

WINDSOR ROAD CHRISTIAN CHURCH

2501 Windsor Road, Champaign, IL 61822 | Phone: 217.359.2122 | windsorroad.org

November 4, 2025

Dear Champaign-Urbana Business/Organizational Leader,

My name is Michelle Santiago, and I oversee the Free Food Store at Windsor Road Christian Church. This is a trauma-informed and empowerment-based food resource, where our focus is addressing food insecurity in ways that are inviting, hospitable, and maximize choices for shoppers. Here is a video that gives a glimpse of what we do and why: <u>WRCC Free Food Store Video</u>

As you can imagine, with the rising costs of food, rising unemployment, and uncertainty in government assistance, we are experiencing record numbers of families needing this resource. For example, in the month of October, we served a record number of 901 individuals (compared to 646 in January of this year). While we grieve the harsh economic realities that so many families are facing, we thank God for positioning our church to be one of the many resources this community offers.

We are fully committed to continue to be a resource in the months and years ahead. Would you consider partnering with us in this commitment? We are currently seeking 36 business sponsorships to cover the costs of the Free Food Store for 2026:

12 sponsorships of \$3,000 - This would cover the monthly cost of our food purchases from Eastern Illinois Food Bank, where we are able to purchase about \$10 worth of food for every \$1 spent.

12 sponsorships of \$1,500 - This is the monthly cost of 100 \$15 gift cards to Salt and Light. We distribute these gift cards during the 1st Saturday Shopping as a way to provide additional support to families via a community partner that can provide long-term assistance with other needs.

12 sponsorships of \$750 - This would cover the monthly cost of our other expenses, including books for adults and children in multiple languages, supplies for our "birthday bags", feminine hygiene products, toiletries, and operational supplies.

Two ways to contribute

Online via this link: https://donate.stripe.com/14A7sKeO6dA917X3qLcs803 Check made out to Windsor Road Christian Church (memo: Free Food Store)

Mailed to: 2501 Windsor Rd, Champaign, IL 61822

Thank you for your time and consideration. May God bless and prosper the work He's doing through your business/organization.

Michelle Cruz-Santiago, Ph.D.

WRCC Outreach & Missions Director

