



Community Connections

FY2023 Annual Report

Our Vision

A community without hunger.

Our Mission

The West Suburban Community Pantry (WSCP) offers food and resources to empower people to improve their quality of life.



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Looking Ahead



Dear Friends,

With your support, West Suburban Community Pantry is more than just a pantry, more than food. We are increasing nutrition security and serving as a bridge to vital resources, improving mental wellness—striving to improve the quality of people's lives.

As we look back on this past year, we are proud to have been able to serve the more than **110,000 individuals** who have visited and relied on our services – nearly a **70% increase from FY2022**. We have expanded Support Services, offering one-on-one counseling with onsite staff, putting us in a better place to help people achieve their goals and relieve the anxiety that can occur when experiencing a financial crisis. We have found new ways to reach people where they are through partner delivery sites. We've developed partnerships to increase fresh and nutritious produce – so that we always have the healthiest foods available.

We are all on this journey to help our community members holistically and together. In the following pages, we hope we have captured not just the how of what we do together with your support, but some of our why: helping our community thrive.

Thank you for your unwavering commitment to our community and our mission,

Suzanne Armato
Chief Executive Officer



Mary Hutchinson
Board Chair



How We Serve



- Our Values:**
- We are compassionate.
 - We are people-focused.
 - We have a “can do” spirit.
 - We operate with integrity.
 - We are visionary.

Who We Serve

Over 110,000 people visited West Suburban Community Pantry for food and support services from July 1, 2022, to June 30, 2023. That’s an average of more than **9,200 individuals each month**.

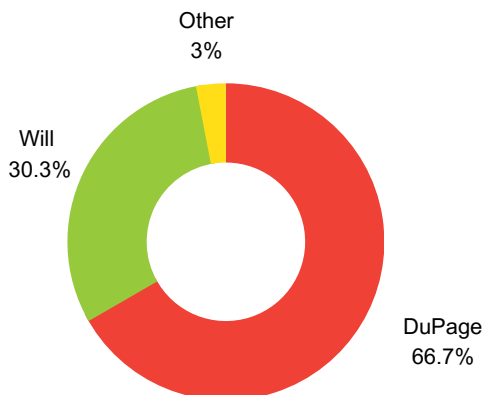


69.3% increase in customers from Fiscal Year 2022 to Fiscal Year 2023.

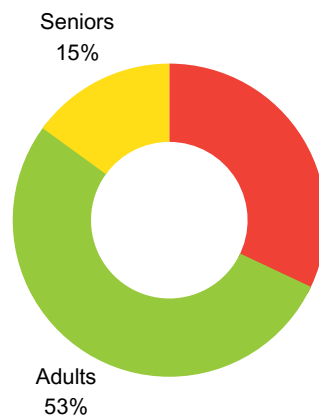


The people we serve speak at least **17 different** languages.

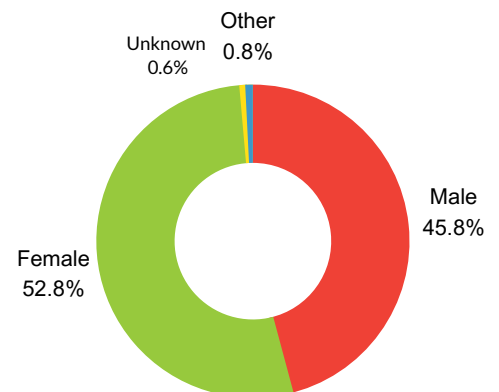
BY COUNTY



BY AGE



BY GENDER





2.8 million pounds
of food distributed to our neighbors

1 million pounds
more than in FY2022

Nearly
1/2
of the food we
provide is fresh
produce and
healthy foods

WHERE OUR FOOD COMES FROM

65%

Northern Illinois
Food Bank

27%

Food Rescue
Partners

6%

Community
Organizations

2%

Individuals from
our community



Paul Matsushima
Director of Pantry Operations



We've listened and responded to what our customers want most - **healthy foods and fresh produce.**



Pantry Operations

We are bold and innovative at West Suburban Community Pantry. Customers choose what is best for their families. We run a free grocery store and focus on the needs and wants of our customers.

WSCP reduces barriers to nutritious food access by offering groceries in different ways:

In-person shopping at our pantry store

Convenient online ordering with multiple partner pickup sites

An in-school pantry

Home delivery for older adults and patients leaving the hospital

Because of our customer-first focus:



We create a market experience where we offer culturally preferred foods, such as halal foods, to support our customers from around the globe.



