



For Immediate Release
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Jonnycake Center of Westerly Receives \$2,000 Community Emergency Response Grant from TCC Gives

Westerly, RI – TCC Gives, a 501(c)3 non-profit organization affiliated with TCC Verizon Wireless Authorized Retail, has selected the Jonnycake Center of Westerly to receive **\$2,000 in Community Emergency Response funding**. These funds will be utilized by the Jonnycake Center of Westerly to purchase and distribute crucial food supplies to Westerly-area neighbors and children, as well as provide a continuum of social services amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Jonnycake Center of Westerly's Food Pantry is a critical source of meals and food supplies for individuals in southern Rhode Island. In 2019, the Pantry served meals to nearly 8,800 people, representing a 5% increase over 2018. The Jonnycake Center is already seeing an increase in need in 2020 as circumstances surrounding the COVID-19 outbreak cause more people to rely on the Pantry, including schoolchildren, SNAP-eligible clients, and those who are temporarily out of work.

The Jonnycake Center of Westerly's Social Services department continues to support individuals facing crisis situations. Services include emergency financial assistance for rent, mortgages, utilities, and medical bills; resources for health insurance; guidance and goal-setting programs; and information about community and economic support programs.

"The Jonnycake Center of Westerly is grateful for this wonderful support from TCC Gives," said **Lee Eastbourne**, Jonnycake Center of Westerly Executive Director. "In a time of uncertainty, and with more neighbors than ever facing crisis, we have been fortunate to receive an outpouring of assistance from the community. The \$2,000 grant from TCC Gives is amazing news and will allow us to keep our Pantry stocked and our Social Services operating in a strong capacity."

For more information about the Jonnycake Center of Westerly, including its Food Pantry, Social Services programming, and public-facing Thrift Store (temporarily closed to the public, but offering personal shopping services), visit jonnycake.org or call (401) 377-8069.

About The Jonnycake Center of Westerly

The Jonnycake Center of Westerly's mission is to provide a continuum of services in cooperation with other agencies in our service area to assist people through crisis situations and work with each individual to find a path out of dependency toward self-sufficiency. For more information, visit jonnycake.org, become a fan on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/jonnycakecenter), follow us on [Twitter](https://twitter.com/jonnycakecenter) and [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/jonnycakecenter), or call (401) 377-8069.

