



For Immediate Release
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Ocean State Charities Trust Awards \$4,500 in Emergency Food Assistance Funding to Jonnycake Center of Westerly

Westerly, RI – The Jonnycake Center of Westerly announced that it has received **\$4,500 in emergency food assistance** from the **Ocean State Charities Trust** of Pawtucket, RI. 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 Jonnycake Center of Westerly offers fresh produce, grown in its **Community Garden in Charlestown**, RI for Food Pantry clients. Sustainably cultivated by Jonnycake staff and local volunteers, vegetables and produce from the Community Garden provide supplemental nutrition for both the Jonnycake Center of Westerly’s Pantry and the pantries of peer non-profit agencies in the region.

“With many in our community living with reduced incomes, or out of work, this generous \$4,500 grant from the Ocean State Charities Trust helps ensure that our Food Pantry will be able to provide plenty of meals and food supplies for neighbors facing food shortages at home,” said **Lee Eastbourne**, Jonnycake Center of Westerly Executive Director. “We are truly grateful for the support, which improves our ability to operate our Food Pantry and provide essential nutrition for children and families in need.”

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/jonnycakecenter), follow us on [Twitter](https://twitter.com/jonnycakecenter) and [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/jonnycakecenter), or call (401) 377-8069.

A Non-Profit Charitable Organization

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