We've expanded our inventory to meet special dietary needs with more non-dairy options, vegan items, and diabetic-friendly choices.



Our operations team intentionally added new partnerships like Sunterra Chicago and Strube Celery & Vegetable Company to help us offer more fresh vegetables and fruits, including organic options.



We added new freezers and refrigerators, store shelving, and produce displays to make our store even more welcoming. Customers can now better see and select meat, eggs, and dairy products for their families and shopping is just like a grocery store.

7162

Total online orders placed and fulfilled

7500+

DoorDash package deliveries

Over
2000

Pounds of fresh produce from Garden Clubs

311

Birthday Bags distributed

1343

Holiday hams distributed

871

Thanksgiving turkeys distributed



For the past five years, Larry has volunteered as part of WSCP's **Senior Home Delivery** program. He takes extra care to shop for Effie. He gets her grocery order ready and then delivers it. But more than groceries, Effie and Larry now have a friendship. They trade family recipes and stories.

It's become a monthly interaction they both look forward to.

Support Services

Last year, we strategically invested in the expansion of support services to ensure we can address barriers and increase the quality of life. Our Support Services team connects with local families and individuals, offering one-on-one counseling with our onsite staff, free educational programming in five core areas, and care management.

Support Services provides connections to more than **80 community partners**; help finding employment and applying for public programs, like SNAP and utility bill assistance.

Our Support Services offer:



Care Management



Mental Health Counseling



Wellness Programming

2043

People utilized Support Services to improve their quality of life

\$210,000+

unlocked in resources for customers

19

Customer Resource Tables hosted

Brief Crisis Intervention personal counseling added to Support Services

34

Free Educational Classes offered



Zumba was so fun. The instructor even made it so that I could do chair Zumba! I was so energized. Now I keep up on my own and I'm more energetic everyday.



— Marta, WSCP Customer





Gerard had been meeting with Kristin, our Director of Support Services, for personal counseling. He was experiencing frequent anxiety and was also feeling depressed - after working his entire life, a recent layoff at his company had left him unemployed for over a year. He wasn't feeling well and had a hard time identifying how to move forward. He felt stuck.

“ When I first met with Kristin, I was tired a lot and didn't feel at my best. She helped connect me with free medical care and they discovered I had a serious heart issue. That saved my life! I'm doing the right things to take care of myself now. And I finally have some good job prospects.

– Gerard, WSCP Customer

”



Nancy Chatterjee
Support Services Coordinator

“ Food insecurity is usually a culmination of a multitude of factors that may lead to a downward spiral when trying to sustain your lifestyle. Through support services we attempt to ascertain the needs that may arise during a time of financial crisis and address viable solutions through community resources and partnerships.

”

Partners Spotlight

Catholic Charities

In the past year, WSCP and Catholic Charities have seen nearly **double the amount of people**.

This past year, thanks to a grant from the DuPage Community Transformation Partnership Fund, WSCP and Catholic Charities have partnered to provide nutritious groceries through WSCP's online ordering system. Now, families can shop online as they are visiting with their case worker at Catholic Charities.

“The West Suburban Community Pantry has given our clients the convenience to pick up at our location,” says Rory O’Brochta, emergency services supervisor for Catholic Charities, Diocese of Joliet. “Our relationship has eased the stigma and hesitation of going to a food pantry for many.”

People like John no longer have to worry about where their next meal will come from. “John spends most of his monthly earnings on rent, utilities, and transportation to and from work”, O’Brochta says. When he came to pick up his first free online grocery order from WSCP at the Catholic Charities location, he had tears in his eyes.

“He was even going to invite his sister over for dinner,” O’Brochta says. **“This made my day.”**

Advocate Good Samaritan

As a part of expanding our online ordering this year, WSCP partnered with Advocate Good Samaritan to help patients place food orders before they check out from the hospital. Patients who may not have the resources are met with a box of healthy foods, as they arrive home, to help with their recovery.



