



Twelve Baskets Food Pantry Celebrating 10 years of feeding the community!

August 2024

Dear Community Partner,

The Twelve Baskets Food Pantry in Portage, Michigan, **founded in 2014**, has grown from providing groceries to 18 families twice a month to serving more than 350 families each week, as well as operating a Free Store to assist with meeting basic needs for clothing and household items. The Pantry and Free Store are thriving thanks to a dedicated group of volunteers and the donations and financial support we receive from large and small businesses, individuals, schools and churches, restaurants, and grocery stores, as well as the local gardeners and farmers who share their harvests. We are focused on bridging the gap between need and excess through local connections and as an affiliate of Feeding America, a nationwide network of food banks, food pantries and community-based organizations in the United States working to create a future where no one is hungry.

Our primary service area includes the communities of Portage, Schoolcraft, Vicksburg, and Three Rivers, with opportunities for families living in other communities to also receive groceries. We are currently an entirely volunteer-run organization, including our working board of directors, who manage operations and the volunteers who collectively work about 400 hours a week. To celebrate our 10th anniversary and ensure we are able to continue providing this level of service, we are excited to announce the kickoff of the **Twelve Baskets Building Funds Campaign!** We hope you can help!

Twelve Baskets owns the building at 10330 Portage Rd., where the Free Store and donation rooms are located, and at 10332 Portage Rd., which houses the food pantry. Our property at 10330 Portage Rd. and its parking lot needs major renovation and repairs required by City of Portage building codes to be completed by **12/31/2024** (see list). Working with a team of community professionals and board members with related expertise, we've determined an estimate of about **\$520,000** to complete the required repairs and renovations. We are seeking corporate, community and individual donors to help us raise these critical funds to keep the pantry open and our baskets full!

By making a tax-deductible donation to our capital campaign you will be directly contributing to those in our local communities struggling to cope with hunger and feed their children. No donation is too small, and every cent will be appreciated and spent with care. Donors—corporate or individual—who are able to give \$1,000 or more will be recognized for their generosity as a capital campaign supporter on the Twelve Baskets Food Pantry's website.

Please know that we greatly appreciate your careful consideration of our needs and this request. We welcome the opportunity to meet with corporations, small businesses, schools, churches and individuals about giving and volunteering opportunities, so please contact us anytime. If you're able to help out, donations may be dropped off in person when the pantry or Free Store are open, mailed to us, OR, scan the QR code to donate via PayPal or a credit/debit card.

Thank you for helping us stomp out hunger and to help those in need meet their needs!

With sincere appreciation,

Board of Directors
Twelve Baskets Food Pantry
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(269) 532-4912
10332 Portage Rd, Portage, MI 49002



Twelve Baskets Building Funds Campaign 2024

Funds raised will be applied to the repairs of the building at 10330 Portage Rd, the parking lot adjacent to the north (10304 Portage Rd,) and for renovations to the building making it "food safe" and code compliant. We will be seeking volunteers for supplies and renovation work whenever possible.

Renovation/repairs required:

- Interior walls removed to open up space
- Renovation of two bathrooms to make them handicap accessible
- Freezer/refrigeration efficiency units installed
- Upgrade heating, ventilation, and air (HVAC)
- Upgrade electrical
- Install proper lighting
- Floors, doors, and window repairs
- Pave the parking lot and expand it to the lot next door
- Install retention basin
- Install fire wall
- Install fire protection sprinkling system

Estimates for Demo and Reconstruction

- Roof - \$45,000
- Site plan - Exterior completion - \$150,000
- Demo - \$10,000
- Reconstruction - \$25,000
- Mechanical and Electrical - \$40,000
- Walk-in Cooler/Freezer - \$60,000
- Plumbing/Bathrooms, Conference Room - \$30,000
- Architectural/Engineering Costs - \$30,000
- Misc. - \$10,000
- Doors/Windows/Garage Door - \$30,000
- New fixtures/furnishing needs for pantry/store - \$20,000
- Outstanding Loan on Building - \$70,000
- **Total for Project - \$520,000**

