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## Manna Food Project to open Thursday pantry for working families

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HARBOR SPRINGS, MICHIGAN—Manna Food Project (Manna) has announced plans to open a food pantry the second and fourth Thursday of each month from 3 to 6 p.m., beginning January 10, 2019.

The pantry will serve individuals who find it difficult to attend Manna's Tuesday morning pantry because of work commitments.

"Even though employed, many of our neighbors still struggle to make ends meet—sometimes forced to choose between paying for rent and utilities and putting enough food on their table," says Kim Baker, Manna's executive director. "We're hoping that we are able to reach more people in our community who need a helping hand with this new program."

Anyone who expresses a need for food assistance is welcome to visit Manna and "shop for free" for their choice of perishable and non-perishable food items.

The new pantry will be operated as a four-month pilot program to test its popularity and overall feasibility. To tackle the additional workload of opening a second pantry, Manna is recruiting volunteers to help stock shelves and assist clients as they shop for food.

"It's very rewarding to see first-hand the people you're helping. Our Tuesday pantry days are by far the busiest and most fun. I can't wait to see how the Thursday pantry will go," Baker says.

If you are interested in volunteering or would like to learn more about this new venture, please contact Jessyca at 231.347.8852.

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Manna Food Project, a 501(c) (3) nonprofit organization, helps feed the hungry in Antrim, Charlevoix, and Emmet Counties. Manna is a partner organization of the national Feeding America Food Bank Network and operates a food bank and distribution center, a food rescue program, a food pantry, and the "Food 4 Kids" backpack program. For more information, call 231.347.8852 or visit [www.mannafoodproject.org](http://www.mannafoodproject.org).

