







Group Volunteer Opportunities


Founded in 1947, **Interfaith Social Services** is dedicated to improving life for South Shore families and individuals in need. Our unique approach relies on a team of volunteers, donors and community partners to deliver compassionate, client-centered programs focused on hunger, mental health and homelessness prevention.


 **Food Pantry Volunteer Group:** We welcome groups of up to 5 people to volunteer in our food pantry! The shift runs daily, Mon.–Fri., 9:15am–12:30pm. You and your team will work with veteran volunteers to fill grocery orders, unload the food rescue truck and stock shelves in the food pantry. Skills required: Great customer service and communication skills; ability to stand, walk, bend and lift; and the ability to uphold our standards of client confidentiality. Contact Director of Development Paula Daniels at pdaniels@interfaithsocialservices.org to schedule your group.

 **Food Drive:** Collect nonperishable food items and deliver them to our food pantry. Food items can be dropped off Monday – Friday between 12-3pm. Please see our flier for the items we need the most: https://interfaithsocialservices.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/food_drive.pdf

 **Personal Care Kits:** Our clients are also in need of personal care products, (such as toothpaste, deodorant, shampoo, feminine hygiene products, etc.). However, we typically do not have these items on hand. Organize a Personal Care Product Drive and assemble kits for us to give out with the grocery orders in our food pantry. We serve approximately 1,200 clients per month.

 **Backpack Drive:** Interfaith distributes backpacks loaded with supplies to the school-age children of our clients each August. Your group can collect these supplies and assemble the packs, delivering them to us by the last week of July. Gender neutral colors work best. For a list of specific school supplies, please visit our website (<https://interfaithsocialservices.org/backpack-drive/>) or email Emily Ryan at eryan@interfaithsocialservices.org. We distribute about 700 backpacks each August.

 **Halloween Costume Drive:** For moms and dads struggling to make ends meet, Halloween costumes do not make the list of essentials. The children we serve in our food pantry do not have the opportunity to walk into a store and pick whatever costume they want. Each fall, we collect new costumes and let the children of our clients come “shop” for a Halloween costume. You can help by running a Costume Drive. Ask your coworkers, employees and friends to donate new costumes for children in need (infant to age 12) and deliver them to us by the first week of October.

 **Help for the Holidays:** In December, we distribute more than 3,000 holiday gifts to the children of our food pantry clients. Local businesses and organizations can assist by either sponsoring client families or running a Toy Drive (new, unwrapped toys for children ages newborn – 12). Contact Emily Ryan at eryan@interfaithsocialservices.org if you would like to sponsor a family or organize a toy drive.