

Letters of Support – Batch 1

For the purposes of consolidating digitized materials the following is a summary list of endorsements followed by the actual documents received.

Item #	Name	Date
1-a	Pierre Yoo	February 26, 2024
1-b	Leo and Judy Gafney	February 26, 2024
1-c	Joanne Taber	February 26, 2024
1-d	Doug Smith	February 26, 2024
1-e	Alan Turner	February 26, 2024
1-f	Thaddeus Gray	February 26, 2024
1-g	Danny Lake	February 26, 2024
1-h	Leona El Hadj	February 26, 2024
1-i	Barbara Bettigole	February 26, 2024
1-j	Louise Lindenmeyr	February 26, 2024
1-k	Cheri Johnson	February 27, 2024
1-l	Kaye Garner	February 27, 2024
1-m	Adam Derwitsch	February 27, 2024
1-n	Joanne Carlisle	February 27, 2024
1-o	Carey Addison Stone	February 27, 2024
1-p	Reme (Remedios López Polo)	February 27, 2024
1-q	Carol Connolly	February 28, 2024
1-r	Allison B. Gray	February 29, 2024

From: Pierre Yoo <pieyoo@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, February 26, 2024 12:23 AM
To: Land Use <landuse@salisburyct.us>
Subject: I fully support The Corner Food Pantry

Hello P&Z,

I fully support The Corner Food Pantry and their proposal.

Thank you,
Pierre Yoo
11 Interlaken Rd
Lakeville, CT 06039
(860)596-2495

From: Leo Gafney <leogafney@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, February 26, 2024 8:25 AM
To: Land Use <landuse@salisburyct.us>
Cc: Amanda <amandaasch@gmail.com>
Subject: Food Pantry Application

We strongly support the Food Pantry's Application to continue the outstanding service they provide to people of the area. This will give the organization an even stronger foundation on which to plan and build into the future. As members of the Church of St. Mary which gave rise to the Pantry more than thirty years ago we are particularly invested in its progress and success.
Leo and Judy Gafney

From: Joanne Taber <joannetaber98@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, February 26, 2024 8:58 AM

To: Land Use <landuse@salisburyct.us>

Subject: Food Pantry Application

I sincerely hope the Pantry's application will be approved. Not only has the Pantry become an essential service to those people who are food insecure but also it is headed by a board of incredibly well organized and devoted volunteers.

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Thank you,

Joanne Taber

Please Note My New Email Address:

JoanneTaber98@gmail.com

From: doug@smithorbit.com <doug@smithorbit.com>

Sent: Monday, February 26, 2024 9:12 AM

To: Land Use <landuse@salisburyct.us>

Subject: Food Pantry Application

I'm writing in support of the food pantry's application to the P&Z commission, to continue its operation as a food pantry at its current location.

My wife and I reside in Lakeville.

Thanks,

Doug Smith

From: Alan Turner <aturnerlaw@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, February 26, 2024 12:16 PM

To: Land Use <landuse@salisburyct.us>

Cc: kathleenmera@gmail.com <kathleenmera@gmail.com>; amandaasch@gmail.com <amandaasch@gmail.com>

Subject: Food Pantry Application

I write in support of the Corner Food Pantry application to continue its operations at its current location. I have been a Corner Pantry volunteer for nearly on two years.

Food insecurity is both a national and a regional problem; inflation has not helped. The Pantry supplies a vital service to many families in the Northwest corner. Please support this vital regional nonprofit by permitting it to continue operations without interruption.

Thanks for your kind consideration of this request.

--

Alan Turner
cell - 215-287-7665

From: Thaddeus Gray <thadgray59@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, February 26, 2024 12:53 PM

To: Land Use <landuse@salisburyct.us>

Subject: Corner Food Pantry application

Dear Salisbury Planning and Zoning Commission,

I am writing to support the application for the Corner Food Pantry (CFP) for a special permit. The CFP has been operating from its location adjacent to St. Mary's Church for over 30 years with absolutely no disruption or inconvenience to the community. The CFP is critical in addressing food insecurity in our local community, which is a critical and growing problem. Last week alone, the CFP provided meals to 137 families comprising 620 individuals. Many of the families being served are working class American families whose income is insufficient to meet their nutritional requirements. Others are immigrants struggling to make ends meet in our country. The CFP is unique in serving and supporting the tri-state community every week, while most other food pantries are only open every other week. Other than the shortage of low income housing, there is no greater social need facing our community than the one addressed by the CFP. Lastly, the CFP volunteers are awesome. I know that, because my wife is one of them.

