

more to
share

spring 2022



FeedMore
wny
Foundation



a message from the president

Dear Friends,

I can't help but feel a bit of excitement as I anticipate warmer spring days just around the corner, when all of Western New York begins to welcome new life, and growth.

Thanks to friends like you, I'm also looking forward to our own growth as we seek to meet the increased demand for food across our community. The pandemic is still very much affecting the people we serve, and we must continue to grow to meet the need.

That includes the growth of several FeedMore WNY programs that were created in the last couple of years, like our Companion Call Program. Through this program, FeedMore WNY's homebound clients receive wellness calls to determine if they have needs beyond nutrition and are provided with resources to help meet those needs.

For someone who lives alone, this program can be life-changing and even life-saving.

In this issue of More to Share, I've chosen a few stories to share with you that highlight the difference your gifts are making every day through your support of programs like these, and through the critical gift of food.

I hope you'll enjoy hearing from older adults like James (page 7) who says the food you provide is saving his life.

Thank you for making sure our neighbors of all ages have reliable access to nutritious food. The need for food remains high — please continue to stand up for Western New Yorkers through your partnership.

Warmly,

Tara A. Ellis
President & CEO

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you help richard pay it forward

For the last 10 years, Richard has given his time each week at the New Covenant Food Pantry. Thanks to you, he also happens to receive food there.

"It's great here," Richard says of the food pantry, a FeedMore WNY partner agency.

"Every little bit helps."

Richard says he first became acquainted with the food pantry through his church and began both receiving food and volunteering. He typically spends his time breaking down boxes to be recycled.

"You are able to do something good for the community," he says of his motivation to volunteer.

Richard says one of his personal favorite aspects of the food pantry is that he can choose what food to take home. Richard had to have one of his kidneys removed, so he looks for fresh produce and low-sodium canned goods to keep him healthy.

Richard also receives assistance through SNAP and is a big advocate for the benefit.

It's been particularly helpful during the pandemic, and says even a small amount of help can go a long way.

"Don't ever discount small beginnings," he urges. "Every little bit helps."

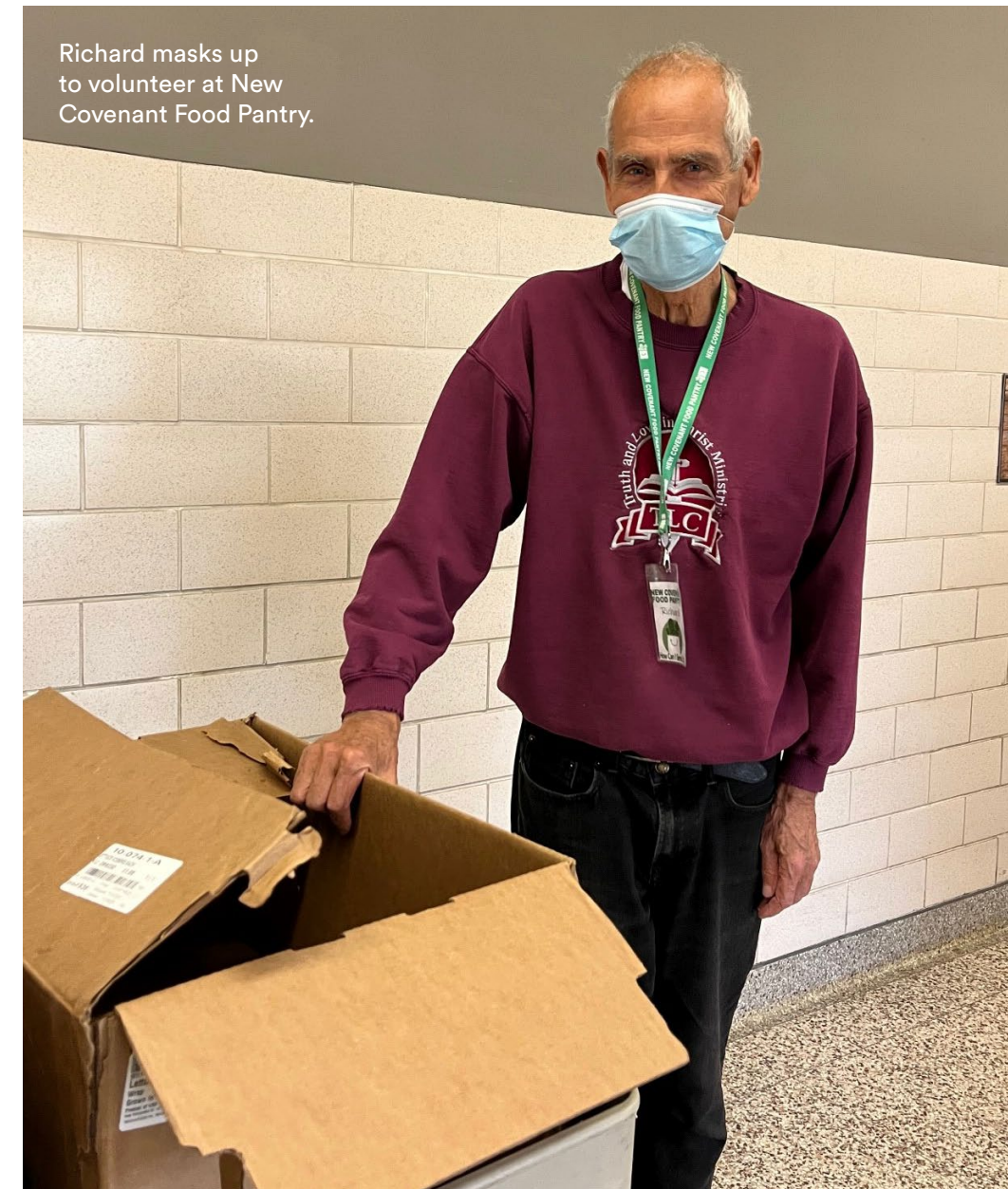
The combination of SNAP benefits and visits to the food

