



HCS family services

EMPOWERING FAMILIES. CHANGING LIVES.

TOGETHER WE THRIVE.

Since 1937

Once again, May is HUMC's collection month for the food pantry at **HCS Family Services**. As we did last year, we are asking for cash donations instead of food contributions. **Every \$1.00 donated to the food pantry provides \$8.00 worth of food purchased at the Northern Illinois Food Bank.** MAKE CASH DONATIONS BY CHECK, CASH IN A PEW ENVELOPE, OR ONLINE AT www.hinsdaleumc.com.

In addition, if you are interested, you can donate non-food items which HCS cannot purchase at the Northern Illinois Food Bank. There will be boxes in the Narthex to drop off the requested items: personal care products (toothpaste, tooth brushes, shampoo, deodorant, bath soap, feminine hygiene products, adult diapers), household items (toilet paper, paper towels, dish soap, cleaning supplies, plastic sandwich bags), and baby items (diapers - sizes 3, 4, and 5, pull-ups and baby wipes).

Last year HCS distributed over **500,000** pounds of food to over **1,000** families living in southeast DuPage and western Cook County. HCS currently serves approximately **500** people each week from **24** different communities. According to the Northern Illinois Food Bank, DuPage County has the 2nd largest food insecure population in Illinois. Our hungry neighbors include families with children, retirees, and men and women who are struggling to make ends meet because of underemployment, job loss, illness, or age. Most are working, but are not making enough to meet their basic needs. The HCS pantry is a critical food resource for the many families who are not receiving SNAP (food stamp) benefits or who have used all of these benefits for a month. Sometimes children from families who do not qualify for SNAP benefits, which include free school breakfast and lunch, go through the school day hungry.



HUMC youth and adults contribute volunteer hours by working at the food pantry at Anne M. Jeans school in Willowbrook the fourth Wednesday of each month from 4:45 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. If you would like to volunteer, contact Nancy Malo or Rev. McCoy.

Last year the HUMC congregation generously donated **\$1,600** and ten boxes of non-food items to the HCS Food Pantry. The cash donations allowed HCS to purchase **\$12,800** worth of food from the Food Bank. **Let's try for \$2,000 this year!**