

89 North Jones Blvd.
North Liberty, IA, 52317



PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release – September 24, 2024

North Liberty Community Pantry Announces Groundbreaking for New Facility

North Liberty, IA – *The community is invited to join the North Liberty Community Pantry in breaking ground on a new 10,500 square foot facility at 350 W Penn St, North Liberty, IA 52317 on Tuesday, October 1, 2024 at 4:30pm.*

“We (the Pantry Board) are so excited to reach this step in the process and we are grateful for the support we have received from the community. We have discussed this project for quite some time and it is great to see it become a reality!” said Allison Bates, Pantry Board Member and Co-Chair of the Planting New Roots capital campaign.

Food insecurity has grown dramatically in recent years with the cost of food increasing by 28% since 2019, the reduction in food assistance to families in need, and other economic stressors. The North Liberty Community Pantry (NLCP) continues to see growing demand, serving 70% more families, distributing 103% more food, and distributing 454% more clothing items in just two years.

“Serving nearly 3,000 neighbors in less than 2,800 square feet has been impossible at times. To procure enough food to distribute, we have had to rely on local partners like Fareway and Field Day Brewing Company to temporarily store frozen meat until we have room to distribute it,” said Ryan Bobst, Executive Director of NLCP. “This new facility will be nearly four times as large, bring food and clothing under one roof, move us closer to many of the families we serve, create a private space to better serve families with needs beyond food and clothing, and allow for adequate storage capacity to meet the needs of our neighbors today and into the future.”

The Planting New Roots capital campaign is underway to raise \$4 million. Early supporters of this project include the City of North Liberty, Dan Bernacki, Corda Credit Union, GreenState Credit Union, Dave and Rita Roberts, and South Slope, among many other generous individuals and companies. The Planting New Roots campaign is ongoing. For more information on the campaign, visit: <https://www.nlcpantary.org/campaign>.

NLCP expects the new facility to open to the community during the summer of 2025.

About NLCP: The North Liberty Community Pantry engages our community in feeding, clothing, and connecting our neighbors to resources and services. NLCP is a completely free resource for anyone in North Liberty and rural Johnson County who need help with food, clothing, and toiletries. In 2023, NLCP distributed 588,386 pounds of food and 37,719 items of clothing to 930 families from North Liberty, Tiffin, Oxford, Solon, Swisher, Shueyville, Lone Tree, and Hills.

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CONTACT INFORMATION

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