

the FOOD BANK MARKET



A NEW HOME FOR CENTRAL PANTRY, OWNED AND OPERATED
BY THE FOOD BANK FOR CENTRAL & NORTHEAST MISSOURI

NOURISHING NEIGHBORS

Good Food for the Good of Our Community



“ I COULDN'T AFFORD FOOD FOR MY 3-YEAR-OLD...WITHOUT YOU, WE COULDN'T EAT TODAY.”

HUNGER LIVES IN MID-MISSOURI...

but together, we can feed neighbors and nourish community.

Food insecurity is prevalent in Missouri, with 11.4% of Missourians facing hunger. In Boone County, over 20,000 people are food insecure and economic stress means that number is growing. Central Pantry, located on Big Bear Boulevard in Columbia, is the largest pantry in Mid-Missouri and the only pantry owned and operated by The Food Bank for Central & Northeast Missouri. The site serves nearly 200,000 meals to around 10,000 individuals each month.

A NEW HOME FOR GOOD

While Central Pantry serves the community consistently, the existing facility has significant limitations. The Food Bank recognized the need for a new home that would better serve the community. In 2021, The Food Bank purchased a new facility at 705 Business Loop 70 West in Columbia. The new and better-equipped location will:



1

MAKE NUTRITIOUS FOOD MORE ACCESSIBLE.

2

REDUCE STIGMA AND IMPROVE THE EXPERIENCE.

3

ADD VISIBILITY TO COMMUNITY RESOURCES.

4

IMPROVE OPERATIONS.

A NAME CHANGE FOR GOOD

Stigma around food assistance keeps some neighbors from accessing the resources they need. The Food Bank seeks to overcome that barrier by calling our new location The Food Bank Market. The word “market” has fewer connotations than “pantry,” and it also addresses a common misconception by speaking to food quality and choice for neighbors. Whether a community member is picking up food, attending a meeting, volunteering or accessing visiting services, The Food Bank Market will be a space to nourish all neighbors.



TRANSFORMATIVE FOR HUNGER ACTION IN MISSOURI

As the only pantry owned and operated by The Food Bank, The Food Bank Market will allow staff to pilot and refine innovative new programming in pursuit of a hunger alleviation model that better nourishes the whole person.

While The Food Bank is proud to offer healthy and nutritious food to neighbors, we recognize that food is the foundation for all other aspects of life - and food insecurity is often coupled with other challenges, including lack of access to healthcare, housing, transportation, legal counsel and more.

To address the need, The Food Bank Market will act as a hub for hunger action in our service area. In addition to significantly expanding The Food Bank's cold storage - making acquisition and distribution of the healthiest foods easier - The Market will serve as a place where best practices are developed and shared with The Food Bank's 145 partner agencies. That means the good work done in Boone County can be scaled across mid-Missouri and move the needle for all neighbors.

THE MARKET

WILL SERVE TO PILOT,
REFINE AND SHARE
INNOVATIVE NEW
PROGRAMMING IN
SUPPORT OF NEIGHBORS
ACROSS MID-MO.



A GATHERING SPACE FOR FOOD & OTHER SERVICES

Partnerships have always been key to The Food Bank's work, and as we renovate our new location, we are grateful to enrich the The Food Bank Market through collaboration with Compass Health. As a tenant, Compass Health will serve as a healthcare partner and help neighbors access much-needed preventive and primary care services in an easy and convenient way.



In addition to healthcare, The Food Bank Market will offer a number of other resources that bring much-needed services and support to our neighbors. A larger, more accessible retail space will provide a grocery store-like atmosphere that is welcoming and accessible; a demonstration kitchen will create the opportunity to learn about preparing healthier items, like fresh produce; and spaces for visiting services will offer education on topics like Medicare, health insurance, utilities assistance and more.



