

## About Us

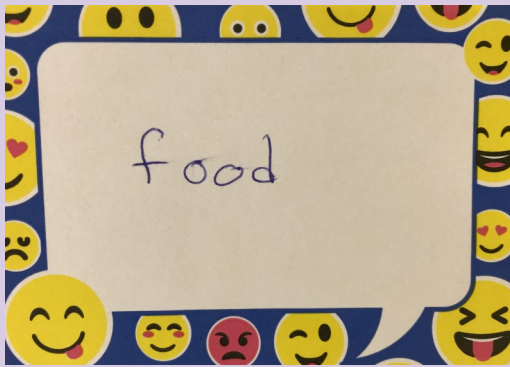
My mother, Camella, grew up poor - like depression poor, only it wasn't the depression era. I remember her telling my brother and I of watching other kids eat their lunch at school when she had nothing. She talked of going to bed hungry. She talked of no food in the house day after day.

I remember, as a small child, thinking, "why didn't someone do something to help?" Maybe help was available and her parents didn't know about it. Maybe her parents were too proud to ask for help. Maybe no one offered help.

So, in honor of my mother, I'm offering help to families in need.

*Angela Chastain*

Founder, Camella's Cupboard



A 3rd grade student's response to what he missed during summer vacation.

## Our Community Partners:

- New Milford Mayor's Office
- New Milford Public Schools
- New Milford Hospital
- United Way of Greater New Milford
- New Milford Social Services
- New Milford Youth Agency
- Good Shepherd Lodge #65 Independent Order of Odd Fellows
- Healing the Children Northeast
- Loaves and Fishes
- MVP-SOS
- New Milford Clergy Association
- Women's Club of Greater New Milford

## Camella's Cupboard

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For many, summer and school breaks are filled by sleeping in, playing games, or planning a vacation, but did you know that many of your neighbors are wondering how they will feed their children today?

On school days, 30% of New Milford students receive lunch through the federal free/reduced lunch program. When school isn't in session, these meals come out of families' fragile budget. Add to that an additional 22% of New Milford families who, while they don't qualify for the free/reduced lunch program, are still struggling desperately to make ends meet.

Camella's Cupboard was created to help with that need by bring the entire New Milford community together to help those in need. Countless, compassionate volunteers provide daily (M-F) sack breakfast and lunch as well as weekend, school break, and bad weather bags. Last summer over 6,000 meals were served thanks to the generosity of the New Milford community.

Tel: 765-404-2509

[www.camellascupboard.com](http://www.camellascupboard.com)



## OUR PROGRAMS

### Summer Lunch Program

We serve daily lunch (M-F) to students facing food insecurity during the summer months. Students receive a sandwich, fruit, a salty snack, a sweet treat, and an afternoon snack.

### In School Food Pantry

In school food pantries are available to students at both the middle and high schools. Students can take a snack, a lunch, or items to take home to their family.

### Break and Blizzard Bags

School breaks and bad weather often cause food hardships for families in need. We provide food to families for the days off school so a stressful situation isn't more stressful.

### Weekend Backpacks

Two days of food are provided to families during summer months and, a future plan, is to increase backpack distribution to the school year.

### Blessing Boxes

Future Project—24/7 mini food pantries placed around New Milford. The community is encouraged "take what you need, leave what you can. Why? - Because hunger doesn't work 9-5!

### Lunch Balance Pay down

Future Project—Outstanding lunch balances can keep a student from eating lunch at school. We aim to take that worry away so no student is ever denied lunch.

## WAYS TO HELP

We have jobs for volunteers of all ages and abilities. You can volunteer by yourself, with your family, with your group, or church.

## HOST A SUPPLY DRIVE

small bottles of Water  
cheese crackers (sandwich type)  
individual bags of popcorn  
individual bags of pretzels  
individual bags sunflower seeds  
pudding cups, any flavor  
individual tortilla chips & salsa  
individual peanut butter packs  
fruit cups  
applesauce cups or pouches  
peanut butter crackers (sandwich type)  
shelf stable milk  
small boxes of raisins  
breakfast bars  
fruit roll-ups or gushers  
granola bars  
zip top sandwich size bags  
zip top snack size bags  
Individual trail mix packages  
colorful napkins  
colorful paper lunch bags  
Small boxes of cereal or cereal cups  
oatmeal cups

## VOLUNTEER

- Sandwich Maker
- Lunch Packer
- Lunch Distribution
- Shopper
- Weekend Bag Distribution
- Driver
- Stock Pickup

## LUNCH BAGS

Brown paper bags are so boring. Help us add a little pizzazz to lunch by coloring or decorating lunch bags for us to hand out. We'll need some for both boys and girls.

## LUNCH NOTES

Tell a good joke? Know some fun riddles? Create some lunch notes to put in our lunch bags and brighten someone's day.

## DONATE

- Cash
- Cash Gift Card, Amazon Gift Card, Local Grocery Store Gift Card, Wal-Mart Gift Card
- Shop from our Amazon Wish List <http://a.co/6URQZg7>