



## NEWS RELEASE

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### **Glen Ellyn Food Pantry to Start Construction on New Home**

GLEN ELLYN, ILL. – Construction will start on the new home of the Glen Ellyn Food Pantry at 55 N. Park Blvd., Glen Ellyn, Ill., the week of Oct. 4, after receiving final permit approval from the Village of Glen Ellyn. The 100-year-old former parsonage of Faith Lutheran Church will be transformed to a full pantry and warehouse. The relocation from shared space inside Grace Lutheran Church where the Pantry was founded by a youth group in 1979, to a larger, dedicated building just a mile and a half south is necessary to support the growing number of neighbors who rely on the Pantry for groceries and services.

Full relocation of Pantry staff and services after the completion of construction is projected for spring 2022 and will provide more convenient access for neighbors at risk of hunger closer to the Roosevelt Road corridor and public transportation. The completed project will feature 5,609 square feet of space including a 2-story warehouse which will replace the current 2-car garage and will be fully compliant with the American Disabilities Act.

Green Light Construction Group of West Chicago, Ill., with three generations of experience, was selected for the project. The Pantry reached its campaign goal of \$900,000 in mid-March which will fund the work.

The building has served many uses beyond its original parsonage intentions, including a location to teach refugees how to sew. The property also features a community garden tended by refugee families who live in Glen Ellyn. The words *Cead Mile Failte*, loosely translated in Gaelic to “A Hundred Thousand Welcomes,” are imprinted on a vintage plaque of unknown origin currently on the front door and will be relocated inside the building when the Pantry officially moves. Bricks purchased and customized by donors will line the walkway at the entrance.

The Glen Ellyn Food Pantry is “making hunger history” by providing essential groceries and support to neighbors at risk of hunger through a collaboration of local churches and the broader community. The Pantry serves 12 communities in central DuPage County, Ill.: Addison, Bloomingdale, Carol Stream, Glen Ellyn, Glendale Heights, Lisle, Lombard, Villa Park, Warrenville, West Chicago, Wheaton, and Winfield. In 2020, the Pantry had over 14,000 client visits, serving 5,470 individuals 761,000 pounds of food including fresh produce, meat, dairy, bread, and other groceries. The Pantry was founded in 1979 and is a registered 501(c)(3) organization, 100 percent privately funded through grants and donations. For more information visit [www.GlenEllynFoodPantry.org](http://www.GlenEllynFoodPantry.org) or call 630-469-6988.

Attachment  
Photo of "future home"

