

NEWS

TOWNSHIP OF WOODBRIDGE



MAYOR JOHN E. McCORMAC

◆ 1 Main Street, Woodbridge, NJ 07095

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Jan., 9, 2025

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

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Mayor's Office of Communications

Mayor John E. McCormac, We Feed Woodbridge & Woodbridge Business Community Kick-Off 2025 **"Have-A-Heart"** Food Drive

Food Drive Challenges Township Corporate Offices, Businesses, Food Service Industry, Schools, Community Associations & Residents to Donate 214 Lbs. of Non-Perishable Food or \$214.00 to Aid Food Pantries



Woodbridge Township Announces 2025 **Have-A-Heart** Food Drive. **Have-A-Heart** Sponsors: (L/R): Caroline Ehrlich, Chief-of-Staff, Mayor's Office, Holly Church-Doyle, Woodbridge Metro Chamber of Commerce; Mayor John E. McCormac, Angie Tsirkas, Northfield Bank; Peter Barcellona, We Feed Woodbridge

[Woodbridge Township] – Mayor John E. McCormac announced the kick-off of the 2025 **"Have-A-Heart"** Food Drive Challenge - sponsored by Northfield Bank, Columbia Bank, Wegman's, Woodbridge Metro Chamber of Commerce, and the Corner News Publication.

The **"Have-A-Heart"** food drive challenges Township businesses, retail food service outlets, hospitality industry, corporate businesses and offices, community associations, schools and residents to donate 214 pounds of food or contribute \$214.00 to assist Woodbridge food pantries continue their work providing food and meals to Township residents in need. The 2025 **"Have-A-Heart"** food drive ends on Valentine's Day – Fri., Feb. 14, 2025 (hence the 2/14 challenge.)

"The need for food in our community has more than doubled since the Coronavirus Pandemic impacted our community in 2020/2021. Our food pantries went from serving 600 families a month to now well over 1,400 families. Nobody should ever have to go to bed hungry, so we make it our mission in Woodbridge Township to provide people with food and other necessities. Our residents and businesses continuously prove that they are willing to step up and collect food and monetary donations for those in need. The **Have-A-Heart 214** Challenge has grown and now involves all facets of our community, making Woodbridge Township truly, the Best Town Around." said Mayor McCormac.

Since 1995, the annual **"Have-A-Heart"** food drive - launched each January under the sponsorship of the Woodbridge Department of Health & Human Services and the We Feed Woodbridge Food Bank Committee - has become the most important community program undertaken throughout the entire year. The **"Have-A-Heart"** food drive is coordinated by Peter Barcellona, Chairman of the We Feed Woodbridge Food Bank Committee. All you need to do is give Peter a call at 732-855-0600 x5034 and tell him where and when to pick up a donation – 214 pounds of food or \$214.00 - and volunteers will come directly to your location... it's that easy! Or, you can deliver 214 pounds of non-perishable food items to the Woodbridge Township Public Health Center (2 George Frederick Plaza), the Woodbridge Community Center (600 Main Street), Town Hall (1 Main Street) or the Woodbridge Metro Chamber of Commerce (178 Main Street) anytime between 9:00 AM and 4:00 PM Monday thru Friday. Financial contributions (payable to We Feed Woodbridge) can also be dropped-off at the Health Center or mailed directly to the Office of the Mayor, Woodbridge Municipal Building, One Maine Street, Woodbridge, NJ 07095 or to the Woodbridge Department of Health & Human Services, c/o We Feed Woodbridge, 2 George Frederick Plaza, Woodbridge, NJ 07095.



Last year, Woodbridge Township businesses, community associations, charitable foundations, educational and school organizations and residents truly made a difference by donating more than \$76,657.00 and nearly 24,000 pounds of non-perishable food to support local food pantries.

FOOD PANTRY REPRESENTATIVES:

St. Anthony of Padua Roman Catholic Church, 436 Port Reading Avenue, Port Reading - 732-634-1403

Heavens Helper's Pantry, 343 Pearl Street, Woodbridge - 732-742-8942

First Presbyterian Church of Iselin, 1295 Oak Tree Road, Iselin - 732-283-1188

Trinity Episcopal Church, Trinity Lane, Woodbridge - 732-634-7422

Trinity Episcopal Church Soup Kitchen, Trinity Lane, Woodbridge - 732-634-7422

Evangel Church, 48 Berkeley Blvd., Iselin - 732-283-3440

First Presbyterian Church of Woodbridge, 600 Rahway Avenue, Woodbridge - 732-634-102

St. James Roman Catholic Church, 174 Grove Street, Woodbridge - 732-636-4310

First Presbyterian Church of Avenel, 621 E. Woodbridge Avenue, Avenel - 732-634-1631

St. Cecelia Roman Catholic Church, 45 Wilus Way, Iselin - 732-283-0150

Fellowship Bible Church Food Pantry, 121 East Prospect Avenue, Woodbridge - 732-636-7727

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