

# **The Food Pantries for the Capital District Basic Needs Resource Guide**



**Find Help Where You Need It:  
Rensselaer County**

*Thank you to our sponsor:*



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Pantries for the Capital District**

**The Food Pantries for the Capital District  
d/b/a The Food Pantries  
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Albany, NY 12206  
518-458-1167  
pantries@thefoodpantries.org  
www.TheFoodPantries.org**



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\* Discounted rates are dependent on subsidy eligibility and are not available in all counties. Individual premium rate may vary.

## Hotline and Service Referral List

<b>AIDS Counseling and Testing</b>	
<i>For Referrals</i>	(800) 541-2437
<i>For Counseling</i>	(800) 872-2777
<b>Al-Anon</b> <i>for Friends and Families of Alcoholics</i>	(518) 292-0577
<b>Alcoholics Anonymous</b>	(518) 463-0906
<b>Alcoholism and Substance Abuse (NYS Council)</b>	(800) 553-5790
<b>Cancer Services (NYS)</b>	(866) 442-2262
<b>Child Abuse (Prevention)</b>	(518) 447-7177
<b>Child Abuse Hotline (National)*</b>	(800) 422-4453
<b>Child Health Plus (NYS)</b>	(800) 698-4543
<b>Children and Family Services (NYS Office)</b>	(800) 345-5437
<b>Crime Victims Assistance</b>	(518) 855-2263
<b>Domestic Violence Assistance (Unity House)</b>	(518) 273-8255
<b>Domestic Violence Hotline (Equinox)*</b>	(518) 432-7865
<b>Domestic Violence Hotline (Wellspring)*</b>	(518) 584-8188
<b>Eldercare Locator</b>	(800) 677-1116
<b>The Food Pantries for the Capital District</b>	(518) 458-1167
<b>Human Trafficking Hotline (National)*</b>	(888) 373-7888
<b>Hunger Hotline (USDA National)</b>	(866) 3-HUNGRY
	(866) 348-6479
<b>Hunger Hotline (USDA National Español)</b>	(877) 8-HAMBRE
	(877) 842-6273

\*24 hour hotlines and referrals

LGBT Domestic Violence Hotline (In Our Own Voices)	(518) 432-4341
Meals on Wheels <i>Home Delivered Meals for Seniors</i>	(518) 363-4020
Medicaid	(518) 884-4148
Narcotics Anonymous	(888) 319-2606
Poison Control*	(800) 222-1222
Psychiatric Center (Capital District Psychiatric Center)	(518) 447-9611
Psychiatric Crisis - Mobile Unit	(800) 543-3720
Rape Crisis Hotline	(518) 447-7716
Social Security Administration	(866) 253-9183
Summer Food Program (USDA)	(518) 380-5583
Suicide Prevention Hotline (National) *	(800) 273-8255

**This is not a comprehensive list,  
for more information regarding  
human service and support agencies please call:**

**United Way: Dial 211**

**For Emergencies: Dial 911**

**\*24 hour hotlines and referrals**

# RENSSELAER COUNTY

## Rensselaer Food Assistance

To find the pantry that serves your neighborhood call:

**The Food Pantries for the Capital District - (518) 458-1167**

For SNAP (Food Stamp) eligibility prescreening and application information:

**NOEP Rensselaer (Nutrition Outreach and Education Program) - (518) 274-2607**

**SNAP Rensselaer (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) - (518) 266-7800**

Information about the Women, Infants, and Children Program (WIC):

**Albany Women's Health Center of Albany Med. College - (518) 432-4033, 220 Green St.**

Information about Summer Meals:

**Dial 211, or text "Food" to 877-877**

## Rensselaer Medical Assistance

Alight Care Center	(518) 270-5540	Victorious Life 1838 Fifth Avenue, Troy
Cancer Services of Rensselaer	(518) 525-8680	Call for Locations
Circles of Mercy	(518) 462-0899	11 Washington St, Rensselaer
The Community Hospice	(518) 724-0242	295 Valley View Blvd, Rensselaer
Healthy Families Rensselaer County	(518) 274-1279	2215 Burdett Ave, Troy
Planned Parenthood of Troy	(518) 434-5678	200 Broadway, Troy
Rensselaer County Cancer Services Program	(518) 525-8680	Free Cancer Screening
Rensselaer County Health Dept.	(518) 270-2655	1600 7th Avenue Troy
Troy Damien Center (For HIV/AIDS Patients Only)	(518) 274-5920 ext. 206	392 2nd St, Troy
Whitney M. Young Jr. Health Services	(518) 833-6900	6 102nd St, Troy

## Rensselaer Community Meals

### LUNCH

Mon-Fri	11:30 AM - 1:00 PM	Unity House of Troy	2431 6th Ave, Troy (518) 272-2352
Thurs, Fri	12:00 PM - 1:00 PM	Damien Center of Troy	392 2nd St, Troy (518) 274-5920 ext. 206

### DINNER

Mon & Fri	4:00 PM - 5:00 PM	Salvation Army Troy	410 River St, Troy(518) 272-4901
Mon	6:00 PM - 7:00 PM	Damien Center of Troy	392 2nd St, Troy (518) 274-5920 ext. 206
Wed	4:00 PM - 6:00 PM	Victorious Life Church	1838 5th Ave, Troy (518) 272-4237
Wed	5:30-7:00 PM	Wynanstown Reformed Church	413 Main Ave, Wynanstown (518) 283-4420
Thursday	6:00 PM - 7:00 PM	YWCA of the Capital District	21 1st St, Troy (518) 274-7100
Last Saturday of the Month	1:00 PM - 3:00 PM	Bethel Baptist Church	2165 5th Ave, Troy (518) 274-4303
4th Saturday of the Month	12:00 PM - 3:00 PM	Faith and Love Fellowship	85 Washington Ave, Troy (518) 436-0114
4th Sunday of the Month, Jan - Nov	1:00 PM - 3:00 PM	Blooming Grove Reformed Church	706 Bloomingrove Dr., Rensselaer (518) 286-2910

## Rensselaer Community Resources

Commission on Economic Opportunity	(518) 272-6159	2331 5th Ave, Troy
Legal Aid Society	(518) 462-6765	55 Colvin Avenue, Albany
Nassau Resource Center	(518) 766-9014	15 Church St, Nassau
TRIP (Troy Rehabilitation and Improvement Program)	(518) 272-8289	415 River St, Troy
Unity House of Troy	(518) 274-2607	2431 Sixth Ave, Troy

## Rensselaer County Social Services

Rensselaer County DSS	(518) 266-7835	547 River Street, Troy
DSS Adult Protective Services - Rensselaer	(518) 266-7900	547 River Street, Troy

## Rensselaer Housing and Shelter Assistance

Home Heating Assistance H.E.A.P.	(518) 266-7960	547 River Street, Troy
Joseph's House & Shelter	(518) 272-2544	74 Ferry St, Troy
St. Paul's Center (Families Only)	(518) 434-2910	947 3rd St, Rensselaer
Troy Housing Authority	(518) 273-3600	1 Eddys Lane, Troy

## Rensselaer Clothing and Furniture Assistance

Circles of Mercy - Catherine's Closet	(518) 462-0899	11 Washington St, Rensselaer
Doors of Hope	(518) 674-4048	4351 Route 150, West Sand Lake
Faith & Love Thrift Store	(518) 436-0114	85 Washington Ave, Rensselaer
ReStyle (Unity House)	(518) 274-2607	2431 6th Ave, Troy
T.A.U.M. (Troy Area United Ministries)	(518) 274-5920 ext. 204	392 2nd St, Troy

*\*Price points may vary - call ahead for availability and pricing*



## **The Food Pantries for the Capital District**

**Mission:** To address hunger in the Capital District through our member food pantries. We support our members by providing funding, purchasing, collecting and delivering food. We provide a forum for networking, coordination of services, education and training.



**Vision:** A dynamic network of well-stocked food pantries nourishing our hungry neighbors in the Capital District.

### **ABOUT HUNGER IN THE CAPITAL DISTRICT**

According to Feeding America, more than 2.67 million children and adults in New York are food insecure. Essentially, more than 13.5% of the population of NY do not have enough food to meet basic nutritional needs.

#### **New York State and Capital District hunger statistics (2015)**

##### **New York State**

12.6% of total population = 2,502,250 people are food insecure

19.4% of children = 819,460 infants and children are food insecure

##### **Albany County**

13.0% of total population = 40,070 people are food insecure

17.3% of children = 10,230 infants and children are food insecure

##### **Rensselaer County**

11.7% of total population = 18,720 people are food insecure

19.1% of children = 6,250 infants and children are food insecure

##### **Saratoga County**

8.8% of total population = 19,760 people are food insecure

15.6% of children = 7,520 infants and children are food insecure

##### **Schenectady County**

11.8% of total population = 18,210 people are food insecure

18.7% of children = 6,380 infants and children are food insecure

### **TRUTH AND MYTH OF THE SNAP (formerly called food stamps) PROGRAM**

**MYTH-SNAP** provides enough food to the hungry

**TRUTH-On average, 41.5% of the hungry in our 4 counties do not qualify for SNAP, according to Feeding America**

**TRUTH-benefits typically supply enough food for only 3 weeks of the month**

**TRUTH-Snap only provides approximately a \$4.67 per day food allowance, according to Center on Budget and Policy Priorities**

**TRUTH-Some people who are food insecure do not want to apply for SNAP—they just need short-term assistance or only visit a pantry to fill a gap in income**

### **ABOUT THE FOOD PANTRIES—QUICK FACTS**

- The Food Pantries is a coalition of more than 60 food pantries
- Our service area is Albany, Rensselaer, Saratoga, and Schenectady Counties
- The Food Pantries was founded in 1979.
- We collect food from food drives for free distribution to our member pantries
- The community can help by hosting Food and Fund Drives
- \$1 can help provide 6.25 pounds of food to the hungry
- All of the services we provide to our members are completely free for them to utilize



### **HOW THE FOOD PANTRIES HELPS FEED THE HUNGRY IN OUR COMMUNITIES**

**In 2016, we helped fund, collect and deliver enough food for more than 2.7 million meals and 274,754 pantry visits**

**Delivery Service**—1,380 tons of food delivered to our member pantries

**Food Drives**—241,812 pounds of food collected

**Infant Needs**— 108,772 diapers and 1,721 cans of formula distributed

**Food Funding**—Money is put on account at the food bank for the food pantries to pay for food, and we purchase milk vouchers, grocery store gift certificates and produce gift certificates.

**Information and Referrals**— 1,511 people were referred to pantry services and additional programs.

### **WHO WE SERVE THROUGH OUR MEMBER PANTRIES (2016 Numbers and Statistics)**

Approximately 47,088 people access food from our member food pantries each year. On average, an individual visits a pantry approximately 5 times each year. Some use a food pantry in the event of a crisis and some need food pantries to alleviate a chronic state of food insecurity.

**100,252 pantry visits by infants and children (ages 0-17)**

**152,466 pantry visits by adults (ages 18-59)**

**22,036 pantry visits by senior citizens (ages 60+)**

**We are maintaining the highest service levels in our coalition's history**