

SHARE Newsletter



Yonette Wilson-Williams
Director of SHARE Food Network

Harvesting Hope Together: A Season of Gratitude & Action

During a recent stop-and-go commute home, I found myself thinking about what I should be grateful for—aside from my family, air conditioning and a reliable car, of course. With God's guidance, no doubt, my thoughts settled on the joyful gathering of volunteers who came together to box food for September's distribution, along with the dedicated staff who organized the day.

Our goals may sound simple: strengthen our communities and offer hope to people in need. But accomplishing those goals takes a powerful force of dedicated people—people willing to give their time, energy, and hearts in service to others.

I am grateful for every volunteer and staff member who makes this work possible. Together, they remind us that even simple acts of kindness, when joined with the efforts of many, can make a meaningful difference in the lives of others.

This October, help us spread the word about SHARE. Consider inviting a SHARE Outreach Specialist to speak at your church, community gathering, or organization meeting. Invite a friend to help distribute SHARE packages, or learn about other ways they can get involved.

Thank you for being an important part of the SHARE family. Your commitment, generosity, and belief in our mission inspire us every day. Let's harvest hope this season and make a lasting impact for the families and communities we proudly serve.

With gratitude,
Yonette Wilson - Williams

Help Others by Volunteering with SHARE Food Network

Looking to give back to your community? Whether you need service hours, want to stay active in retirement, or are seeking a meaningful volunteer opportunity, we'd love to hear from you! Contact Ninochika Twitty at 301-864-3115 ext. 7011 or Ninochika.Twitty@cc-dc.org to get started.



A Milestone of Service

The Knights of Columbus Patuxent Council's Milestones food distribution program puts faith into action by serving neighbors in need. For nearly 30 years, the program has helped provide affordable, nutritious food to families throughout the community while supporting two local food pantries: Laurel Advocacy and Referral Services and FISH of Laurel, also known as the Elizabeth House Resource Center, which provides dinners to individuals and families in need.

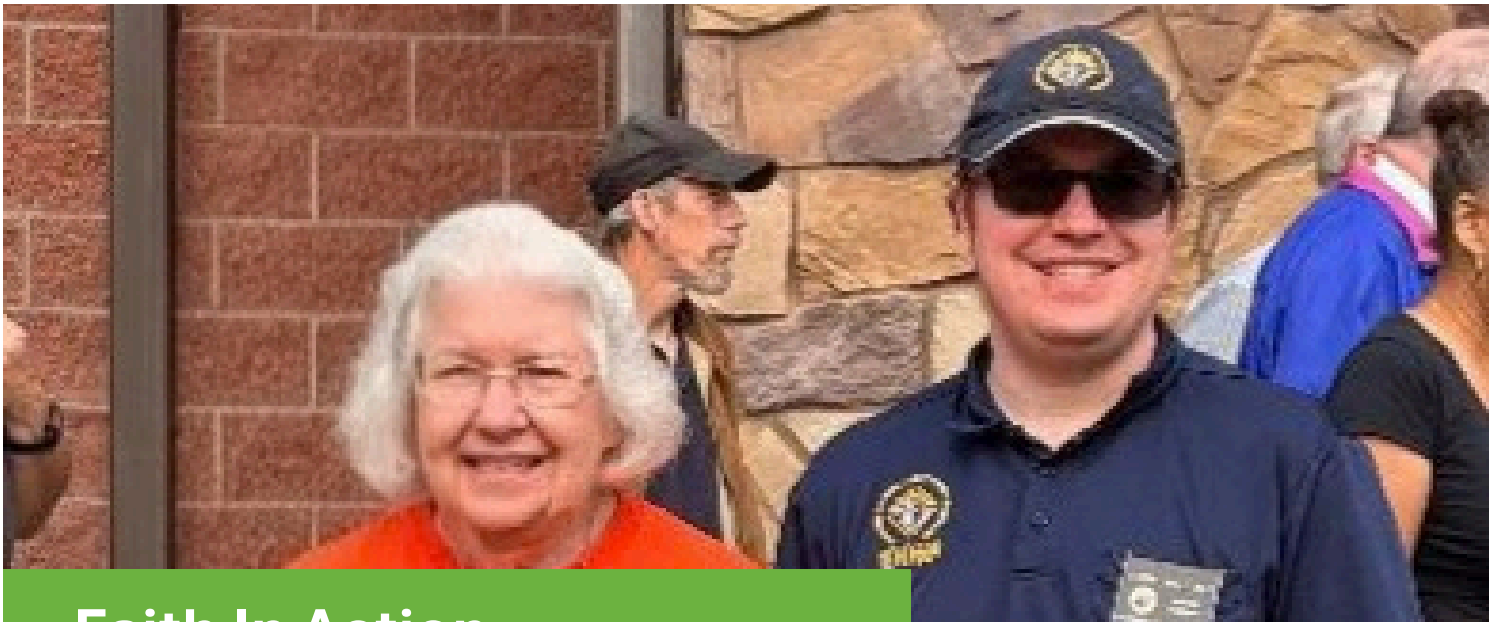
During the COVID-19 pandemic, access to fresh, wholesome food was especially meaningful to families facing uncertainty and increased financial pressure. Organizations served include Laurel Advocacy and Referral Services and FISH of Laurel, also known as the Elizabeth House Resource Center, which provides dinners to individuals and families in need.