Warm regards,

Thaddeus Gray, Lakeville

From: daniel lake <laked191@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, February 26, 2024 2:42 PM

To: Land Use <landuse@salisburyct.us>

Subject: Food Pantry Application

As a vital, and sadly, much needed service to our region, I most wholeheartedly support their receiving a permit, which would allow them to continue their mission, at this location, which is convenient and familiar to its users.

Sincerely, Danny Lake

191 Millerton Rd. Lakeville, Ct. 06039

From: Leona Choe <lelhadj@me.com>
Sent: Monday, February 26, 2024 3:39 PM
To: Land Use <landuse@salisburyct.us>
Subject: Food Pantry Application

Dear P&Z Committee,

I am writing to express my fervent support for P&Z to approve the Corner Food Pantry's application for a Special Permit to operate the Pantry at its current location at 80 Sharon Road in Lakeville for "Philanthropic Use requiring Satellite Parking." I hope the P&Z will approve such permit application and allow the Pantry to continue its good works providing nutritious food to families in need in our area.

Many thanks,
Leona El Hadj
646-469-6535
Salisbury, CT

From: Barbara Bettigole <bbettigole@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, February 26, 2024 5:44 PM
To: Land Use <landuse@salisburyct.us>
Subject: Food Pantry Application

TO: Salisbury Planning and Zoning Commission (P&Z)

As an occasional volunteer at The Corner Food Pantry, I am in full support of the Pantry's application for a Special Permit ("for Philanthropic Use") to operate at its current location at 80 Sharon Road in Lakeville. The work of the volunteers at the Pantry never fails to leave me feeling inspired. It is important work that is based in a humanitarian gesture of caring for those in our area who need help. If it is a Special Permit they need to continue this work, then it should be granted without dispute.

Thank you,
Barbara Bettigole
860-435-4699
60 Long Pond Road
Lakeville, CT 06039

From: Louise Lindenmeyr <llindenmeyr@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, February 26, 2024 6:58 PM
To: Land Use <landuse@salisburyct.us>
Cc: Amanda Asch <amandaasch@gmail.com>
Subject: Food Pantry application

Esteemed members of P & Z:

As a volunteer for the Corner Food Pantry, working outside at the pickup area, I have personally witnessed people many in need of our services and grateful for what we provide. I encourage you to approve the Food Pantry's application, as it will help us continue to provide this generous and essential service to our neighbors.

Thank you for your dedication.

Louise Lindenmeyr
374 Taconic Rd

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Louise Lindenmeyr, APRN, FNP-BC

Hispanola Health Partners

Executive Director

hispanolahealthpartners.org

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/hispanola.health.partners/>

860 248-1813 USA

email: llindenmeyr@gmail.com

blog: llindenmeyr.blogspot.com/

From: Cheri and Kurt Johnson <kranskie@live.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 27, 2024 9:25 AM
To: Land Use <landuse@salisburyct.us>
Subject: Food Pantry Application

To the Salisbury Planning and Zoning Commission and Whom It May Concern,

My name is Cheri Johnson. I am a board member of the Corner Food Pantry and an active volunteer at its 80 Sharon Road site in Lakeville. I got involved with the organization in 2022 after seeing the incredible need for food access in the Northwest Corner. Having volunteered for five other pantries and food access organizations in other places I have lived, I can attest with great confidence that the Corner Food Pantry is the most well-run pantry I have encountered.

This amazing non-profit serves members of its community with a dependability, generosity, and responsibility that is unsurpassed. Since its inception over 30 years ago, the Corner Food Pantry has become an integral part of the community: supporting anyone who has found themselves in need by combatting hunger in children, adults, and the elderly. The organization works alongside local social service organizations to not only serve those families and individuals who come to its site, but to deliver food to those who are homebound and find themselves in desperate need of extra care. While those who pass the pantry may see a small line of expectant cars for a few hours each week, those who volunteer for the pantry or are served by it know that through the work of its volunteers it feeds hundreds of individuals every month.

