



SHARE of McLEAN

Winter 2025

Spotlight

Spotlight on: Family Assistance

Share's Family Assistance team may be small, but their impact is *enormous*! With just 11 dedicated coordinators, they worked tirelessly in 2024 to assist nearly 800 families facing financial hardships. Whether responding to referrals from Fairfax County, faith-based organizations, or directly from clients in need, this team provides critical emergency support when it matters most. Share helps families stay in their homes by covering rent and utility bills, providing assistance with medical expenses, and ensuring children have the supplies they need for school—all thanks to the generosity of our incredible community.

One of our coordinators shared, *"This is the most rewarding work I do."* Their words reflect the passion and dedication that drive Share's mission every day.

Your support makes all of this possible! Every donation, big or small, helps ease the burden for families in crisis. Thank you for standing with us and making a difference in the lives of our neighbors when they need it most. If you would like to help, visit www.shareofmclean.org/donate

Important Updates on Share Membership

Join the Share of McLean Community! If you contribute your time, skills, or resources to Share, you're eligible to become a member. As a member, you can:

- Attend Membership Meetings to stay informed
- Vote on important matters
- Elect Officers and the Board of Directors
- Be nominated and elected as an Officer or Director

Stay connected and help shape the future of Share! Fill out the membership form by **March 1, 2025** to be eligible to vote at the **June 2025 annual meeting**: www.shareofmclean.org/become-a-member

Combating Hunger and Providing Dignity to our Clients

Our clients rely on Share to help them stretch their grocery dollars. The demand for our services continues to increase – over the last year, the number of visits to our pantry increased by almost 10%. With current events, we expect demand to increase even more. Please keep Share in mind as you shop; if you are able to pick up a few extra items, they would be extremely welcome. Fortunately, our neighbors have modeled outstanding generosity and compassion toward our community.

A huge shout out to our anonymous HEROES!

Wow! A genuine thank you to the donor who generously filled our shed with much-needed cooking oil! Also, a huge thank you to the donor who dropped off 10 bags of canned food!



We are so grateful to all our amazing neighbors who make such a meaningful impact on Share through their timely and generous donations.

We Couldn't do it without our Corporate and Faith-Based Partners

Thank you to the team at **Freddie Mac** for donating items from our Most Needed List! Also, a big thank you to **The Ritz-Carlton, Tysons Corner** for hosting a coat and canned goods drive during the month of January! We are so grateful for your support and commitment to helping our community!

The **Capital One McLean Commercial Real Estate** team participated in their annual Season of Service event by **collecting 200+ cans** and creating a tribute to the Washington Nationals! What a creative way to foster teamwork while generously supporting Share of McLean!



And once again, as part of this year's **McLean 5K**, runners supported Share by dropping off canned food and toiletries when picking up their race packets. The **McLean Community Foundation (MCF)**, with its long history of supporting Share, ensured that Share's truck was ready to collect donations from the "Most Needed Items" list.

Temple Rodef Shalom's food drive was another remarkable success! We extend our heartfelt thanks for more than *20 years of unwavering support and*



partnership in this annual event. A special shoutout to the **Marshall High School Key Club** and all the teens who pitched in to collect, date-check, and stock the shelves.

Thank you, **Riverbend Country Club**, for your generous food donation—perfectly timed for the Thanksgiving holidays! **BBB National Programs** also organized and collected donations from their office to support Share’s mission. We also want to extend a sincere thank you to the **New Dominion Women’s Club** for collecting food and toiletry items from our Most Needed List!



We are so grateful to the team from **A Purposeful Day** for checking expiration dates on donations and organizing the dental supplies ahead of client distribution. We also welcome **CBRE** to our giving community as it hosted its first corporate donation drive to support of Share of McLean!

Thank you to **Kris Thomas, SweetNest Real Estate Group** for hosting a basket and breakfast at the Giant in McLean on November 16 to collect dessert Blessings Baskets in support of Share. We appreciate the thoughtfulness in gathering donations to make the Thanksgiving holiday a little sweeter.