“Good Samaritan has been really committed to investing in the needs of the community - we are focusing in on health equity. Breaking down barriers for people we serve who are food insecure is just one more way for us to support the overall health of our community. “

Elvis E. Munoz, MHA
Director, Community Health Central
Chicagoland PSA
Advocate Illinois Masonic Medical Center
Advocate Lutheran General Hospital
Advocate Good Samaritan Hospital

Volunteers Make a Difference

We couldn't do what we do without our volunteers. Their smiles and compassion drive the welcoming atmosphere WSCP has become known for. Thank you!

37,484

Volunteer hours worked

722

Volunteers total

133

Volunteers contribute
1+ shift/week



“

I enjoy coming to the pantry. It helps to keep me active and makes me feel a part of something positive. Besides I have met many very good people. I feel very lucky to be a part.

”

- Walter, WSCP Volunteer

Volunteers with over 100 Hours

Ann Adkesson
Melody Anderson
Rick Anderson
Dan Artl
Miranda Aufmann
Sue Barrett
Kevin Bartlett
Tori Bates
Yoko Bessho
Martin Bryant
Suzan Campbell
David Cappa
Kathleen Carroll
Kimberly Castner
Debbie Collins
John Corcoran
Nathanael Cornman
Maria Coronado
Keagan Cummings
Hellene Delgado
Sue Dolezal
Kris Donofrio

Samantha Drake
Terry Egan
Kathleen Emmerson
Tim Emmerson
Jill Enari
Fran Foley
Kathleen Furgala
Yamuna Ghosh
Beth Glasser
Spencer Haligas
Hungwen Hardage
Steve Haverkos
Lorraine Head
Terri Hein
Debbie Holliday
Ramona Hopkins
Jeff Horvath
Sandra Iannone
Denise Ikoma
Jean Ives
Carol Jablonski
Ray-Gilles Janssens

Joe Jobst
Paul Julien
Donald Kinnunen
Barb Koren
Bill Lebensorger
Larry Ledenbach
Dennis Lisauskas
Sue Loveday
John Majewski
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Diane McKillip
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Kyle McMillan
Cathy Mehl
Karen Menconi
Christine Miller
Marjorie Mohrhussen
Nakeya Narine
Linda Noga

Steve Novotny
Walter Null
Bonnie Parchert
Linda Pasieta
Margi Patrick
Jonathan Perez
Jim Peters
Kathy Peters
Jan Peterson
Kathy Peters
Jan Peterson
Natalie Ramirez
Kevin Ranalli
Robert Rhodes
Richard Rice
Robert Rogers
Patricia Rosinski
Joan Ruth
Maria Sanchez
Terri Sasnau
Art Sheridan
Jeanne Sheridan

Miglana Slavova
Catherine Smith
Terrie Smith
Joanne Sterioti
Chuck Strohm
Fran Strohm
Diane Stutte
Christine Tabora
Alan Tangney
Diane Thompson
Maria Townsend
Robert Traub
Susan Vanderwiel
Randy Wagner
Bette Ward
Mike Watson
Ryan Whitehouse
Lloyd Wilkey
Jacob Wych
Lori Zaliauskas



Food Rescue Partners

Thanks to our corporate partners who donated **over 780,000 pounds** of surplus food and supplies, which we were able to redistribute to local families. We couldn't do it without our volunteer drivers!



