



For Immediate Release
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Anonymous Donor Awards \$5,000 in Emergency Food Assistance Funding to Jonnycake Center of Westerly

Westerly, RI – The Jonnycake Center of Westerly announced that it has received **\$5,000 in emergency food assistance** from a **private family fund**. These funds will be used by the Center’s Food Pantry to feed and assist individuals facing food insecurity, especially amid job losses and reduced incomes stemming from the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Jonnycake Center of Westerly’s Food Pantry utilizes a four-pronged approach to tackle hunger:

- The Jonnycake Center of Westerly’s **Food Assistance Program** provides a week’s worth of food to local residents every thirty days, complementing other programs such as SNAP and meals provided for children from local public schools. Nearly 3,000 residents of Westerly, Charlestown, Hopkinton, and Richmond, Rhode Island seek this monthly food assistance on a regular basis.
- When schools are in session, the Jonnycake Center of Westerly’s **Power Pack Program** provides nutritious meals and supplies to local schoolchildren in need every weekend during the school year.
- When schools break for the summer, and during extended holidays, the Jonnycake Center of Westerly’s **SPLASH Program** (Summer Program Looking to Alleviate Student Hunger) furnishes underserved children with a week’s worth of healthy breakfast and lunches every week through the duration of closure.
- The Center’s weekly on-site **Farmer’s Market** offers free fresh, locally-grown produce for Jonnycake clients and community members every Wednesday during operating season. In early 2020, the Jonnycake Center of Westerly finalized an agreement to assume operations of the now-former Charlestown Community Garden, where the Center had previously been a beneficiary. Once full operations resume, the Jonnycake Center will utilize the garden to sustainably grow, harvest, and deliver nutritious produce for its own Food Pantry and Farmer’s Market, as well as other peer local pantries.

“The Jonnycake Center of Westerly extends its sincerest thanks to the private family fund who made this generous \$5,000 contribution to our Food Pantry,” said **Lee Eastbourne**, Executive Director. “Although some in the community are beginning to recover economically from the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, many among us have not been so fortunate. Thanks to this award, we can keep our Pantry well-stocked and able to serve neighbors and families who continue to struggle to make ends meet. We are truly grateful for the assistance provided.”

For more information about the Jonnycake Center of Westerly, including its Food Pantry, Social Services programming, and public-facing Thrift Store, and how to donate or sign on as a client, 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/jonnycake), follow us on [Twitter](https://twitter.com/jonnycake) and [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/jonnycake), or call (401) 377-8069.

A Non-Profit Charitable Organization

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