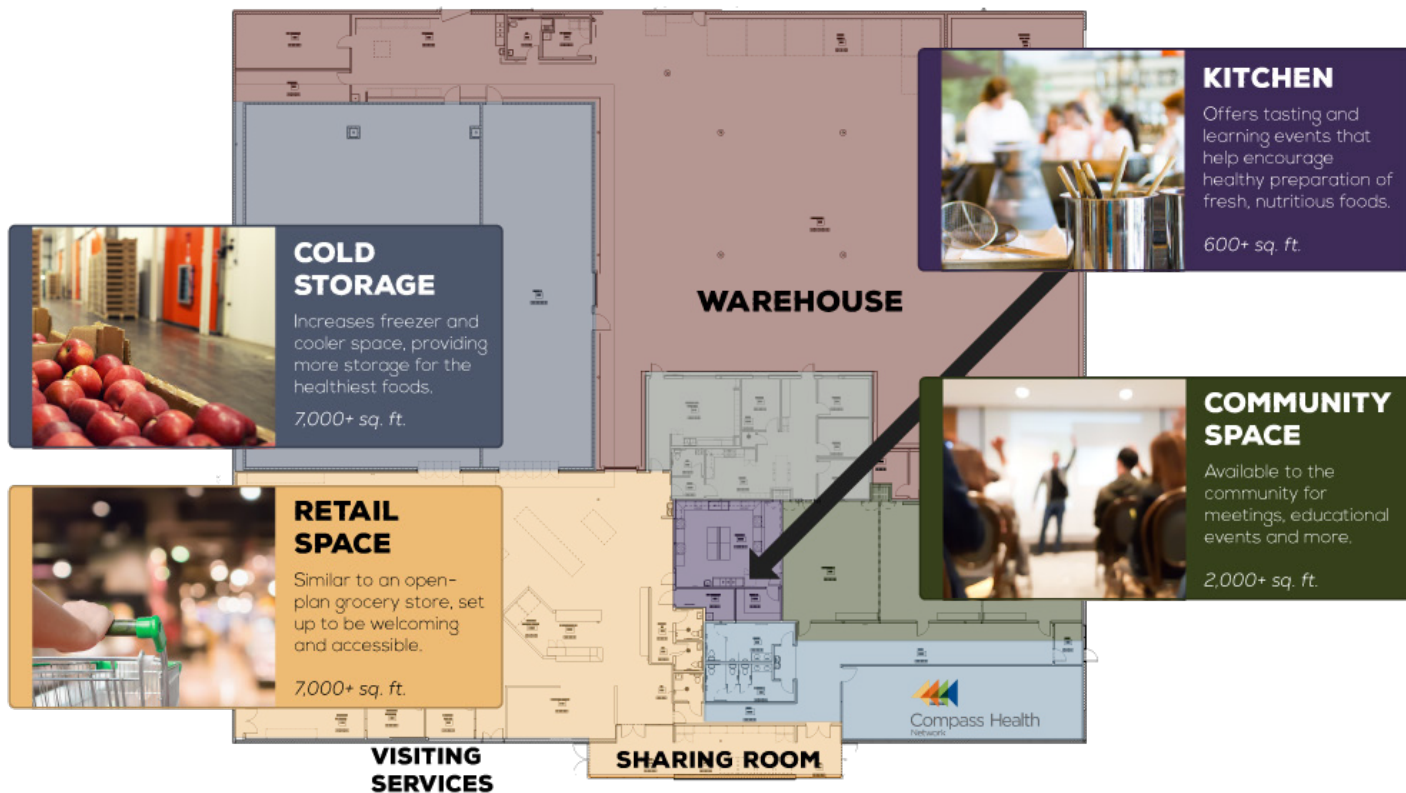
View inside the new retail space, from cooler/freezer storage toward checkout and the waiting room.



View from the community room into the teaching kitchen, which also opens to the retail floor.

“ TO MEET THE NEEDS OF OUR NEIGHBORS AND SET A NEW STANDARD FOR HUNGER ACTION IN MISSOURI, **WE NEED TO RAISE \$7 MILLION** – AND WE CAN ONLY DO IT WITH YOUR HELP.”
- LINDSAY YOUNG LOPEZ, PRESIDENT AND CEO

THE FOOD BANK MARKET: LOCATION HIGHLIGHTS



GOAL: \$7M

BE PART OF THE MOVEMENT FOR GOOD

The cost will help cover purchase of the new facility, renovations, furniture/fixtures and programming support and will help us sustain our work into the future.

