

The Hardwick Area Food Pantry began in the 1970s as a church-run emergency food supply. This effort was supported by a group of local churches until 2004 when HAFP became an independent nonprofit 501(c)3 and moved into a new space connected to St. John's Church. HAFP now has an expanded mission that includes quality food, community-building and education. HAFP services are focused on the seven closest towns (Hardwick, Wolcott, Greensboro, Craftsbury, Walden, Albany, Stannard), but all are welcome and we typically serve clients from at least 14 towns each year. Every year during the holiday season the pantry distributed Thanksgiving and Christmas boxes in addition to the regular food shelf service.

The Hardwick Area Food Pantry works collaboratively with the Center for an Agricultural Economy, and WonderArts VT to offer the Grow Your Own program (GYO). Now in its sixth year, GYO offers a framework for Food Pantry clients and community members to share knowledge, with the goals of addressing food insecurity, building community and mentoring new leaders who have not traditionally been in positions of power.

Volunteers are an amazing part of the HAFP story, contributing close to 4000 hours of time every year and helping us to nourish connection in addition to bodies. We could not do what we do without volunteers, food and fund drives, and generous financial donations from the community. All of these charitable acts enabled us to provide food to our neighbors who are struggling.

To learn more about the Hardwick Area Food Pantry, contact LauraLee Sweeney at director@hardwickareafoodpantry.org or 1-802-472-5940. We are located at 39 West Church Street in Hardwick, right next to the library. Our mailing address is: PO Box 1075, Hardwick, VT 05843.