

89 North Jones Blvd.
North Liberty, IA, 52317



PRESS RELEASE

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Planting New Roots: North Liberty Community Pantry Purchases Land for New Facility

North Liberty, IA – *The North Liberty Community Pantry has purchased the lot located at 350 W Penn St, North Liberty, IA 52317, to build a larger facility that will help the organization meet the community’s needs today and in the future.*

“The acquisition of this land marks a new chapter in the alleviation of food insecurity for our community. This new space is a commitment to and from our community that says, ‘We are here for each other.’ This new land and future building will give us the best opportunities to ensure that everyone in the community gets the food and clothing they need, no matter the circumstance,” said Beau Brown, NLCP Board Member and Co-Chair of NLCP’s Building Committee.

Food insecurity has grown dramatically over the last two years due to a combination of stressors, including increased inflation and an expiration of COVID-19 pandemic-era food assistance benefits. Since 2021, NLCP has seen a 69% increase in families served, a 103% increase in pounds of food distributed, a 454% increase in clothing items distributed, and a 593% increase in grocery deliveries made.

“We are serving nearly 3,000 individuals with less than 2,800 square feet of space. The Pantry transitioned from being a supplementary source of food before the COVID-19 Pandemic to the primary source of food for more than 80% of the families we serve,” said Ryan Bobst, Executive Director of NLCP. “This location moves us closer to many families we serve and connects us to the North Liberty Recreational Trail, which provides improved accessibility to our neighbors. There are three acres of land to build a 10,000 square foot facility and cultivate a larger garden with a future greenhouse or hoop house to grow winter produce.”

A capital campaign to raise funds needed for NLCP to Plant New Roots at 350 W Penn St is set to begin this summer, coinciding with the start of construction on the new facility.

About NLCP: The North Liberty Community Pantry engages our community in feeding, clothing, and connecting our neighbors to resources and services. The Pantry is a completely free resource for anyone in North Liberty and rural Johnson County who needs 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, Oxford, Solon, Tiffin, Swisher, and Shueyville.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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