



OUR IMPACT

Spirit of Matthew 25 renews hope through generosity and love by offering food and supplies to poor, distressed, and underprivileged people in the eight-county region surrounding Coon Rapids, Minnesota.

In 2024, Spirit of Matthew 25 donated \$1.5 million worth of food and supplies to 27,000 people with the help of 14,000 volunteer hours.

What We Did

- We provided 12 drive-through food distributions where each household received ~\$75 in groceries.
- We provided 52 Friday Food Giveaways where people could choose what they want/need from available options. We offered protein/meat, produce, pantry, dairy, bread, bakery, and miscellaneous items.
- We delivered groceries to two subsidized apartment complexes in Coon Rapids every month.
- We supported 100 students experiencing homelessness at Coon Rapids High School through our Dignity Pantry which is located at the high school. We contributed food, hygiene items, gas cards, clothing items, and reusable water bottles.
- We packed over 1,000 bags of nutritious, culturally relevant food in elementary students' backpacks at Mississippi Elementary School in Coon Rapids. This program is open to all students at the school whose family expresses need.
- We offered 13 Community Garden spaces to the public and also had our own garden space to grow produce for the Friday Food Giveaway. We provided 1,800 extra servings of produce through our Spirit of Matthew 25 Community Garden Program.

Interesting facts

- **Since its inception in 2021, Spirit of Matthew 25 has donated \$4.0 million worth of food and supplies to 85,000 people with the help of 37,000 volunteer hours.**
- Spirit of Matthew 25 donated 26% more groceries to people in 2024 than in 2023.
- Spirit of Matthew 25 gained 501(c)(3) status in August of 2024 with the help of Lenie Hermanson, from LegalCORPS, who served as our pro bono attorney.
- Coon Rapids UMC/Spirit of Matthew 25 were awarded a \$91,325.98 (over three years) MPCA Prevention of Wasted Food and Food Rescue Grant from the state of Minnesota, \$30,000 from the Spirit River Foundation, \$12,000 in grants from Anoka County, and several other smaller grants.

Spirit of Matthew 25 Food Network

We offer many thanks to the members of our food donation network for their generosity in providing the donated food we gave to our guests in 2024.

- Bergin Fruit & Nut Company, St. Paul, MN
- Chick-fil-A: Brooklyn Park, MN
- Coborn's: Ramsey, MN
- Cub: Riverdale, Coon Rapids, MN
- Every Meal: Roseville, MN
- Hy-Vee: Brooklyn Park, MN
- Krown Bakery: Anoka, MN
- Kwik Trip: Isanti, MN
- Manna Market: Spring Lake Park, MN
- Oakwood Café: Anoka, MN
- Olive Garden: Maple Grove, MN
- Panera Bread, Coon Rapids, MN
- Ruby's Pantry: Lord of Life in Ramsey, MN
- The Silly Yak: North Branch, MN
- Spirit of Matthew 25 Community Garden: Coon Rapids, MN
- Starbuck's: Coon Rapids, MN
- Subway: Coon Rapids Blvd, Coon Rapids, MN