The Council began its partnership with Catholic Charities DC and SHARE Food Network in the summer of 1996 while looking for a way to make affordable groceries available to the community. Its first order consisted of just seven value packages. What began as a small effort has grown steadily over the years, with approximately 140 to 145 value packages distributed during each food distribution.

Unlike programs that provide only prepackaged or canned goods, Milestones offers fresh food, including meat, vegetables, and other healthy staples. This commitment to providing wholesome food became especially meaningful during the COVID-19 pandemic, when many families faced increased financial pressure and uncertainty. During that time, the Council significantly increased its purchases to help meet the growing need.

Since 2020, the Milestones program has distributed about 275,000 pounds of food. During the Council's 30th-year celebration, it also marked a historic milestone: one million pounds of food distributed since the program began.

The Milestones program reflects the Knights of Columbus Patuxent Council's enduring commitment to charity, service, and community strengthening. By bringing fresh, nutritious food to families and supporting local organizations, like SHARE Food Network, that serve those in need, the Council continues to put its faith into action.



Faith In Action

At the heart of the effort are Phyllis and her son, Jimmy, SHARE Food Network Host Site Coordinators, along with a dedicated team of Knights of Columbus members, family members, and Council friends. Together, they take orders, coordinate transportation, pack the food, and assist with distribution. Their teamwork helps create an experience grounded in compassion, dignity, and respect.

Phyllis began volunteering with the program in 2013. Jim served as Grand Knight from 2018 to 2019 and again in 2026–2027, continuing his family’s longstanding commitment to community service. Over the years, Milestones has grown into much more than a monthly food distribution. It has become an opportunity to put the principles of faith and charity into action in a meaningful and tangible way.

“Milestones is more than a food distribution program—it is a way for us to put our faith into action. Every box of fresh food represents an opportunity to help a neighbor, support a family, and remind someone that they are not alone. Seeing this program grow from a small effort into something that serves so many families is incredibly rewarding. It shows what can happen when people come together with compassion and a willingness to serve,” said a Patuxent Council Host Site Coordinator.

The impact extends beyond the families receiving assistance. It is also felt by the volunteers who come together to make each distribution possible.

“One of the most memorable parts of Milestones is seeing the volunteers come together at every distribution. Knights, family members, and friends all work side by side, packing food, loading vehicles, and helping families receive what they need. You can see the gratitude on people’s faces, but the volunteers are grateful too. Those moments remind us that service is a two-way blessing—we give our time and resources, and in return, we receive the joy of knowing we made a difference,” the coordinator added.

This is what “Harvesting Hope Together: A Season of Gratitude and Action” means in practice: giving thanks for the blessings we have received and then sharing those blessings with others. Through every box packed, every family served, and every volunteer who gives their time, the Patuxent Council turns gratitude into meaningful action.

Promote the Important Work of SHARE Food Network

Please help spread the word about SHARE Food Network! Even though we've served our community for 35 years, many people still don't know they can access affordable, nutritious food—no matter their income.

How can you help support the program? Feel free to invite a SHARE Outreach Specialist to your church or organization meeting to share information about our services and how to get help. Together, we can continue working together in the battle against food scarcity—one meal at a time.

Friendly Reminder!