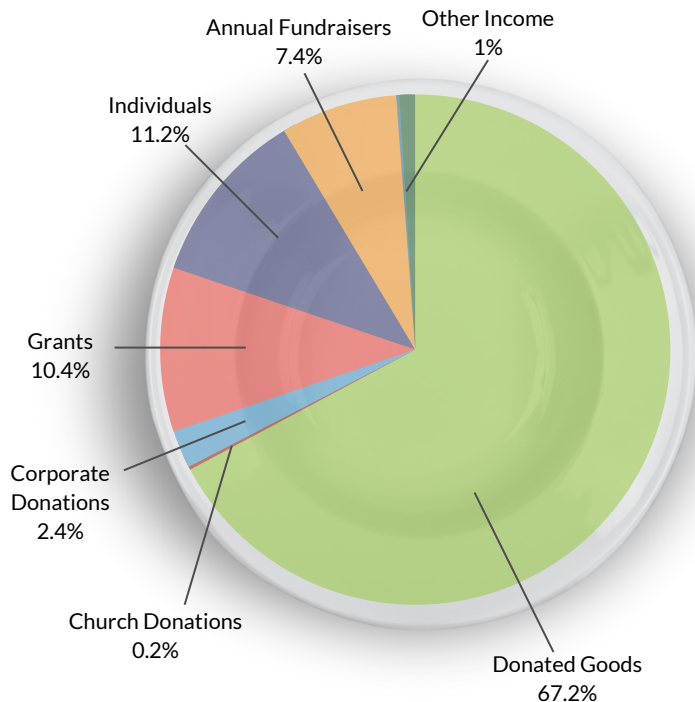
Misfits Market



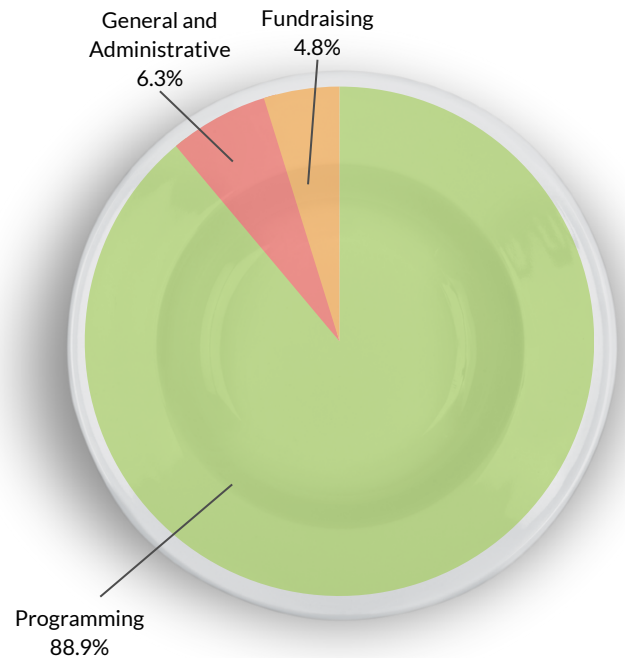
Home Juice Village IV

Finances

FY2023 Revenue



FY2023 Expenses



ASSETS:

Cash and cash equivalents	\$482,669
Certificates of deposit	\$658,110
Property and equipment, net	\$1,025,688

TOTAL ASSETS \$2,166,467

LIABILITIES:

Conditional promises to give	\$500,000
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NET ASSETS:

Without donor restrictions	\$1,501,609
With donor restrictions	\$164,858

TOTAL NET ASSETS: \$1,666,467

TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS: \$2,166,467



Ramona
WSCP Volunteer

“ For a few hours a week, I put my personal life on hold to help serve families in my surrounding community who are currently experiencing food insecurities or other family problems. Those few hours have turned into weeks, months, and years. I have found that I have significantly benefited from the people I meet, and these experiences have enriched my life twofold. ”

Supporter Story

Skeleton Key Brewery

Emily and Paul Slayton founded Skeleton Key Brewery 7 years ago on the principles of community and generosity. It wasn't just about brewing great beer - opening their business meant opening doors for their community and other businesses.

Since opening, they've helped 3 neighborhood microbreweries get started. They teach at the College of DuPage and offer classes on-site at their brewery. Their commitment to help fight local hunger has grown significantly in this past year.

In addition to being West Suburban Community Pantry volunteers, Skeleton Key owners Emily and Paul Slayton have encouraged our entire community to join their brewery volunteer team. They've hosted a food drive and helped to harvest fresh garden vegetables to share with people who need them. They've opened their brewery as a spot for people to drop off surplus home-grown produce which Emily and Paul then deliver to WSCP.



“We wanted to focus our efforts, have a meaningful connection to the causes that matter to us, and have a measurable impact.”

- Emily Slayton, Co-Owner Skeleton Key Brewery

They've even brewed a special beer to help increase access to nutritious foods in our community. All sales from Skeleton Key's **“Growing for Good” India Pale Ale** benefit West Suburban Community Pantry and the GardenWorks Project.



