## **WELLSTON UPDATE**



#### IN THIS NEWSLETTER...

RESPONSE TO SNAP CUTS

FOOD AS ART FUNDRAISER

**THANKSGIVING** 

CHRISTMAS CLUB

#### NOVEMBER — 2025









Photos from our recent Food as Art Fundraiser. See page 6 to read about the event.

## CENTER'S ADDRESS TO SNAP UNCERTAINTY



Starting in November, millions are set to lose government assistance for food, leaving many, especially those in our very own community, unsure where to find their next meal.

Because of this, the Wellston Center will be allowing families to pick up food at the pantry now twice a month.

### **Our Efforts**

Many of the families we serve will be affected by the loss of food stamps.

In Missouri, over 650,000 people received government assistance for food, and many of those live in the zipcodes we serve.

While traditionally, families could only visit the Wellston Center's food pantry once a month, **families are encouraged to come twice this November.** 

## **Help Needed**

Doubling the amount of visits at the food pantry means that the Wellston Center is looking more than ever for community support.

The Wellston Center is collecting additional food items to support more families, as SNAP benefits have ceased. Please consider donating or volunteering to help us serve an increasing number of families in this critical time.

#### **Urgently Needed Items:**

- Canned foods of all kinds, especially canned chicken and tuna
- Fresh milk and eggs
- Fresh/frozen meat products

Email us at: wellstoncenter@gmail.com

Volunteers needed on:

Tuesday & Wednesday from 7:30 -10:00 a.m. or Fridays from 9:00 - noon



## SNAP CUTS B RESPONSE

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Tuesday & Wednesday from 7:30 - 10:00 AM Fridays 9 AM- 12 PM

#### **DROP-OFF TIMES:**

- Tues & Wed: 8:00 AM 11:00 AM
- Fridays: 9:00 AM 11:00 AM

Please deliver all donations to: 1705 Kienlen Ave. St. Louis, MO 63133



## NOVEMEBER EVENTS

## **Thanksgiving**

## This November holiday is about gratitude and community care.

For the Tuesday before Thanksgiving from 7:30 - 10:00 a.m., the Wellston Center will be handing out Thanksgiving Meal Boxes to those who qualify. This will not count as a normal monthly visit.

Meal box will include: turkey, eggs, milk, stuffing, and other Thanksgiving meal items.

#### **Thrift Store**

## The weather is finally chilly — make sure to have a coat!

In one of its best deals of the year, the thrift store has winter coats for \$1.

We have updated contact information and our calendar for 2025.

Please see our <u>website</u> for information!

Please note that our PO Box has changed:

PO Box 11693 Saint Louis, MO 63105

## **Christmas Store**

## In less than 1.5 months, Christmas comes to the Wellston Center!

For two joyful days, the Christmas Club offers a holiday-store-experience of brand-new, unopened gifts of toys, clothing, and household items, able to be purchased at an affordable cost. Please help the Wellston Center usher in the holiday spirit of giving and community.

#### **Donate:**

- Household Favorites
- Toys & Family Fun
- Warm & Wearable (All Ages)
- Linens & Comfort
- Gifts & Personal Care
- Holiday Extras

#### **Drop off:**

Bring donations to the Wellston Center at 1705 Kienlen Ave, St. Louis, MO 63133.

#### Volunteer:

- Help set up the CLUB on Dec. 9-12 from 8:30 a.m. 1:00 p.m.
- Work the store on Saturday, Dec. 13 from 8:30 am - 1:00 pm or Sunday, Dec. 14 from 8:30 am - 1:00 pm

## Please SCAN to see our VOLUNTEERING opportunities:



We need your help:

# 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual \*\*\* Christmas Club

A program helping families celebrate the holidays

Join the St. Augustine Wellston Center by volunteering or donating items for the store.

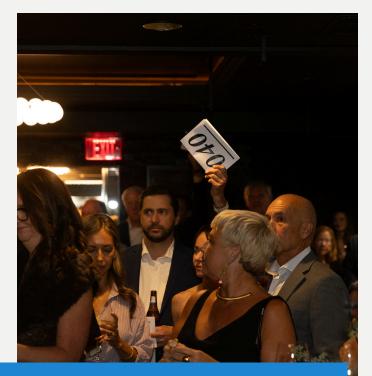




For more information:



Email wellstoncenter@gmail.com with questions



## Food as Art

Last week, the Wellston Center hosted its largest fundraiser in its program history, raising a record amount of money.

In night full of art, music, and well-crafted food, the event — Food as Art — will be most remembered for the outpouring of generosity and support for the mission of the organization. **The event raised over \$150,000 and over 200 people came to support the event.** That amount of money raised and attendance proves that the Wellston's Center work is sincerely valued by the community.

Thank you to all who attended the Food as Art benefit and contributed to helping the center continue.







# Our goal is simple: Eliminate food insecurity

Serving the **63133**, **63120**, **63121**, and **63112** ZIP Codes.

One week of food, per person, each month.

## **We Provide**

Each person in a family receives a weeks worth of food.

Guests receive non-perishable and shelf-stable goods, along with frozen meat, cheese, eggs, milk, cured meats, bread, produce, and some household cleaners like detergent.

#### **About**

We serve an area with some of the highest rates of food insecurity in Missouri.

The US Census estimates around 25% of residents in our ZIP Codes of service are food insecure.

Local organizations estimate the rate may be closer to 33%.

10,000 homes are food insecure; our goal is to reach as many of these families as possible.



### **Support Our Work**

Food prices are increasing and we are serving more families each month.

The need has only grown in the aftermath of the tornado. Please consider supporting our mission!

To connect with us please email: wellstoncenter@gmail.com

We are located at: 1705 Kienlen Ave. St. Louis, MO 63133

Please reach out to us if you are interested in volunteering!

## A NOTE FROM ANDREW

Thank you to Giddo Simon Ministries for their generosity in providing produce for the Wellston Center food pantry. Their continued support helps ensure that families in our community have access to fresh food each week. We're grateful for their partnership and dedication to serving those in need.



We're always in need of helping hands to continue serving our community, especially as recent SNAP cuts have increased demand at our pantry. If you're able to volunteer or donate, your support can make a real difference for families in need.

Andrew Diemer

**Executive Director** 

#### Looking Back & Forging Ahead

**Over** 

\$150,000

Raised to combat Food Insecurity

# THANK YOU TO ALL WHO ATTENDED FOOD AS ART!

#### What It Takes to Feed over 80 Families a Week



Volunteers gathering hundreds of pounds of food from local groceries



Sourcing health and fresh food from nationwide distributors



**Donors like you!** 



A Thrift Store Open Four Days a Week



**50 Regular Volunteers**