Midland County Food Assistance Network

September 2026

MCFAN

Always Food in Every Home

YOU DON'T HAVE TO WRITE A CHECK TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

When we think about giving, we often think about money. While financial donations are incredibly important to MCFAN, giving comes in many forms—and every one of them can make a difference. You can give your time, talent, food, creativity, connections, or financial support. There is a way for everyone to help!

Food drives don't have to mean putting out a box and hoping people remember to donate. Turn your next collection into a challenge, competition, or community event!

- **Classroom Challenge:** Have classrooms compete to collect the most food. Offer a fun prize to the winning class!
- **Fill the Cart:** Set a goal to fill a certain number of grocery carts and watch your collection grow.
- **Food as Admission:** Hosting a concert, movie night, school dance, or sporting event? Make admission a food donation!
- **Bring a Can, Wear Jeans:** Employees or students can bring a few food items in exchange for a fun dress-down day.
- **Birthday Food Drive:** Ask guests to bring a food donation instead of a birthday gift.
- **Themed Food Drives:** Try a "Breakfast Drive," "Kid Favorites," or "Dinner Essentials" challenge.
- **Workplace Challenge:** Choose a different food item to collect each month. Small collections can add up quickly!
- **The One Extra Challenge:** The next time you shop, pick up one extra item for a neighbor in need. One can, one box, or one jar may seem small—but together, our community can make a BIG impact.

Together, we can make a difference. There is no single "right" way to give. What matters is that we look out for one another.

The next time you wonder, "How can I help?" remember: You don't have to write a check to make a difference. Give what you can. Give where you can. Help us make sure no neighbor in Midland County faces hunger alone.

TERRAH JOHNSON
MANAGING DIRECTOR

People Helping People in Action

Over 100 local families fed, 3+ shopping carts overflowing with school supplies, and one stuffed school bus! Dow High and Midland High students organized a school supply and food collection event held at Midland Kroger; the food received during the event was donated to MCFAN. A big shout-out to the students, the MPS Transportation crew for handling bus duty, and our partners at the Midland Kroger and WNEMTV5news.

PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT

CANSTRUCTION

Build. Create. Give Back.

Do you love STEM? Have a creative bone in your body? Love to organize? Enjoy volunteering and being part of something fun?

MCFAN's annual **CANSTRUCTION** fundraising event is coming up the first week of November, and we are looking for volunteers to help make this year's event a success.

CANSTRUCTION brings together local middle school and high school students to compete in building incredible sculptures made entirely from canned food. The best part? When the competition is over, ALL of that food is donated to **MCFAN** and stays right here in Midland County to help feed our neighbors.

We are looking for volunteers to help with ANY part of the event, including:

- Planning and organizing
- Creative/STEM ideas
- Helping students and teams
- Event-day assistance
- Set-up and tear-down
- Deconstruction and sorting food afterward
- Or anything else you think you can bring to the table!

The commitment is small, and we will take as little or as much help as you are able to give. Whether you can help with planning over the next few months, volunteer for the day of the event, or lend a hand with deconstruction afterward—we would LOVE to have you!

Come be part of an event that is fun, creative, brings our community together, AND helps put food on the tables of our Midland County neighbors.

Interested in joining the **CANSTRUCTION** Committee?
Contact Terrah: **manager@midlandcountyefpn.org**, **989-486-9393 ext. 3**

One simple change that can make a big difference

We're currently accepting donations of **gently used reusable bags** to help our clients who rely on Dial-A-Ride. These bags ensure proper delivery of food while riding the bus.

Donations can be dropped off:

- Warehouse: 503 S. Saginaw Rd.
- Bin located behind the building (off Cambridge Rd)

Thank you for helping us make transportation easier and more sustainable for those we serve.

CANSTRUCTION SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Help build a stronger community while supporting local hunger relief.

Interested in sponsoring CANSTRUCTION? Contact Terrah at manager@midlandcountyefpn.org or 989-486-9393 ext. 3.

DID YOU KNOW?

Did you know we have a food donation drop-off box?

We're always accepting non-perishable items;
every donation makes a difference!

503 S. Saginaw Rd
Located behind the building off Cambridge St.

EMPTY BOWLS

Empty Bowls is a worldwide grassroots movement by potters to raise money to end food scarcity. Thanks to our collaboration with Studio School and Midland Center for the Arts. We are inviting you to join us for a meaningful (and delicious!) day in support of hunger relief across the region. As the culmination of the annual **Build-A-Bowl event**, a $35 ticket will let you enjoy a soup-and-bread buffet from local restaurants and bakeries, plus your choice of a one-of-a-kind bowl made by local artists, students, or volunteers. Proceeds benefit **Midland County Food Assistance Network.**

This event takes place in the Community Rooms at **Midland Center for the Arts.** Tables and seating will be available for guests to relax, enjoy the food, and community conversation. Please visit midlandcenter.org to purchase a ticket.

Creating for a Cause

On August 26, **Health Advantage Credit Union** teamed up with **Midland Center for the Arts** to create handmade bowls for Empty Bowls. We're grateful for all the hands that come together to make this meaningful event possible and support hunger relief in our community.

Help Us Put Venison on the Table

Through a partnership with the Chippewa Nature Center, MCFAN receives harvested deer to help provide nutritious protein to families in need throughout Midland County. After harvest, donated deer are taken to a licensed processor, where the venison is prepared and packaged before being distributed to MCFAN clients.

MCFAN also operates an independent Venison Program, accepting deer donations directly from the public. Every donated deer helps provide valuable protein to local families facing food insecurity.

Deer Drop-Off Location:
784 S. Poseyville Road
Midland, MI
Questions or more information:
989-486-9393

MIDLAND COUNTY FOOD ASSISTANCE NETWORK LOCATIONS

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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