Cake4Kids (www.cake4kids.org) treats bring joy to the children of our clients, making them feel extra special on their special days. Thank you for spreading happiness!



Our Kids Demonstrate Caring and Compassion

The kids at **Lemon Road Elementary School** brought incredible energy and enthusiasm as they collected several carloads of food donations! Also a big thank you to **Girl Scout Troop 667 from McLean House Condos** for collecting donations from their neighbors to support Share.

A huge thank you to all the kids at **Cooper Middle School** for collecting over 700 items from Share’s Most Needed list! The classes held a friendly competition to see who could gather the most, combining community service with a healthy dose of rivalry.

McLean High schoolers started the **Small Things Matter Club** in Virginia to purchase and prepare bagged lunches for those in need. The students donate 50+ sandwich packs to Share for pantry openings. We appreciate your initiative and generosity in making a difference in the community!



A special shout out to **Scouting for Food!** On Saturday, November 9, the annual "Scouting for Food" drive took place with proceeds donated to Share of McLean. It was a bustling day, as vehicles pulled into the Share parking lot with neighborhood donations, and volunteers worked tirelessly to sort, check dates, and stock the warehouse shelves. This food drive is one of the largest of the year, and we are incredibly grateful for the generous neighbors who contributed and, most of all, for Scout troops whose enthusiasm and dedication made it all possible.



A warm thank you to **Girl Scout Troop 50082** for their generous donation! The troop began when the girls were in kindergarten at Chesterbrook ES and are now 8th graders at Longfellow MS. Since they will not be continuing with Girl Scouts, the troop decided to donate their remaining funds to a worthy cause. We greatly appreciate you choosing Share of McLean!

Gardening for Neighbors!

Fresh produce is always welcomed by our clients. We are so grateful that the **Arlington Friends of Urban Agriculture's Plot Against Hunger Program (FUOA)** shared their bounty with us! Share's clients so appreciated the harvest of apples, broccoli, greens, zucchini, and peppers.



Hygiene Helpers - Keeping Teeth Sparkly and More!



Power Play Kids Camp donated kids' dental kits! We love the cute bags with toothbrushes, toothpaste, and other items that are sure to put a smile on their faces. We also want to recognize the **Girl Scouts of McLean – Service Unit 50-6**, for purchasing and assembling over 60 dental kits for children and 50 toy gift bags! Your generosity and community spirit are truly admirable.

A huge thank you to the **Capital One Marketing and Field Analytics team** for their incredibly generous donation of 50+ dental and toiletry kits! We understand it was a wonderful team building activity that not only brought your team together but also made a substantial difference in the community.

This year, **Flint Hill School** supported Share of McLean during their annual October service day! The students collected essential toiletry items to support our neighbors in need.

A heartfelt thank you to the **Salesforce team** for their generous donation of 70 toiletry kits packed with several hygiene essentials! We are also grateful to **Vinson Hall Retirement Community** for assembling over 70 gift bags filled with delightful toiletries for our Share clients aged 55 and older! Many bags included handmade items, and your thoughtfulness brought holiday cheer to all. And a special note of gratitude to the **anonymous donor** who generously dropped off several large bags and boxes filled with toiletry kits! Each kit, thoughtfully packed with socks, a poncho, small toiletry items, first aid kits, and snacks, will make a meaningful difference for those in need. Your kindness and generosity are truly commendable, and we appreciate your commitment to helping our community.



Coat Drive

Every winter Share distributes winter coats, hats, and mittens to help our clients and their families stay warm. Our community support this year has again been tremendous – both at the individual and corporate partner level. Our clients are so very grateful to be wrapped in your generosity. We would like to acknowledge the following groups and individuals who led the way in this effort:

Before the **Eddie Bauer** at Tysons closed, longtime Share supporter and store manager **Roxana** gathered many coat donations; she continues to support Share in her new position as Manager of the **Eddie Bauer** store in Fair Oaks with car loads of

coats and clothes!

Eddie Bauer linked up with Share several years ago through **One Warm Coat** (OWC). OWC is a national nonprofit that connects donations of coats with nonprofit volunteer organizations that distribute the coats to the local communities. Roxana and Eddie Bauer have donated hundreds of coats and clothes and blankets and accessories (shoes, hats, gloves) to Share. We are grateful for this long partnership with OWC and Eddie Bauer.