In my capacity with the pantry, I get to work in close relationship with CT Foodshare, the state's foodbank. **CT Foodshare's relationship with the Corner Pantry is based on a number of criteria and on-site inspections, which the Corner Food Pantry handily meets during regular evaluations.** CT Foodshare works in conjunction with the Corner Food Pantry to make its inner workings and facility function at its best to offer food that is safely stored, fresh, and healthy, and offers volunteers a safe space in which to work.

At a time when land and housing prices are high, the 80 Sharon Road site of the Corner Food Pantry has provided a most-necessary space for the Corner Food Pantry to carry out its mission. The pantry's site is as critical to its function as the volunteers that work there. The Corner Food Pantry works to keep its presence at 80 Sharon Road discreet, clean, and closely monitored. The organization is highly conscious of working hard to keep lines short, organized, and moving fast, and it regularly re-evaluates its distribution processes to keep surrounding neighbors happy while offering clients high amounts of choice that ultimately keep food waste low.

I am grateful for this commission's time and the ways it makes decisions in the best interest of Salisbury residents. I encourage this commission to support the Corner Food Pantry - an

organization serving residents in critical need - by granting the organization a permit to continue using 80 Sharon Road "for Philanthropic Use requiring Satellite Parking." Providing a permit for this site will enable The Corner Food Pantry to continue its work to help the most vulnerable in our community achieve food security and economic mobility. This is in the best interest for all.

Cheri Johnson

From: Kaye Garner <kayefg@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 27, 2024 4:07 PM
To: Land Use <landuse@salisburyct.us>
Subject: Corner Food Pantry

My name is Kaye Garner, I live in Lakeville and I am a volunteer/board member of the Corner Food Pantry in Salisbury.

I have been an active volunteer at the Pantry for over 3 years. I am proud to be part of an origination that has been vital to my community for over 30 years.

I am confident the Pantry addresses the needs of people in our area that experience food insecurity. The entire volunteer team that makes up the Party organization serves clients in a generous and dependable manner; one that our clients have learned to depend on for weekly distributions.

The Pantry works along side and supports other local social service organizations. All this enhances our community by supporting anyone who may find themselves or their families in need.

The site at 80 Sharon Road provides essential space for the Pantry to carry out its mission. All the Pantry volunteers take pride both in their service and the building that allows it all to happen.

I highly encourage this commission to support the Corner Food Pantry by granting a permit to continue using 80 Sharon Road 'for Philanthropic Use requiring Satellite Parking'. This decision will be in the best interest of all.

Thank you for your time,

Kaye Garner

From: Adam Derwitsch <aderwitsch9@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 27, 2024 4:30 PM
To: Land Use <landuse@salisburyct.us>
Subject: Food Pantry Application

To whom it may concern,

My name is Adam Derwitsch and I reside at 18 Main Street, Salisbury, CT. I am providing a written testimony on behalf of the Corner Food Pantry and their application for approval of philanthropic use of the property where they are currently located at 80 Sharon Road, Lakeville, CT.

Over the past year, I've had the pleasure of getting to know and working alongside the wonderful volunteers at the Corner Food Pantry. These individuals consistently devote their personal time and efforts to a great cause. The pantry provides a critical service to the community in the form of a free, supplementary grocery option on an at-will, as-needed basis. The support I have witnessed from the volunteers and the generous donors continues to impress me with their common goal of easing the ever-evolving financial burden of inflated food prices in our country.

It is my sincere hope that the necessity for this permit application is strictly a formality and not reflective of a potential lack of support from the municipality. If there is any other information I can provide on behalf of the Food Pantry, please feel free to reach out directly to me.

Thank you for your consideration!

Adam Derwitsch
(413) 854-3473 (Cell)

From: Joanne Carlisle <jfcarl@umich.edu>
Sent: Tuesday, February 27, 2024 4:34 PM
To: Land Use <landuse@salisburyct.us>
Subject: Food Pantry application

To the Planning and Zoning Commission:

I am writing to support the application of the Corner Food Pantry for a permit to continue their services to the community at the current location. I have volunteered at the Food Pantry for many years, and I am well aware that the Food Pantry has been an enormous benefit to families not only in Salisbury and Lakeville but in surrounding towns as well. The current set-up seems adequate to run the food pick-up/donation process without creating problems for residents, including those living in the immediate vicinity of the current Food Pantry site.

