Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Center

November 6, 2026

An October that broke the wrong records

Friends,

Last month was one for the record books - but we aren't celebrating. October 2026 was the busiest month in MLK Hunger Relief history. Yes, you read that right. We provided more meals last month than during any month during the Covid-19 pandemic and even the SNAP Crisis of November 2025.

For the first time, we distributed over 200,000 meals in a single month across all MLK Hunger Relief Programs.

With the price of food and fuel, and the disparity between wages and the cost of living, it's no wonder people need extra help; however, this milestone was unexpected and alarming. This isn't a benchmark we like sharing, but it's important our community knows the challenges locals are facing.

No one should go without food. No one should have to choose between putting gas in their tank or food on the table. Be assured: we are doing all we can to meet the need.

Sincerely,



Hurry! Time is running out to register for Thanksgiving Help!

Thanksgiving is so close we swear we can smell the turkeys in the oven already! There is ***one week left*** to register for Thanksgiving Help, which provides a turkey and all the ingredients for a traditional holiday meal for registered individuals and families. **The last day to register is Friday, November 13.**

Registration is in-person and a photo ID, proof of Newport County residence, and proof of household size are required. **You can register at the MLK Community Center Monday – Friday from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. and at the North End Food Pantry Monday 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. or Tuesday and Friday 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**

**Please note that all MLK Community Center programs and facilities are closed on Wednesday, November 11, in honor of Veterans Day.



If you can help us ensure we have enough turkeys and holiday foods so our families can make a Thanksgiving meal in their homes, please give to support this important program.

Yes, I want to help my neighbors this Thanksgiving

More treats, no tricks



Our preschoolers wrung every drop of fun they could out of Halloween this year. After last Friday's trick-or-treating adventure to Newport City Hall, the kids put on their costumes and paraded through the Center, visiting staff for treats. Their costumes were adorable, and they were excited to explore the Center. Our littlest learners always bring a smile to our faces!







Honoring service members for Veterans Day

In honor of the brave people who serve now or have served our country, all MLK Community Center programs and facilities will be closed on Wednesday, November 11, for Veterans Day. We are grateful for their bravery and sacrifices.



The Santa's Workshop pod is here and we are ready for toys!

Do you know what it takes to provide over 1,300 kids with toys for the holidays? Support from across our generous community and...a giant storage pod. Thanks to a donation from our friends at ***A-1 Roofing and Construction***, a 160-square-foot storage container arrived this week, and we are ready to start accepting and organizing toy and gift donations for Santa's Workshop. Thank you, A-1! Check out the video below to see the pod.

If you are interested in supporting local families and children at Santa's Workshop this holiday season, click the buttons below to learn more about Holiday Help, check out our toy list, give to Santa's Workshop, or contact us to organize a toy drive.

Every year, we are inspired by our community's commitment to helping others in any way they can. You can be the reason over 1,300 kids smile on Christmas morning this year.

Holiday Help Info

Toy List

Give

Organize a drive



GivingTuesday is less than a month away!

GivingTuesday is a global movement that celebrates the power of generosity and encourages people to do good. This year, when you give to the MLK on the Tuesday after Thanksgiving, you will

support our ***Preschool Program***, which provides high-quality education and childcare for working families and their children. In addition to a curriculum focused on kindergarten readiness, students enjoy a healthy breakfast, lunch, and snack prepared in-house.

On Tuesday, December 1, our generous friends **David and Ellie Voorhes** will match your donations dollar-for-dollar up to $20,000 to double your impact. Mark your calendars to support our littlest learners!

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Center

SINCE 1922

GIVING TUESDAY

GivingTuesday Supports MLK Preschool



On **Tuesday**, **December 1**, when you give to the MLK Community Center, our Preschool Program benefits. David and Ellie Voorhes will match your gift up to $20K, doubling your impact on working families and children in Newport County.

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GIVING TUESDAY

GivingTuesday Apoya la Escuela Infantil MLK



El **Martes**, **1 de Diciembre**, cuando usted dona al Centro Comunitario MLK, nuestros beneficios del Programa Preescolar. David y Ellie Voorhes igualarán su donación hasta $20K, duplicando su impacto en las familias trabajadoras y los niños en el Condado de Newport.

Lunch every first Wednesday of the month!

Hungry for lunch? Join us on the ***first*** Wednesday of each month from 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. for a hot, healthy meal. **Make sure to download our Hunger Calendar at the bottom of this newsletter to stay up to date on our meal schedules.**

Please note: this lunch is offered only on the first Wednesday of every month to meet a gap in the Community Meal site calendar. Our other midday meals on Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday are offered every week.


Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
Community Center
Midday Meals: Now on the 1st Wed. of the month
Every first Wednesday of the month
11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.


Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
Community Center
Almuerzo: Ahora el Miércoles 1 de mes
Cada primer Miércoles de mes
11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.



Thank you to volunteers from ***Corinthian Events*** for helping stock the shelves in the pantry so its ready for clients. You truly make a difference. Thank you!

Beep! Beep! Here Comes the Mobile Food Pantry!



The Mobile Food Pantry is coming your way! Here are next week's Mobile Food Pantry Locations:

Tuesday 11/10/2026:

- Oxbow Farms, 80 Rogers Ln. Middletown RI 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.
- AHEPA II Apartments, 87 Girard Ave. Newport RI 1:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.
  - *Residents Only*

Thursday 11/12/2026:

- Donovan Manor, 19 Chapel St. Newport RI 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.
- Edgar Ct. Cul-de-sac Newport RI 1:15 p.m. – 1:45 p.m.

All are welcome. You do not need to reside in the neighborhood to use the Mobile Food Pantry, ***unless otherwise advised****. Please remember to bring your reusable bags.*

Download Our Monthly Calendars

Download November Community Programs Calendar in English

Descargar Calendario de Programas Communitarios de Noviembre en Español

Download November Hunger Relief Calendar in English

Descargar Calendario de Combatir Del Hambre de Noviembre en Español

Our Contact Information
{{Organization Name}}
{{Organization Address}}
{{Organization Phone}}
{{Organization Website}}

{{Unsubscribe}}

Volunteer

Give



You are receiving this email because you opted in to join our email newsletter list.
We promise to never share your information with third parties, or spam you.