

As residents feel inflation squeeze, Open Door offers help

By **A Correspondent** - March 21, 2022



The Open Door Fulfillment Center Coordinator Katherine Aparo Rask checks produce inventory. (Photo Courtesy of The Open Door)

GLOUCESTER and IPSWICH — As inflation rises and food and fuel costs continue to climb, The Open Door is stepping up with increased food resources through its two food pantries and food programs.

“Over the past few weeks, with world conflict threatening the market and spiking the basic costs of living, we have seen a steady uptick in demand for our services,” said Open Door President and CEO Julie LaFontaine.

“As households brace for an economic shift, we want to provide the benefits and supports, we want people in our community to call, a click, or a visit away,” she added.



In 2021, The Open Door helped stabilize the lives and health of 8,516 people from 4,176 households through the distribution of 1.83 million pounds of food.

The mission of The Open Door is to alleviate the impact of hunger in the community. The non-profit's pantries serve Gloucester, Rockport, Manchester, Essex, Ipswich, Hamilton, Wenham, Topsfield, Rowley, and Boxford.

Programs available

The Ipswich Community Food Pantry in Southern Heights is open Wednesday and Thursday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

"If you need food **today**, visit the Ipswich Community Food Pantry during business hours for basic groceries," Open Door said.

The Gloucester Food Pantry at 28 Emerson Ave. is open Monday through Friday. Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Wednesday, and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Thursday and Friday.

New clients and those returning after more than two years can create an online shopping profile at

foodpantry.org/newshopper or call 978-283-6776.

The Open Door aims to process new profiles within one business day.

Active clients can place orders at foodpantry.org/order or call 978-283-6776. Translation services are available in many languages.

Groceries are available for pick-up and limited delivery is available.

"Ordering online or by phone for pick-up or you more choice and access to our full inven

SNAP (Food Stamps) assist

The Open Door also offers one-on-one, conf application, recertification, and interim repo



Contact The Open Door SNAP office at 978-283-6776 ext. 201 or snap@foodpantry.org.

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