

# March Newsletter

2026



CENTER FOR FOOD SECURITY AND SUSTAINABILITY

## WNMU Students Volunteer at The Commons



This month, we're excited to highlight some incredible WNMU students: Kiya, Jude, Dara, Nick, Vince, Emma, Xavier, Trevor, David, Hunter, and more who have been volunteering with us this semester!

Most of these students are volunteering for individual or group projects for their communications classes with Professors Heather Frankland and Benjamin Cline. Every week they show up ready to help— distributing food to clients in the Choose Your Own Pantry; restocking the shelves of the CYO; distributing food at the Mining District pantry; doing outdoor clean-up and garden maintenance; and serving at our community dinners.

We also have another crew of WNMU students, Moses, Alicia, Chitembeya, and who will be assisting with outreach and promotion of The Commons as a part of a project in their public speaking class. They will focus on engaging young adults and students in our community, informing them of our programs and encouraging them to get involved in whatever ways they can.

We absolutely LOVE when we get students who are eager to help their community. Thank you all for your positivity and hard work, and thank you to WNMU for sending them our way!

**Give Grandly Online  
Giving Starts on April  
13th!**

**Program Highlight  
Gardens**



The Commons is excited to participate in both online and in-person giving for this year's upcoming Give Grandly event hosted by the Community Foundation of Southern New Mexico and Gila Community Foundation.

With the goal to raise \$25,000 towards alleviating food insecurity in Grant County, we encourage you to participate however you can and give where you live! Starting April 13th and through April 24th, you can visit the website [southernnewmexicogivingday.org](https://southernnewmexicogivingday.org) and make a donation or visit Gough Park on Saturday, April 18th from 10am to 2pm to meet all the participating non-profits, learn more about their mission, and do some fun activities!

## Important Dates to Remember:

**Give Grandly In-Person Giving Event:**  
Saturday, April 18th, 2026  
10 am - 2 pm  
Gough Park, Silver City, NM

**Southern New Mexico Giving Day:**  
Friday, April 24th, 2026  
Online giving is open ALL DAY

**Online Giving Period:**  
April 13th - April 24th  
[southernnewmexicogivingday.org](https://southernnewmexicogivingday.org)



For the last few weeks, we've enjoyed witnessing the transition from winter into spring in our gardens. The star of the show being the beautiful blossoms on our fruit trees. With the start of the new season, we are excited to have more garden volunteer opportunities available such as:

- Water garden beds
- Weeding
- Work in the greenhouse
- Pruning and harvesting trees
- Grounds cleanup
- Assist with composting

If you are interested in volunteering in the gardens contact our Garden Manager, Jennifer by either emailing [alimento@thecommonsgc.org](mailto:alimento@thecommonsgc.org) or calling (575)-590-2818.

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## YCC is Right Around the Corner!



Every summer The Commons hires a crew of local young adults to be a part of our Youth Conservation Corps (YCC) program. This year we'll be hiring 8 members, who will work with us and learn



about various topics such as workplace readiness, financial literacy, landscape design, project execution, food security and food systems, outdoor beautification, tool safety, and more! The program will run for 8 weeks in June and July.

**Applications open in May.** Be on lookout on [our website](#) and social media for more information.

## Plan Ahead:

### April:

CYO Pantry: Weekly Tues-Wed-Thurs  
Silver City Food Pantry: 4th  
Mimbres Food Pantry: 15th  
Give Grandly: 18th  
Volunteer Appreciation Day: 20th  
Mining District Food Pantry: 21st  
Cliff Gila Food Pantry: 21st  
Community Dinner: 24th

### May:

CYO Pantry: Weekly Tues-Wed-Thurs  
Silver City Food Pantry: 2nd  
Mining District Food Pantry: 19th  
Cliff Gila Food Pantry: 19th  
Mimbres Food Pantry: 20th  
CLOSED Memorial Day  
Community Dinner: 29th

### June:

CYO Pantry: Weekly Tues-Wed-Thurs  
Silver City Food Pantry: 6th  
Mining District Food Pantry: 16th  
Cliff Gila Food Pantry: 16th  
Mimbres Food Pantry: 17th  
Community Dinner: 26th

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**Did you know that The Commons is Almost Completely Staffed by Volunteers?**

## Southwest New Mexico Seed Library



Did you know that the SW New Mexico Seed Library gives out over 10,000 packages of **free seeds** every year? And 80% are locally donated! There are several Seed Library Locations where you can "check out" seeds:

- The Commons
- Silver City Public Library
- Single Socks Thrift Store
- Silver City Farmers
- Valley Mimbres' Market
- Bayard Library
- Hurley Library
- Gila Library
- Lordsburg Library
- Santa Clara Farmers' Market
- Bear Creek Herbs

You can join us packaging and cleaning seeds on Tuesdays.  
Contact [swnmseeds@gmail.com](mailto:swnmseeds@gmail.com) for more information.

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**Donate to The Commons and Support Food Security in your Community!**



## Here are some ways to get involved:

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

Help out at one of our pantry locations in Grant County: Silver City, Bayard/ Santa Clara, Gila/Cliff, or Mimbres!

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

**Kitchen:** Help prep, serve, and clean up at our monthly Community Dinner.

**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

[Click here](#) to view all our volunteer opportunities on The Volunteer Center website

- 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 and every first Saturday of the month from 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM
- The Mining District (Fort Bayard) distribution and the Gila/Cliff distribution are on the third Tuesday of each month.

- The Mimbres distribution is on the third Wednesday of each month.

For more information, call the Commons at 575-388-2988 or check the website at [www.thecommonsgrantcounty.org](http://www.thecommonsgrantcounty.org)

The Commons Center for Food Security and Sustainability  
[www.thecommonsgrantcounty.org](http://www.thecommonsgrantcounty.org)



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