Thank you to the team at **Clearwater Analytics** for hosting a coat drive for Share!



A warm thank you to **Tessa** for organizing a neighborhood coat drive to support Share and replenish our coat supply!



A HUGE thank you to **Aimee** for collecting over 200 coats and 50 winter accessories for Share, just in time to restock our dwindling coat supply! Aimee partnered with **Chesterbrook Elementary** to launder and sort unclaimed lost-and-found items, helping them find new homes this winter.

Chesterbrook Elementary also provided a thoughtful donation of 160 essential winter items that will help children in our community stay warm and cozy during the chilly months ahead. What an amazing effort to support our community!



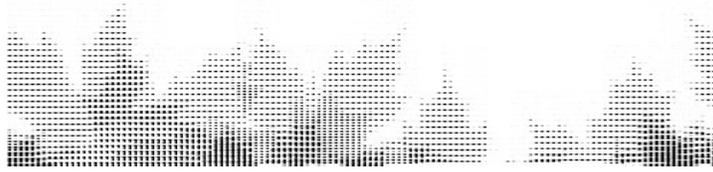
Knitting for our Neighbors



Thank you, **Kathleen**, for donating 35 handmade hats for adults and children! We

also extend our heartfelt thanks to the talented members of the **Lewinsville Senior Center Knitting Club** and the **McLean Sit and Stitches** for donating 41 beautiful, colorful handmade knitted hats for adults and children! Your kindness and generosity will go a long way in helping Share clients stay warm this winter.

A Festive Winter Holiday at Share



Share's Holiday Program wrapped up on December 18, and it was another incredible event thanks to your generous donation of gift cards throughout the year! A huge shoutout to **Trinity United Methodist Church, McLean Presbyterian Church, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Melinda, and Ann** for sponsoring Treat Tables filled with delicious goodies.



A heartfelt thank you to the amazing team at **Trinity United Methodist Church** for their incredible support of Share during our holiday program! The beautiful (and delicious!) treat table and the thoughtful teen gift bags were a big hit on the first day of our holiday distribution. We are so thankful for your partnership and all the ways you make a difference in our community!



Thank you, **JD Callander and Ed Blanchard at Weichert Realtors**, for once again donating delicious apple pies to Share for the Thanksgiving holiday! Clients were eager to take one home and said they were delicious. We appreciate your continued support over the



Toys for the Holidays



A huge thank you to **Jack and Martina** for organizing toy drives for our clients this holiday season! Together they collected over 250 toys! We love seeing our teens take a special interest in supporting the community!



The amazing students at **Basis Independent School** outdid themselves this year, collecting over **\$1,800** in gift cards to donate to Share for the holidays! These thoughtful contributions will go a long way in supporting our neighbors in need. We also want to recognize **Franklin Sherman Elementary School** for its generous donation of gift cards through its annual Mitten Tree program! We love partnering with you and appreciate your dedication to supporting our community during the holiday season, while teaching our youth the importance of supporting others.

A warm thanks to **Rev. Blair Moorhead** and **Immanuel Presbyterian Church in McLean** for their very generous donation of gift cards just in time for the holidays! We sincerely appreciate the support and partnership we have had over the years.

A huge thank you to all the neighbors in the McLean and Great Falls area who generously contributed to the **Giant Holiday Tree Gift Card Drive**! We deeply appreciate your continued commitment to strengthening our community.

Back to School Supply Drive

Each year, Share hosts a Back-to-School drive to provide our clients' kids with a great start to the new academic year. Even though we still may see a few flurries, Share is getting this project organized. Please see <https://www.shareofmclean.org/back-to-school> for more information on how you can help.

One neighbor, **Jai**, worked hard to ensure that Share would be able to meet clients' needs for school supplies throughout the year. Thank you, Jai, for organizing and running a neighborhood school supply drive! We're grateful for your dedication to the community!



