



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Golden Pantry & Thrift Celebrates 60 Years of Service Amid Increased Pantry Demand

SNAP Federal Food Assistance Program Unavailable Beginning in November Leaving 38,000 Jefferson County Residents With Increased Food Needs

GOLDEN, Colo. (October 27, 2025)-Golden Pantry & Thrift, a beloved Golden nonprofit providing food and financial assistance to neighbors in need, will celebrate its 60th anniversary with a *Denim & Diamonds Anniversary Celebration* on Saturday, November 8, at 1401 Ford Street in Golden from 12-4 p.m.

The event will feature music, raffles, a cash bar, food, and “shopping for a cause” while supporting a mission that has been supporting the community since 1965. The fundraiser comes at a time when the pantry needs support the most.

“No one in Golden should ever have to go hungry. We are committed to meeting that need with compassion and care, and have done that for six decades,” said Executive Director Britni LeRoux. “We have already seen a 60% increase in food assistance needed over the last year. With inflation, the loss of federal SNAP food assistance on Nov. 1, and increased needs over the holidays, we expect to see higher demand in November and December than ever before. This event is both a celebration of community resilience and a call to action to support one another through uncertain times.”

As of October 2025, Jefferson County Human Services has confirmed that all November SNAP (food assistance) benefits are on hold due to the federal government shutdown. The U.S. Department of Agriculture has not released the \$120 million in federal funds that Colorado uses to issue monthly benefits, leaving the state unable to pay November assistance to more than 600,000 state residents, 38,000 which live in Jefferson County. While the county continues to process applications and recertifications, it emphasized that “issuance of future benefits depends on Congress’s action to resume federal appropriations.” ([JeffCo Human Services](#))

The uncertainty has created deep concern among local food pantries and nonprofits. Golden Pantry & Thrift (GPAT) anticipates a surge in demand as families who rely on SNAP turn to community food programs for emergency support. With the holiday season approaching, pantries

expect longer lines, higher operating costs, and increased pressure on volunteers and donations — making community contributions more critical than ever.

“Our team of only 2.5 staff members and 90 dedicated volunteers is doing everything possible, but food insecurity is growing faster every day,” says LeRoux. “Your support, whether through donations, volunteering, hosting a neighborhood food drive, or simply spreading the word, makes it possible for us to keep food on the table for every neighbor who turns to us. Together, we can ensure no one in our community is left behind.”

Area residents can support Golden Pantry & Thrift by giving, volunteering, or donating food to help neighbors in need:

- **Donate Online:** Make a one-time or recurring gift at goldenpantry.app.neoncrm.com/forms/donate. Monthly gifts of **\$25+** include you in *The Golden Giving Circle*, with special updates and event invitations.
- **Tax-Smart Giving:** Support our mission through **IRA distributions, stock gifts, or donor-advised funds**. These options can reduce your taxes while providing lasting community impact. Contact **Britni LeRoux** at britni@goldenpantryandthrift.org for details.
- **Corporate & Tribute Giving:** Become a **corporate partner** or make a **gift in honor or memory** of someone special.
- **Donate Food:** Drop off nonperishable items or fresh produce **Monday–Friday, 10 AM–3 PM**, at **1401 Ford St., Golden**. Most-needed items include canned proteins, peanut butter, pasta, and cereal.
- **Other Ways to Help:** Visit our [Amazon Wishlist](#) or **host a donation drive** with your friends or coworkers.

Rooted in Community, Growing in Impact: Golden Pantry & Thrift is a nonprofit organization that provides a sustainable food pantry and financial assistance to our community in crisis and/or experiencing hardship. Founded in 1965 as the *Christian Action Guild*, the organization began as a small thrift store serving Golden families. It soon expanded to include a food pantry, providing essential aid to those experiencing hardship. In 1998, Golden Pantry & Thrift found its current home at **1401 Ford Street**, where it continues to serve and uplift the community today.