Joanne Carlisle
56 Upland Meadow Road, Salisbury
860-435-2996

From: Addison Stone <addisons@umich.edu>
Sent: Tuesday, February 27, 2024 4:48 PM
To: Land Use <landuse@salisburyct.us>
Subject: Food Pantry Application

Dear P&Z Members,

I am writing in support of zoning approval of the Corner Food Pantry's application for continued use of its current location as a food distribution service to needy citizens. I have been a seasonal resident of Salisbury for over 30 years and a full-time resident for the last 4 years. During recent years, I have served as a regular volunteer at the Food Pantry, and thus I have been able to observe its operations and their impact on both the larger community and its immediate neighbors.

As you undoubtedly know, the Food Pantry provides meat, basic staples, and fresh produce for over 125 families from surrounding communities. The Pantry's clientele are uniformly grateful for the food they receive, and the Pantry's activities create enormous good will. The distribution process involves a staging area in St. Mary's parking lot and a drive-through pick-up area beside the church rectory. This arrangement does require that cars drive across Wells Hill Road and then exit onto Sharon Road. The temporary use of traffic cones along both roads serves to warn those cars passing through of the need to drive slowly and with increased vigilance. The families visiting the Pantry are cautious when crossing the road and exiting the area. My work for the Pantry is in the outdoor drive-through area, and during my years of involvement, I have never witnessed any accidents or traffic difficulties related to the Pantry activities. I have also never observed any disruptions of neighbors' activities due to noise or auto traffic.

Given the important service provided to the community, the minimal disruption to neighbors, and the Pantry's record of safety, I urge P&Z to grant approval for the continued activity of the Food Pantry at its current location.

Carey Addison Stone
56 Upland Meadow Rd.
Salisbury
860-435-2996

From: Remedios López Polo <retercios@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, February 27, 2024 5:07 PM

To: Land Use <landuse@salisburyct.us>

Subject: Food Pantry Application

To Whom It May Concern:

I'm writing to support the Food Pantry application to P&Z for a Special Permit to operate the Pantry at its current location at 80 Sharon Road in Lakeville for "Philanthropic Use requiring Satellite Parking (at Saint Martin of Tours Parish Parking Lot on Wells Hill Road)."

I live in Lakeville.

My best,

Reme (Remedios López Polo)

From: Carol Connolly <c27purity@protonmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 28, 2024 9:30 AM
To: Land Use <landuse@salisburyct.us>
Subject: Food Pantry Application

Hello ~

Thank you for your due diligence in your work and service.

I am writing in support of the Food Pantry Application as a resident of our community. I applaud the carefully organized and considerate ways the Corner Food Pantry conducts their activities in consideration of all parties involved to include the impact on neighbors and traffic as well as those served by their mission.

*Carol Connolly
28 Rocky Lane
Salisbury, CT*

Sent with [Proton Mail](#) secure email.

From: Allison Gray <bottomgray@gmail.com>

Sent: Thursday, February 29, 2024 2:40 PM

To: Land Use <landuse@salisburyct.us>

Subject: RE:Food Pantry Application to P & Z

My name is Allison B Gray and I am a board member and active volunteer at the Corner Food Pantry. The Corner Food Pantry has served the tri-state region for over 30 years at 80 Sharon Road. Everyone who volunteers at the Corner Food Pantry has always made it a point to be respectful of both our clients and our neighbors. We have also made a huge effort to keep the distribution process as organized and speedy as possible so that it is not disruptive to the neighbors. We keep the site tidy and we are regularly inspected by The State of CT Food Share representatives. We make it a priority to run a highly efficient and respectful site.

The Corner Food Pantry is unique in that we serve the tri-state region on a weekly basis. We have over 100 loyal volunteers: men, women and students from HVRHS, The Salisbury School and The Hotchkiss School. We work with local farmers and several other local organizations to acquire a great deal of our fresh produce. Our mission is to give out the healthiest, freshest food that we are able to acquire every week. We also work closely with town Social Services and deliver food to shut ins or families in crisis in Salisbury, Lakeville, Sharon and S.A.G.E. We have found that with inflation and the aftereffects of covid that our numbers have increased. On an average week we serve 105 families or about 420 individuals. Last week we served 137 families or 620 individuals. The need is real.

It is for this reason that we so passionately volunteer every week. We are addressing the food insecurity challenges of many individuals and families in the community.

I encourage the commission to support the Corner Food Pantries' application for a permit to continue our work at 80 Sharon Road, so that we can serve those who are the most vulnerable in our community.

Sincerely,

Allison B. Gray