pantry have given Richard the ability to pay off his medical bills and stay within his budget.

"I now have the cushion I needed," he says.

Thank you for joining Richard to make sure more Western New Yorkers have nutritious food on the table.

Richard masks up to volunteer at New Covenant Food Pantry.



you offer dignity, hope and a brighter future



CherRita

you help students RISE

CherRita had never even driven a car when she started FeedMore WNY's Reaching Individuals for Success — or RISE program. Now, she has numerous new warehouse and logistics skills under her belt, including driving a forklift!

CherRita recently graduated from the free 10-week warehouse and logistics skills training program. She is now OSHA certified and is a Certified Logistics Technician. She also was just offered a job to utilize her training.

That means CherRita will be better equipped to provide for her two daughters.

Empowering people to work and earn enough to cover essential living expenses moves us closer to our shared goal: ending hunger in Western New York. Thank you for making vital programs like RISE possible and giving our neighbors the tools to succeed!



Chef Darian Bryan shared a dish with guests at Sweet Expectations 2021

sweet expectations

Spend an evening with us and help provide food for our neighbors who are facing hunger.



Join us, virtually or in-person, on Wednesday, May 18 at Seneca One as we celebrate a night of food, fun and sweet treats in support of the mission of FeedMore WNY. Sweet Expectations is proudly presented by James Desiderio, Inc. and Wegmans.



Charlotte receives home-delivered meals thanks to your gifts to FeedMore WNY



Seneca One, the 2022 Sweet Expectations venue

Proceeds from this annual, signature event benefit FeedMore WNY programs, helping us meet the ongoing need for food in our Western New York community.

For more information on tickets or sponsoring the event, please Marinda Frazier at mfrazier@feedmorewny.org or 716-822-2005 ext. 3082. Visit www.feedmorewny.org for tickets and additional event details.

a hearty helping

The Cold Spring Community Foundation Soup Kitchen earned its nickname as the 'Plate of Love' because of "what we serve and how we do it," according to its director, Penny Beckham.

"Our numbers are picking up more and more each week," Penny says of visitors to the soup kitchen, which is one of FeedMore WNY's partner agencies.

The soup kitchen had to close its doors temporarily at the

height of the pandemic, and Penny says it's only through its partnership with FeedMore WNY that the soup kitchen can continue serving food in the community — now all served as take-out.

"Because of our relationship with FeedMore WNY, we've been able to keep our doors open."

"Food is very expensive now," Penny says. "If it wasn't for FeedMore WNY and their donors, we would not be able to serve the community."