As we work toward making The Market a reality, you can make a lasting difference. Learn more about the project and legacy opportunities by reaching out to Lindsay Young Lopez, Julie Dorn or Liz Bird at (573) 474-1020 or via email at development@sharefoodbringhope.org.

“ [CENTRAL PANTRY] HAS HELPED ME **GET THROUGH THE PANDEMIC.**”

A STRONG FOUNDATION FOR A BRIGHTER FUTURE

In 1981, a group of community organizations based in Boone County came together to form a new entity charged with helping food-insecure neighbors. Since that time, The Food Bank has grown in size from an initial distribution of 68,000 pounds to sharing 29.8 million pounds annually. Increasing distribution more than 400 times over in 40 years has been no small task, but we are dedicated to meeting the immediate needs of our neighbors and taking even more strides to address hunger in our region.

HUNGER IN THE HEARTLAND

Food insecurity is prevalent across the nation, and new research from the University of Missouri's Food Assistance & Hunger in the Heartland study indicates Missouri hunger-relief organizations serve a diverse group of neighbors who faced tough choices even before current cost increases.

During the time the study took place, food pantry participants made a number of trade-offs. 37% of households surveyed indicated they had to choose between paying for food or medicine/medical care; 42% had to choose between paying for food or utilities; and 32% had to choose between paying for food or rent. 35% had a household member without health insurance of any kind.

TOUGH CHOICES

42% CHOSE BETWEEN FOOD AND UTILITIES

37% CHOSE BETWEEN FOOD AND MEDICINE/CARE

32% CHOSE BETWEEN FOOD AND RENT

HOW THE FOOD BANK HELPS

The Food Bank works to alleviate hunger in a 32-county service area. The organization has shared food with neighbors for 40 years and acquires and distributes 30 million pounds of food annually. Food is provided to children, veterans, seniors, unhoused neighbors and anyone in need through a network of more than 197 schools and 145 food pantries, soup kitchens, shelters and other agencies.

THE FOOD BANK MARKET: OUR WORK IN BOONE COUNTY

The Food Bank provides food at no cost to partner agencies, meaning local hunger-relief organizations can afford to operate and nutritious food gets into the hands of those who need it most. In Boone County and beyond, The Food Bank shares food through a number of programs that address specific needs, including:

Mixed Produce Boxes offer a mixture of fresh produce, dairy and protein to neighbors and help bring more variety to mobile pantries and our ProjectDash delivery service.

Buddy Packs and **School Pantries** get meals and snacks to students in need, so those who rely on school breakfast and lunch have access to nutritious food on weekends, too.

Each month, **Veteran Boxes** offer entrees, snacks and personal care items to veterans in need and **CSFP Boxes** provide pantry staples to supplement food for low-income seniors.

The Food Bank and community partners (e.g. healthcare entities, police) distribute **Share Boxes** to get emergency nutrition to unhoused neighbors or those in immediate need.



OUR LOCAL PARTNERS

In Boone County, The Food Bank partners with over 30 partner agencies and even more school partners to provide access to food in a variety of ways. Other relationships help us enrich our services and collaborate to better serve our community. Some local partners include:

Coming Soon: Meal Kits!

Meal kits will offer easy-to-prepare or ready-to-eat meals that feature farm-fresh CUA produce. That means nutritious, quick and easy meals will be more accessible for all neighbors.

in2ACTION

Jobpoint

POWERHOUSE
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Rainbow House

TEGER
PANTRY

TRUE NORTH
OF COLUMBIA

VAC

WELCOME HOME
A COMMUNITY FOR VETERANS

OUR \$7M GOAL

WILL BE A CATALYST FOR GOOD IN MID-MO

To join our community in doing good with The Food Bank Market, reach out to us:

The Food Bank Development Team

Phone: (573) 474-1020

Email: development@sharefoodbringhope.org

Learn more at sharefoodbringhope.org

