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Wellspring on Wheels Mobile Food Pantry 2022 Schedule Focusing on urban, suburban and rural food insecurity

Fort Wayne, Ind. – [Wellspring Interfaith](https://www.wellspringinterfaith.org) has selected its mobile food pantry partners for 2022. Wellspring on Wheels (WOW) will be traveling throughout Allen County 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays in 2022 to distribute free food, hygiene items and diapers.

There are an estimated 52,000 food-insecure individuals (12.6%) in Allen County. And, several census tracts located in the 46802, 46803, 46806 and 46774 codes have food deserts – areas where people have limited access to healthy and affordable food.

Rural communities make up 63% of counties in the United States, and 87% of these have the highest rates of overall food insecurity – with children most at risk. It is estimated that 2.2 million households in rural communities are food insecure. That is why Wellspring is targeting rural areas of Allen County in 2022. Geographic isolation is a significant barrier to food, and Wellspring has the means to bring food to these communities.

Wellspring has continued to bring food to those in need during the pandemic. In 2020, Wellspring's on-site food pantry and WOW combined served 17,608 food-insecure clients and distributed 55 tons of food. To date in 2021, Wellspring has served 17,124 food-insecure clients and distributed 50 tons of food.

Those households hit especially hard in 2021 included the elderly and those headed by female single parents.

WOW will serve rural Allen County including Hoagland, Huntertown, Arcola, New Haven and Lake Chapel. Wellspring will also continue its distributions at alternate locations throughout Fort Wayne with especially high food insecurity rates. The complete WOW 2022 schedule is attached.

[Wellspring Interfaith](https://www.wellspringinterfaith.org) is a nonprofit organization that has served at-risk populations in the inner city and beyond for over 53 years. Since mobilizing its mission, Wellspring's expanded reach has helped more people in need.

