

Carma Mohler Grant and IUMF Hunger Grant Recipients 2022

1. Asbury Ecumenical Garden Ministry – Asbury UMC

Asbury's ministry touches the lives of thousands through providing fresh vegetables to local food pantries, meal sites, home shelters, low-income senior living apartment complexes, and individual needy families. The funds provided will help purchase a used John Deere sub-compact tractor with attachments. This will allow them to accomplish all their gardening and harvesting needs at a much lower cost.

2. Sweet Treats Food Bank - Scranton UMC

What started as a way to build a bridge between the congregation and the community has grown to helping provide nonperishable foods, school supplies, personal hygiene items and more. Sweet Treats collaborates with many local grocers and stores to purchase discounted or donated food items to provide families with a hot sandwich meal when they pick up their bag of supplemental food. The funds provided will help purchase shelving, grocery carts and purchase of foods to stock the food bank.

3. Backpack Program - Good Samaritan Food Pantry

Backpack meals provide meals to students in grades PK-12 that are food insecure on the weekends with no proof of income. The expenses that will be covered by this grant is for the food that is sent home every weekend.

4. Community Meal - Iowa Falls FUMC

The goal of the Community Meal is to provide a hot, homemade, nutritious meal each week to any person who wants one, free of charge. They utilize the Food Bank to purchase food; other churches in community provide baked goods and community/school groups volunteer to prep and to make this program a success. The most recent year they almost served 13,000 people. Expenses that will be covered with this grant will be for upgrading some kitchen appliances and purchasing high quality fresh proteins.

5. Chuck Willer Memorial Neighborhood Pantry -Marshalltown Hope UMC

This free pantry serves neighbors who are food insecure. Approximately 600 items are placed in the pantry each month but struggle to keep it stocked. Funds from the grant will be used to purchase nonperishable foods and shelving so they can store bulk purchased items inside church to refill pantry as needed.

6. ThreeHouse Feeds - Radical Hospitality

This program central focus is around creating community and meals to feed higher education students from all different cultural backgrounds. They have many different outreach programs, such as, a pantry with different cultural foods, interfaith meals and cooking videos to teach students how to prepare foods at home. Funds provided are to purchase culturally appropriate foods for pantry and interfaith meals and stock their Treat Trike with healthy and food sensitivity snacks.

7. Summer Lunch Box - DeWitt UMC

This summer program is used to provide 'Kid' friendly food to children during the summer break from schools. They use the local food pantry for weekly distribution of their nonperishable foods and they provide vouchers for families to purchase fresh produce, meat and milk each week during summer.

8. Fresh Produce Lamoni Food Pantry –Lamoni UMC

The food pantry focus is to provide the community with fresh produce year round. They have collaborated with the Amish community who run the Produce Auction to obtain fresh foods at a reasonable price while they are in season. In the off-season they will be working with Hy-Vee to purchase popular produce and reaching out to local gardeners to “grow a row for the pantry”. Funds provided will be used to purchase produce.

9. Youth and Shelter Services Food Project – Ames Calvary UMC

Youth and Shelter Services provide transitional housing to support youth and young adults in our community struggling with homelessness. The funds provided are going be used to purchase foods not available in the pantry that the individuals have requested such as bread, milk and fresh fruit and vegetables.

10. The Community Pantry - Gowrie UMC

Outside of the normal pantry functions, this ministry has been offering Holiday Boxes to the community to help feed families over the Christian holidays, such as Thanksgiving, Christmas and Easter. The box has a protein appropriate for holiday and all the fixings along with a small gift card to the local grocer. Funds provided will be used to purchase items to fill these boxes.

11. Community Garden - 8th and College Connections - Trinity Las Americas UMC

The Community Garden is a 7000 square-foot urban oasis serving immigrants and refugees in the diverse River Bend neighborhood. The primary goal of the 8CC garden is to provide safe space and consistent resources for immigrant and refugee neighbors to grow nutritious food for their households. The funds provided are to be used to purchase black dirt for their raised beds.