

March Newsletter

2025



CENTER FOR FOOD SECURITY AND SUSTAINABILITY

Donation Mission

Recent policy changes have led to challenges in food access for many families across the United States. With rising food costs and growing need, many communities are feeling the strain. However, together we have the power to make a difference! By coming together, we can help ensure that everyone has access to the nourishment they need.

Our food supply is currently lower than usual, and we're reaching out for your support to help restock our shelves. We're kindly asking for **non-perishable and non-expired food items**. Whether it's canned goods, pasta, rice, or any other shelf-stable items, every donation is appreciated and valued!

Please drop off your food donations with Maggie at the front desk, available Monday—Thursday, from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM. Your contribution, no matter how small, helps us continue to provide essential support our community!



Volunteer Spotlight

Janie Epperson, Chris Kunz, Trish Padian, Jeff Perez, and Steve White

Thank you!

This month we want to recognize those that help with our food deliveries: **Janie Epperson, Chris Kunz, Trish Padian, Jeff Perez, and Steve White!**

Program Highlight

Garden Update and Tips

Each month, this incredible group of volunteers delivers approximately 83 pantry boxes to the homes of people in Grant County, including Silver City, the Mining District, and Hachita. Their contributions help us reach food insecure members of our community who are homebound and unable to go to pantries. Thank you all for dedicating your time and energy to help The Commons with this need!

Our monthly food pantry deliveries are vital for supporting those in need, but we need more volunteers to keep making an impact. We're looking for at least two more volunteers to help with deliveries once a month. Your time will make a difference!

If you are interested in volunteering, please sign up on The Volunteer Center website by [clicking here](#).

Contact Maggie for questions: Email info@thecommonsgc.org or call 575-388-2988.

Give Grandly is Right Around the Corner!



Give Grandly is the annual fundraising event hosted by the Gila Community Foundation that brings the community together in support of local nonprofits across Grant, Hidalgo, Luna, and Catron counties. Please keep us in mind when Give Grandly begins!

In-Person Giving Event:

Saturday, May 3, 2025
8:00 am to 2:00 pm
Gough Park



Spring has Sprung

Next time you visit The Commons be sure to take a stroll through our gardens to see the beauty Spring has brought! Right now we are enjoying the vibrant colors from the blossoming Peach and Nectarine trees. You might also be able to spot various lettuce, pea, and other sprouts thriving in the garden beds.



If you're feeling inspired to start your own garden, here are a few helpful tips from our Garden Manager, Jennifer Metzler:

- Use shade covers to protect your plants from too much sun exposure
- Start seeds indoors near a warm, light filled window and transplant outside once they're ready
- Make sure to keep your soil moist

Online Giving:
April 19th-May 17th
<https://www.givegrandly.org/>

Look for ***Commons Center of Food Security and Sustainability*** on the Give Grandly website

We Want to Hear from You!

If you've enjoyed volunteering with us or would like to share something about your experience at The Commons, we'd love to hear your thoughts! Leaving a **review on Google** helps us expand our reach and inspire others to get involved.

Please take a moment to share your experience:

[Click here](#)

Thank you for your continued support and dedication to our mission!

- Mix regular soil with other enhancements. Jennifer likes to use coconut coir!

In Loving Memory



Lawrence M. Chavez

April 4, 1957–March 11, 2025

Those of us fortunate enough to have known Lawrence have lost a special friend, an exceptionally kind man, and a dedicated volunteer and Board member. His steady presence, compassionate heart, and commitment to service made a profound difference in our community.

Lawrence's kindness reached everyone he encountered — whether it was offering a helping hand at our pantries, providing thoughtful guidance as a Board member, or simply sharing a warm smile. His genuine spirit uplifted us all, and his legacy will continue to inspire our work.

Let us honor his memory by continuing our efforts with the same dedication and heart that he so generously shared. Lawrence will be missed and fondly remembered. He was truly special. ❤️

Plan Ahead:

March:

CYO Pantry: Weekly Tues-Wed-Thurs
Silver City Food Pantry: 1st
Mining District Food Pantry: 18th
Cliff Gila Food Pantry: 18th
Mimbres Food Pantry: 19th
Neighborhood Dinner: 28th

April:

Southwest New Mexico Seed Library

CYO Pantry: Weekly Tues-Wed-Thurs
Silver City Food Pantry: 5th
Mining District Food Pantry: 15th
Cliff Gila Food Pantry: 15th
Mimbres Food Pantry: 16th
Neighborhood Dinner: 25th

May:

CYO Pantry: Weekly Tues-Wed-Thurs
Silver City Food Pantry: 3rd
Mining District Food Pantry: 20th
Cliff Gila Food Pantry: 20th
Mimbres Food Pantry: 21st
Neighborhood Dinner: 30th

Did you know that The Commons is almost completely staffed by volunteers? Here are some ways to get involved:



Food Pantry: Several times a month groups meet to sort, pack and distribute food.

Garden: Care for the Commons garden, plant food and harvest for the hungry, help maintain the orchard.

Fundraising Events: Help put together community gatherings to raise money for The Commons

[Click here](#) to sign up for the weekly email update to stay informed about all of our volunteer opportunities



Did you know that the SW New Mexico Seed Library gives out hundreds of packages of **free seeds** every year? There are several locations where you can "check out" seeds. See below for one near you.

Silver City Locations:

- The Commons
- Silver City Public Library
- Single Socks
- Silver City Farmers Market

Satellite Seed Libraries are located at the Valley Mimbres Market, Bayard Library and Gila Library

Monthly Free Friday Neighborhood Dinners



The Commons hosts a monthly neighborhood dinner, free to community members. The turnout has been great these last couple of months and we are looking forward to hosting more!

The next neighborhood dinner will be held on Friday, April 25th Please join us from 5:00 to 7:00 pm for a wonderful home cooked meal!



If you would like to volunteer to cook or serve, let us know, we can always use another pair of hands.

Donate to the Commons and support food security in your community

- Send a check to the Commons at PO Box 416 Silver City, NM 88062
- OR click the button below to go to our website and then click the [DONATE button](#).

[Visit our Website](#)

REMEMBER:

- Food Pantries in Silver City are the first Saturday of the month.
- Choose Your Own (CYO) Pantry is open every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday in Silver City from 11:00 AM — 3:00 PM
- The Mining District (Fort Bayard) distribution and the Gila/Cliff distribution are on the third Tuesday of each month.

For more information, call the Commons at 575-388-2988 or check the website at www.thecommonsgrantcounty.org

The Commons Center for Food Security and Sustainability
www.thecommonsgrantcounty.org



The Commons Center for Food Security and Sustainability | 501 East 13th St PO Box 416 | Silver City, NM 88062 US

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