Key Supporters

Individuals

\$20,000+

Robert and Patricia
Wheeler
Barbara Gulick
Joseph and Kathy D'Amico
Nick and Teresa Ryan

\$10,000 - \$19,999

Deborah Loftus
Fran and Chuck Strohm
John and Nancy Hartung
Rich and Wendy Galgano

\$5,000 - \$9,999

Thomas and Stephanie
Marsh
Michael and Mary
Hutchinson
Jason Laning
Steve and Gayle Szpytek
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Sara Farrero
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Loftus
Randy and Cindy Hanson
Irene Fox
Jim and Mary Fran Dite
Gregory and Lynn Wenzel
Darren and Miriam Qunell
Peter and Gretchen
D'Amico
Henry and Sandy Gentry
James and Andrea Thome
Richard and Donna Bauer

\$2,500 - \$4,999

Andrew and Leah Margulies
Michael and Dawn Tenuta
Linda Bergstrom
Fernando and Diane M
Esparza
Janet Ulmer
Amit and Preeti Philip

Samuel Armato III and
Suzanne Armato
Margaret Kunkel
Sara and AJ Stolmeier
Abby and Alex Pirayof
Donald and Amanda Cooling
Lenore Speight
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Tom and Coni Ruggio
Jonathan Helmus
Gene and Suzanne Mraz
Jennifer Bradburn
Michael Kelly
Janet Mizia
Dennis and Kathleen Webb
Kevin and Deborah Wirth
Robert and Cindy Wunderlich

Businesses & Organizations

\$20,000+

Ronald L. McDaniel
Foundation
Ann and Victor Pokorny
Memorial Fund
Dan Gibbons Turkey Trot
Foundation
Old National Bank
Anonymous
Robert F. Girgis, D.D.S. Ltd.
Windy City Wire LLC
NorthStar Wealth Group
Western Cullen-Hayes, Inc.
Enterprise Rent-A-Car
Marquette Companies

\$10,000 - \$19,999

Old National Bank
Anonymous
Robert F. Girgis, D.D.S. Ltd.
Windy City Wire LLC
NorthStar Wealth Group
Western Cullen-Hayes, Inc.
Enterprise Rent-A-Car
Marquette Companies

\$5,000 - \$9,999

The Compass Church
Perma-Seal Basement Systems
Leeco Steel LLC
Lisle Savings Bank
Giving Farm
Smaltec International

\$2,500 - \$4,999

Webit Services, Inc.
Illinois American Water
Downers Sand Club Corporation
john greene Real Estate
Woodridge United Methodist Church
Clune Construction
St. Procopius Abbey
Walmart
Wynright Corporation
Boerman Moving & Storage
GreenState Credit Union

Grantors

Advocate Health Care
Alfred Bersted Foundation
Chicago Community
Foundation
CIBC Bank USA
Community Foundation of
Will County
Conagra Brands
Foundation
CVS Health Foundation
Dr. Scholl Foundation
DuPage Community
Transformation
Partnership Fund
DuPage Foundation
DuPage Medical Group
Charitable Fund of DuPage
Foundation
Hinsdale Junior Woman's
Club
Lisle Community Service
Corporation
Naperville Bank & Trust
Naperville Noon Rotary
Nordstrom Cares
Northern Illinois Food Bank
Rotary Club Naperville
Sunrise
S.L. Gimbel Foundation
Sommer Brothers
Charitable Fund
Walmart
Wheaton Franciscan Sisters
Ministry Fund
Wilton Helping Hands

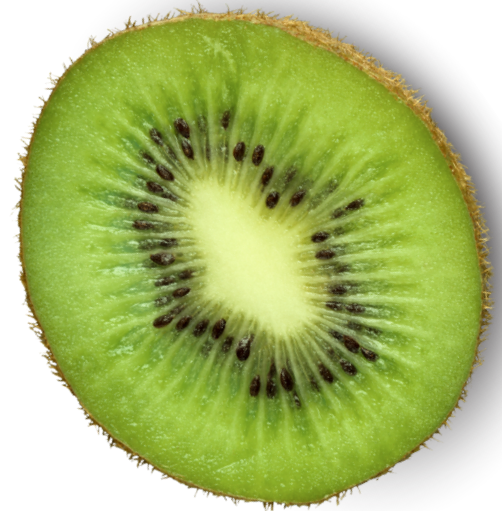
Key Supporters

Monthly Donors

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Genna Werner
Nate Wiercioch
Clarence Winston, Jr.
Robert and Cindy Wunderlich





THANK YOU!

Donate. Volunteer. Get Involved.



Learn more about ways to
get involved at
wspantry.org

Shopping Hours

Tuesday: 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM (by appt.),
1:00 - 3:00 PM

Thursday: 9:30 AM - 1:30 PM,
5:00 - 7:30 PM

Saturday: 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Donation Hours

Monday - Friday: 8:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Saturday: 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM

