Midland County Food Assistance Network

August 2025

MCFAN

Always Food in Every Home

Volunteers = The Heart of MCFAN

Volunteer (verb): To do something willingly and without being forced or paid, often for the benefit of others or an organization.

At MCFAN, volunteers are truly the heart of our mission. They are the unsung heroes who make everything we do possible, some serving clients directly, others working tirelessly behind the scenes.

Through our many programs—pantries, mobile food distributions, school programs, inventory management, stocking shelves, shopping, nutrition education, packing boxes, and hosting food collections—our volunteers make a difference every single day.

Did you know we have over 400 volunteers logging over 16,095 hours in 2024? That's an incredible amount of time and dedication poured into making sure no one in Midland County goes hungry.

MCFAN exists because of the passion and commitment of those who give so generously of their time. Your willingness ensures that our community and neighbors are fed.

If you feel called to become a MCFAN volunteer, we have plenty of opportunities—both big and small! We would love you to join us in serving with compassion and purpose.

Together, we can fulfill our mission: Always Food in Every Home.

Terrah Johnson- Managing Director

People Helping People in Action

A Glimpse Into MCFAN: Powered by Donors & Volunteers

Donice from Corteva Agriscience, Jeff from Midland's Open Door, and a dedicated team of volunteers came together to pack 50 blue care bags filled with food and care items. Thanks to generous partners and donors, these bags were shared with Midland's Open Door. At MCFAN, our mission of "Food in Every Home, People Helping People" is only possible because of the incredible volunteers who make us who we are.

PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT

VENISON PROGRAM

Through a unique partnership with the Chippewa Nature Center, MCFAN receives deer harvested on the Nature Center property to help feed families in need. After harvest, the deer are processed by a licensed processor, and the venison is distributed to our clients. This collaboration provides a cost-efficient source of lean protein, prevents waste, and strengthens community partnerships.

To keep this program running, **we often seek help covering processing fees**. **If you know of any outdoor organizations, sportsman's clubs, or individuals who would like to support this effort, please send them our way!**

MCFAN also operates an independent Venison Program, accepting donations of deer from the public. Deer can be delivered to:

784 South Poseyville Road, Midland, MI

For more details about donating a deer or sponsoring processing fees, please call 989-486-9393.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Fall Fun at Grandma's Pumpkin Patch

MCFAN is thrilled to partner with Grandma's Pumpkin Patch this fall season! Here's how you can enjoy some autumn fun while making a difference in our community:

Bring 3 non-perishable food items and receive $1 off admission to the patch. AND/OR Join the 2-Mile Fun Run/Walk through the patch on Saturday, September 18. Please visit www.grandmaspumpkinpatch.com to register.

Grandma's Pumpkin Patch is open seasonally Sept 20th - Oct 30th, 2025. By visiting Grandma's Pumpkin Patch and participating in these activities, you're also supporting MCFAN's mission to ensure Always Food in Every Home.

Midland's sixth annual Canstruction® event will take place November 5–9, 2025, at the Midland Mall. This unique event features teams from local schools who will design and build stunning sculptures made entirely out of cans of food—all to raise awareness about hunger in our community.

The food-themed build day will take place on Wednesday, November 5, and the completed sculptures will remain on display through 12:30 p.m. on Sunday, November 9.

When the event wraps up, all cans used in the sculptures will be donated to Midland County Food Assistance Network (MCFAN) and distributed to families in need—turning creativity into nourishment for our neighbors.

BACKPACK BUDDIES

Filling Bellies & Fueling Learning

While some kids might complain about school lunches, others are simply grateful to have a meal because they know there's little food at home. For those children, weekends would be especially challenging—if not for the Backpack Buddies program.

Backpack Buddies operates in all Midland County elementary schools and preschools, providing a safety net for children who are considered "food insecure." Each Friday from October through May, students enrolled in the program receive a backpack containing enough food for six weekend meals.

Eligibility is simple: children in Midland Public Schools qualify if they receive free or reduced-price school lunches, live in a household receiving food benefits, or participate in WIC assistance.

In 2025, an average of 762 Midland County students participated in the program each week. Enrollment forms will go home during the first week of school and will also be available in school offices. Teachers tell us that many children are better behaved and more attentive in class after receiving weekend food support.

Join Us in Ending Weekend Hunger - One Backpack at a Time

This program would not be possible without the dedicated volunteers who pack and distribute the food every week. Their efforts ensure that no child goes hungry when school doors close for the weekend. Together, we can continue to fight childhood hunger in our community—one backpack at a time.

To join, please contact your student's school. Flyers are in school offices.

Ladies Professional Golf Association

Teaming Up with the Dow Championship!

This summer, we were thrilled to #TeamUp with the Dow Championship for the GLBR Charity Giveback Program! Midland County Food Assistance Network was proud to be one of 36 regional nonprofit organizations selected for this exciting initiative.
Each nonprofit was randomly paired with a team competing in the tournament, and we had the honor of cheering on Lexi Thompson and Megan Khang!
The Dow Championship, an official LPGA Tour event, took place in Midland, Michigan, from June 23–29, 2025.
We're thrilled to share that Team Thompson and Khang finished in 2nd place—a huge congratulations to these incredible athletes! It was such a privilege to cheer them on.
In addition to the excitement on the course, the LPGA made a remarkable impact off the course by donating $1.5 million to the Meijer Simply Give program, and MCFAN was honored to receive a portion of those funds.
Thank you to the Dow Championship and all involved for making this partnership such a success. Together, we're driving hunger out of Midland County—one swing at a time!

Midland County Food Assistance Network Locations

Bullock Creek Outreach Pantry
at Messiah Lutheran Church
1550 S. Poseyville Rd.
989-631-5200

Greater Midland Coleman Family Center
4839 N. Coleman Schools Dr.
989-486-9393

Wheeler Road Church of Christ
1123 E. Wheeler St.
989-835-8559

Greater Midland North Family Center
2601. E. Shearer Rd.
989-689-7770

HELP Pantry at Memorial Presbyterian Church
1310 Ashman St.
989-835-6759

SAMS Pantry hosted by St. Johns Episcopal
503 S. Saginaw Rd.
989-631-2260

Sanford Pantry at Sanford United Methodist Church
2560 N. West River Rd.
989-687-5353

West Midland Family Center
4011 W. Isabella Rd.
989-832-3256

MCFAN Warehouse
503 S. Saginaw Rd.
989-486-9393

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