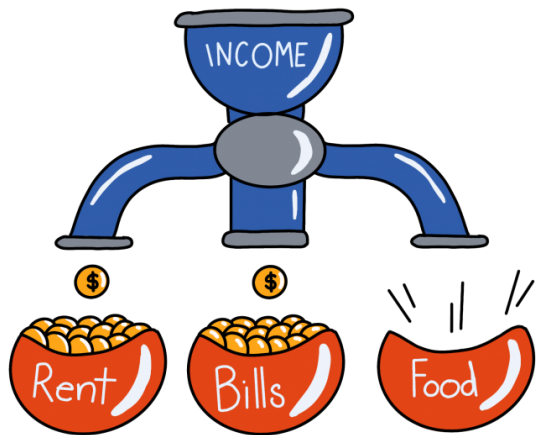


# Delivering to Areas of Food Insecurity in Northwest North Carolina



## Fairview Mobile Food Pantry:

"During the 2022 Moravian Southern Province Synod, the Mission Outreach Committee submitted a resolution to establish a mobile food pantry. The concept developed by David Holston of Sunnyside Ministries, Phillip Sapp of Bethabara Moravian and Barry Self of Fairview Moravian was to use a trailer to deliver food to areas of food insecurity in Northwest North Carolina by partnering with Moravian churches located in those areas to provide nutrition to people in need. All of our congregations are located within one to two miles of areas of food insecurity. After a year of no action on the resolution, David, Phillip and Barry decided we would proceed on our own to get the ministry established. The Moravian Ministries Foundation of America approved our grant request to purchase a trailer in June, 2023. A new 16 ft by 7 ft trailer was purchased and outfitted with rolling carts that can hold over 150 food distribution boxes provided by the Maggie Styers Missionary Chapter at Fairview Moravian. David Holston was able to obtain an account to allow for food purchases from Second Harvest Food Bank in April, 2024 after six months of delays due to the lack of an official federal budget which helps Second Harvest operate.



Since beginning operation, the mobile food pantry has provided food for 1,634 people with four days' worth of meals (12) totaling 19,608 meals that the US Government values at \$4.14 per meal or \$81,177.12. Fairview has also collected food and clothing for the food pantry and clothes closet at Bethabara Moravian. Their food pantry which has been in operation since 2023 has provided meals valued at \$191,642.54. Combined, the two congregations have supplied \$272,819.76 worth of meals to the needy in Northwest Winston-Salem. In 2024, we averaged providing food to 151 people each month. Since the federal budget cut backs on food distribution, (Second Harvest down one million pounds of food) we have seen demand grow from 178 people on Easter Saturday to 264 people on July 20<sup>th</sup>. Every donation of food or financial gift is greatly appreciated as demand is extremely high.

The food trailer is available to provide food distribution throughout Northwest NC where our congregations are located. We order food through Second Harvest when available or shop for discounted food from a variety of sources. One in six of every child in North Carolina goes without food. For some, the meal they receive on Friday at school may be their last until school reopens on Monday, if the school doesn't have a food backpack program.