Furniture Program

A big thank you to high school students brothers, **Michael and Matthew**, for generously helping with Saturday morning furniture deliveries! Share's furniture team is always in need of volunteers to assist with deliveries or scheduling. For more details, please visit our webpage at www.shareofmclean.org/furniture.



Share Furniture Bank

We recently started a pilot program to meet clients at our storage unit so they can "shop" for furniture as they would at our food pantry. This works well when clients have their own minivan or pickup truck.

New truck

Thanks to a large, anonymous bequest from a longtime McLean resident, we were able to replace our aging fleet with a brand new truck that will be used for all of our programs. This new, safe vehicle will help save money on costly repairs and will help us serve our neighbors in need for many years to come. Stay tuned for more pictures of the signage that will soon be added!

Get Involved

Food and Clothing Pantry



Food Pantry Needs



Food and Clothing Pantry *Most

The pantry is our most visible program. Each registered neighbor may visit the pantry twice a month and choose the food and clothing they need. This service relies on community members' food drives and independent donations as the pantry goes through **over 900 bags of groceries a month!**

If you would like to donate to the food and clothing pantry, please see the list of our most needed items on the right. Donations can be dropped off in person during regular pantry hours on Wednesday and Saturday mornings, preferably between 11:00 – 12:00 when the pantry is less busy, or placed in the outside storage bins located at Share's main entrance, Door #8, 1367 Chain Bridge Road. Our volunteers empty the sheds daily.

Please bring fresh produce donations between 8:30 -- 9:30 AM on Wednesdays and Saturdays so our clients can use them the same day.

For large donations, contact info@shareofmclean.org to arrange a drop off time.

**** Please: no glass, no over-sized items, and no expired items****

Low or no sodium items preferred

Needed Items* currently:

(For the most up-to-date list please visit this [link](#)).

Canned fruit
Canned tuna and chicken
Canned tomato products (sauce & diced)
Canned vegetables (corn, carrots, mixed only)
* Canned or dried beans (chickpea & pinto only) *
Pasta Sauce (cans & plastic jars only)
Peanut butter (16 oz.)
Pasta (elbow, penne, spaghetti, etc.)
Rice (1 lb. bag)
Macaroni & Cheese
Oatmeal
Granola bars / snacks
Diapers (sizes 5 & 6) Pull-ups (4T – 5T)
Baby wipes
Toilet paper
Paper towels
Shampoo
Toothbrushes (individually wrapped) / Toothpaste
New socks and new underwear (all sizes needed)
* Currently, we do not need any green beans, black beans, or kidney beans *

Share can accept refrigerated and frozen food such as chicken, fresh produce, yogurt, cheeses, and eggs but only by prior arrangement (contact: info@shareofmclean.org)

Help Wanted

Share is looking for 4 teams of 2-3 people who can pick up produce once or twice a month from local farm markets and food coops. If you're interested, please send an email to info@shareofmclean.org.

We're always on the lookout for drivers and helpers in Share's "travel and adventure program" (aka Share furniture). Please see the [SignUpGenius link](#) or contact randy@shareofmclean.org for more information.

Mark your Calendars

- Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive - May 10
- Back to School Distribution - August 2-16

More information about Share activities is available on our [calendar](#)

Curious about Share?

Ever wondered how Share began? Or where your donations of food and clothing go? Want a virtual peek inside the rooms where our clients can select food, clothing, and other essentials? Take a look [here](#) for all that information and more!

Donate

Share relies entirely on donations. We do not receive any county, state, or federal funding. Please consider making a tax-deductible gift using the button below.

[Donate](#)

Our Core Values

We value our clients and treat them with kindness, respect, and generosity.
We value our donors and are deeply grateful for their charitableness and partnership.
We think of our volunteers as family and are inspired by their commitment and dedication.

About Share

Share of McLean is an all-volunteer, community-based nonprofit that teams with individual donors and partner organizations to assist our neighbors who face food insecurity, economic hardships or related challenges. For more information, please visit our website at www.shareofmclean.org or check our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/ShareOfMclean for the latest updates. For questions, contact us via email at info@shareofmclean.org.

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