1. Quantities are limited on ALL menu items.
2. Menu items are subject to change due to quality or shipping issues.
3. Place your order as soon as possible and call to confirm receipt
4. Pay attention to deadlines and dates



A Seafood Favorite Everyone Loves

There's something special about gathering around the table and sharing great food with family and friends. These tender, sweet Jonah crab claws are a delicious way to make any meal feel a little more special. Packed with fresh seafood flavor and easy to enjoy, they're perfect for weeknight dinners, holiday meals, or casual get-togethers.

Serve them chilled with your favorite dipping sauce or as part of a seafood feast, and watch them disappear. No matter the occasion, Jonah crab claws are a simple, crowd-pleasing favorite that will bring everyone back for more.



GET THE RECIPE





Our SHARE Food Network provides affordable, nutritious food packages **available to everyone**, regardless of socioeconomic background. At a 50% discount, no application, qualification, identification, or documentation is required for purchase.

How to Order

1. To order food packages, scan the QR code to find a local host site.
2. Next, call your selected Host Site and provide payment.
3. Pick up your purchased food package on the designated pickup date at your selected host location.

Quantities are limited on **ALL** menu items. Menu items are subject to change due to quality or shipping issues.



We Accept:
Debit/Credit, EBT,
Money Orders,
Org. Checks



THIS MONTH'S SELECTION



VALUE PACKAGE

Chicken Drumsticks
(5 lb bag)
Ground Chicken (1 lb.)
Eggs (1 dozen)
Black Beans (1 lb.)
Fresh Fruits & Vegetables
(9-11 lbs.)

\$30



AFTER SCHOOL SNACK

Breaded Chicken Patties
(2 lbs.)
4 Personal Pizzas
Jar of Peanut Butter
Jar of Strawberry Preserves

\$18



SALMON SPECIAL

Salmon Fillets (2.5-3 lbs.)

\$28



FRESH FRUIT BOX

5 Granny Smith Apples
5 Bartlett Pears
Red Seedless Grapes (1 lb.)
Raspberries (1/2 pint)
2 Red Grapefruits

\$23

Order Turn in Begins: Monday, Sept. 21

All Final Order Changes: Monday,
October 12 by 12 pm

All Payments: Tuesday, October 13

Distribution Days: October 16 - 17

www.catholiccharitiesdc.org/sharefoodnetwork

301-864-3115

Shareorders@cc-dc.org

**SHARE Food Network will be closed on Friday,
Oct. 23**



Nuestra SHARE Food Network ofrece paquetes de alimentos asequibles y nutritivos, **disponibles para todos**, independientemente de su origen socioeconómico. Con un descuento del 50%, no se requiere solicitud, requisitos de elegibilidad, identificación ni documentación alguna para su compra.

Cómo Pedir

1. Para pedir paquetes de alimentos, escanee el código QR y busque un centro de distribución local.
2. A continuación, llame al centro anfitrión seleccionado y realice el pago.
3. Recoja el paquete de alimentos que compró en la fecha de recogida designada y en la sede anfitriona que seleccionó.

Las cantidades de **TODOS** los artículos del menú son limitadas. Los artículos del menú están sujetos a cambios por problemas de calidad o de envío.



Nosotros aceptamos

Débito/Crédito,
EBT, Giros Postales,
Org. Cheques



LA SELECCIÓN DE ESTE MES



PAQUETE DE VALOR

Muslos de Pollo
(bolsa de 5 lb)
Pollo Molido (1 lb.)
Una Docena de Huevos
Frijoles Negros (1 lb.)
Frutas y Verduras Frescas
(9-11 lbs.)

\$30



MERIENDA DESPUÉS DE LA ESCUELA

Filetes de pollo empanizados
(2 libras)
4 pizzas individuales
Frasco de mantequilla de maní
Frasco de mermelada de fresa

\$18



ESPECIAL DE SALMÓN

Filetes de salmón (2.5-3
lbs.)

\$28



CAJA DE FRUTA FRESCA

5 manzanas Granny Smith
5 peras Bartlett
Uvas rojas sin semillas (1 lb.)
Frambuesas (1/2 pinta)
2 Toronjas rojas

\$23

Comienza la entrega de pedidos : Lunes,
Septiembre 21

Todos los cambios en el pedido final:
Octubre 12 antes de las 12 pm

Todos los Pagos: Martes, Octubre 13

Días de Distribución: Octubre 16-17

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**SHARE Food Network estará cerrado el
Viernes 23 de Octubre.**