to provide access to our pantry, programs and leadership in a variety of ways.



Southern Dodge County, Wisconsin, is a very economically challenged, rural area. A well-accepted study indicates that 35% of households in Dodge County have fewer financial resources than it takes to cover the “Household Survival Budget”, or costs to survive.

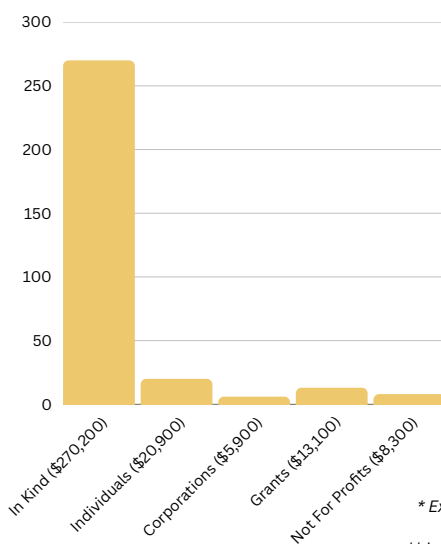


The rising costs of basic living needs affect our local communities, which have higher economic distress than the Dodge County average. In the Dodge and Hustisford school systems, 45% and 35% of students qualify for free or reduced meal assistance, respectively.



Our neighbors need assistance with basic food needs, school materials, housing and utilities, childcare, health care, transportation, and more just to survive. We are here to help anyone in need if we are able

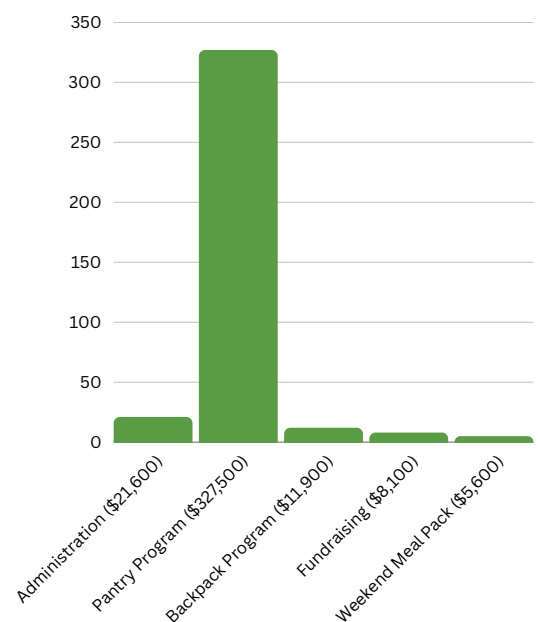
## Sources



\* Excludes restricted building capital contributions and pledges of \$393,000

\*\* In Kind represents no cost contributions of food from all sources (2024 data)

## Uses





# FACILITY UPDATES

In 2024, The Gathering Source successfully completed several critical facility improvement projects (\$500,000) aimed at addressing growing food insecurity and enhancing community support in rural Dodge County.

## Improving Accessibility

- ADA-compliant access and parking lot improvements (\$92,000) were completed. Significantly improving safety and accessibility for patrons and volunteers, especially those with mobility challenges.

## Increasing Capacity

- Storage space was expanded, and existing space was optimized through a \$123,000 investment, including additional dry goods storage, installation of walk-in cooler and freezer units, and improvements to workflow efficiency.

## Building Enhancements for Sustainability

- Necessary building enhancements totaling \$285,000 were undertaken, including roofing replacement, new exterior windows installation, vinyl siding addition, and insulation improvements in ceilings and sidings.
- These enhancements improved energy efficiency, reduced ongoing maintenance costs, and created a sustainable facility capable of supporting community needs into the future.

## Community Impact

The completion of these projects has significantly strengthened The Gathering Source's capacity to serve the community. With over 95% of served households located within a 10-mile radius, these facility improvements directly benefit local residents experiencing higher-than-average financial hardship and hunger rates.

"We are evaluating other ways to utilize our facility for the benefit of the community."



# LEADERSHIP

We have a very dedicated, qualified, and hands-on Board of Directors which, collectively, bring a diversity of backgrounds and expertise for the benefit of The Gathering Source.

## CURRENT LEADERSHIP

**Bruce Wadman, President / Treasurer** – Corporate Controller, Alliance Laundry Systems (retired)

**Thea O'Connor, Vice President** – Executive Director, Church Health Services

**Sharon Snow, Founder** – United States Postal Service (retired)

**Heather Cramer, Member** – District Administrator, Hustisford (WI) School District

**Linnette Heyliger, Member** – Uncion Fresca Senior Pastor, Harvest Evangelical Free Church

**Tanya Lemke, Member** – Owner, Sinissippi Lake Pub

**Terry O'Connor, Member** – Senior Vice President, Commercial Lending, Horicon Bank



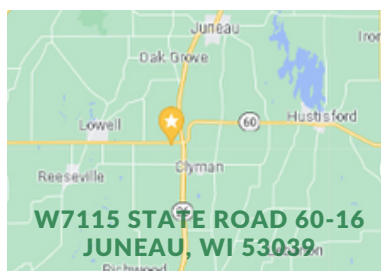
IN 2025 AND ONGOING, WE ARE EXPERIENCING  
SIGNIFICANT INCREASES IN DEMAND FOR OUR SERVICES.  
THE STRESS ON HOUSEHOLDS OF INCREASING FOOD AND  
OTHER COSTS,  
INCLUDING THE CESSATION OF FREE MEALS AT SCHOOL  
AND OTHER GOVERNMENT FOOD ASSISTANCE ADDED  
DURING THE COVID PANDEMIC (FOOD SHARE) ARE THE  
PRIMARY DRIVERS.





# OUR LOCATION

The Gathering Source is in the rural, southern half of Dodge County, Wisconsin.



Our facility is accessible by major highways in all directions. We serve patrons in need from any geographic area. We moved into our new facility in 2020. Moving forward, we plan to have the public use our large lobby, multi-purpose rooms and other offices for group education and other activities.



Our primary sources of food are Second Harvest Food Bank of Southern Wisconsin, Wal Mart (Beaver Dam), Kwik Trip (Columbus and Juneau), Pick 'N Save (Columbus) and Piggly Wiggly (Juneau and Waterloo) as well as food donations from individuals, churches, businesses and other organizations.

## Facility Hours

Pantry food distribution hours – Thursday, 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 am and 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

## Other Availability

Food donation and other needs by appointment – 920-927-1702

Website: [www.TheGatheringSource.org](http://www.TheGatheringSource.org)

Facebook: The Gathering Source

Email: [execdirector@thegatheringsource.org](mailto:execdirector@thegatheringsource.org)

The Gathering Source, W7115 State Road 16-60, Juneau, WI 53039



# THANK YOU!

Thank you all for making The Gathering Source successful. We look forward to making a greater difference in our community in the future!



**Donate online:** Go to [www.thegatheringsource.org](http://www.thegatheringsource.org) and click on the donate button.

**Donate with a check:** Send the check to: The Gathering Source, W7115 State Road 16-60 Juneau, WI 53039

**Learn more:** To learn more about us, our services, and volunteering, visit [www.thegatheringsource.org](http://www.thegatheringsource.org)

**Questions?** Call: (920) 927-1702  
Email: [execdirector@thegatheringsource.org](mailto:execdirector@thegatheringsource.org)



SCAN ME