That's why Penny and fellow soup kitchen volunteers are so grateful for your support.

"This is something we love doing and the need for it is huge," she says. "Buffalo is a city of good neighbors and because of [you] and [your] donations we are able to do what we do."

Penny serves up love in the form of food.



james is singing your praises

James has great memories of climbing mountains and cycling from across several states in his youth. He may not be able to move as freely now, but he's grateful for friends like you who are giving him more energy and better health in his golden years.

At 79, James is a retired English teacher and Navy veteran. He says he first learned about FeedMore WNY's home delivered meals program when he was hospitalized following spinal surgery.

"FeedMore WNY is a lifesaver," James says. "I love them."

For the last two years, James has received home delivered meals through FeedMore WNY five days a week, Monday-Friday, and weekend meals delivered each Thursday.

"The food is great, and I think it's helping me live."

"The food is great, and I think it's helping me live," he says.

James lives alone and says his decreased mobility makes it



especially challenging to get out and buy groceries, but your support gave him the solution he needed. He wants you to know what a difference it makes, and he encourages other people in the community to get involved with FeedMore WNY, too.

"If you're able, why not join us and help," he says.

Thank you for helping fill the tables of older adults who made Western New York what it is today. Your generosity is building a healthier, happier community for all ages.

you give food and fellowship



“People should know about it and how great it is here,” he says.

Brady doesn’t consider himself a good cook, so he says he especially appreciates that the food from the soup kitchen is not only nutritious, but also so delicious — so much so that it reminds him of his grandmother’s good cooking.

“They cook us food that they would want to eat and serve a very generous amount,” he says.

When Brady first went to the soup kitchen, he was one of just five people who came to eat. Thanks in part to his willingness to share about his experience there, many more neighbors now know about the soup kitchen and show up for a warm, well-balanced meal.

You’re making healthy food accessible to our Western New York neighbors of all ages this spring. Thank you for your partnership!

This spring, Brady is thanking you for not only filling his plate with warm, nourishing meals, but also for the opportunity to fill his soul through fellowship and friendship.

“It’s nice to sit down and eat and be surrounded by good people,” says Brady, 50.

We met Brady at the Cold Spring Community Foundation Soup Kitchen, a partner agency of FeedMore WNY. Brady says he was

initially reluctant to go to the soup kitchen because of how he might be perceived by people around him, but one visit was all it took to change his mind — and propel him to spread the word.

“It’s nice to sit down and eat and be surrounded by good people.”

FeedMore
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Foundation

100 James E. Casey Dr
Buffalo, NY 14206
(716) 822-2002
feedmorewny.org



thank you for sharing nutritious food!

Yes, Tara, I want to help my neighbors of all ages access nutritious meals and groceries. Enclosed is my gift of:

[Ask 1]

[Ask 2]

[Ask 3]

[Ask 4]

Mr. John Q. Sample
Brad Cecil & Associates
2115 Arlington Downs Rd.
Arlington, Texas 76011

FeedMore
wny
Foundation

100 James E. Casey Drive
Buffalo, NY 14206
(716) 822-2002
feedmorewny.org

Please make your check payable to FeedMore WNY Foundation and return it in the enclosed envelope. Your gift is tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

For credit card gifts, please see the reverse side.

ID Code

0FB0R 000000 00DDDD 00DD D000 0

Dear [Salutation],

Right now, thousands of older adults are struggling to make ends meet across Western New York. With a small, fixed income to cover monthly expenses, many people face tough choices — like whether to buy medicine or go to the grocery store.

Your support of hunger relief makes a real difference for older adults living check to check. **Will you help more people access vital meals by making a generous gift today?**

When you give, our neighbors of all ages will have the chance to live with dignity and hope. Thank you for your compassion!

Warmly,
Tara

Credit Card Gifts



Donation Amount \$ _____

Email Address _____

Phone Number _____

Card Number _____

Exp Date _____ Signature _____

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to the FeedMore WNY Foundation.
My monthly pledge will be: \$ _____
charged to the above credit card.

I understand that a confirmation letter will
be sent to me with more details about this
program.

Signature _____

Date _____

I've given a gift through my donor-advised
fund or IRA in the amount of \$ _____.

You may obtain a copy of the latest financial statement
filed with the NYS Department of Law Charities Bureau
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website, www.feedmorewny.org.