

## Chittenden Emergency Food Shelf

**What:** The Chittenden Emergency Food Shelf works to alleviate hunger by feeding people and cultivating opportunities. As the largest direct service emergency food provider in Vermont, CEFS serves over 11,300 people each year.

The Food Shelf relies on a broad base of community support to fund its programs. It is funded primarily through the generosity of the local community with over 60% of donations coming directly from individuals, faith groups, local businesses and other community organizations. CEFS receives grants from The United Way, local towns and cities, as well as foundations.

**When:** Throughout the year by ongoing food donations  
Once a year through participation in a food sorting day  
Annual monetary donation

**Who:** Valerie Rittershausen and the youth group coordinate this mission.

**How:** A basket is in the sanctuary at all times for deposit of non-perishable food items for the Food Shelf.

Ascension youth and other members participate in sorting food collected by the United States Postal Service and delivered to the Food Shelf on a Saturday in May each year.

The Food Shelf is included as a line item in the local benevolence category of Ascension's operating budget.

Website: <http://www.feedingchittenden.org>