



Fresh Food Matters

(502) 614-8544

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Fresh Food Now More Available

As a cornerstone of health, fresh food nourishes us with vitamins, minerals, flavor, and joy. Studies show fresh foods have higher nutritional benefits than processed foods, which means better health – and let's face it: when we feel better, we make better decisions, have more energy, and lead happier lives.

Because fresh foods have a shorter shelf life than processed foods, storage becomes the challenge. Earlier this summer, Exodus Family Ministries received two new refrigeration units to increase our capacity to store and distribute more fresh produce, meats, dairy items, and eggs. Special thanks to [Anthem Medicaid](#) for donating a new refrigerator and stocking it with fresh produce AND to [Dare to Care](#), the [Honorable Order of Kentucky Colonels](#), [Samtec](#), [John Waters Heating, Cooling & Electric](#), and the donors from last year's Give for Good Louisville campaign who made the purchase and installation of a large walk-in refrigeration and freezer unit possible. We can now distribute more fresh food items to the families and individuals we serve in our area.



Give For Good Louisville

Mark your calendar for Thursday, September 14 - this year's Give for Good Louisville day, which is the area's most generous day of giving annually hosted by the Community Foundation of Louisville.

Exodus Family Ministries has a goal to raise \$15,000 on this day to help fund the operations of our Resource Center which will be opening soon. If you are interested in becoming one of our "team members," where you encourage your friends to donate to our [page](#), or one of the people/organizations that provides a matching gift to encourage others to give, please reach out to Lynn Huffman at grants@exodusfamilyministries.com for more information.

Volunteer Spotlight

Our volunteers make our ministry possible. Earlier this year, we



acknowledged the time and efforts of key volunteers and presented them with awards to show our appreciation. This month, we want to spotlight Rev. Donna Melloan, who received the Faithful Servant Award for her tireless efforts in our food pantry over the past year. Donna oversees the volunteers, food box assembly, and food distribution days, which are no small feat since we feed approximately 1,000 people a month through our program. Donna enjoys her volunteer efforts at Exodus, as well as her role as a part-time chaplain at UofL Hospital. Please be sure to thank Donna for all her work the next time you visit the pantry.

“Many in this community do not have adequate access to food. After receiving a box from us most everyone leaves with a smile and a ‘thank you, you don’t know what this means to me.’ And more importantly, they have become our friends and neighbors. We hurt when they hurt and can offer a sympathetic ear and touch.”

Keeping Track of it All...

In order to track our growth and services, we needed a better way to collect and store information about our clients and donors. **VSimple** came to our aid by generously building a customized database for us, free of charge! This database will allow us to record client interactions, streamline our registration processes, manage our caseload, and secure more grant funding. We truly appreciate your commitment to our organization and the community.

“We’re honored to support the Exodus team by fostering a place for them to expand and track their impact. This partnership is invaluable to us, and we’re proud to continue to assist them in their mission of providing essential resources to the homeless and disenfranchised communities in South Louisville.” said Gary Criscillis, chief financial officer of VSimple.

New Leadership at Exodus, Dayrl Koppel

We welcome our new board chair, Dayrl Koppel, who took the reins July 1, 2023. A business owner in this area for over 40 years, Dayrl has served on our board and agreed to the leadership role. “This is an area that I live in, work in, and love so I am thankful to be a part of this organization with others who care. We are all looking forward to the exciting programs to come.”



A special thank you to our previous chair, and Ex-Officio Board Member, Tim Vincent. For years, Tim managed and ran his own company. He was instrumental in restructuring Southwest Family Ministries into Exodus Family Ministries and making it the organization it is today. He has lived in the area his entire life and wants to see the community and its residents thrive.

News Bites

- At the end of May, our volunteers went the extra mile to create our first-ever yard sale. We raised \$900 to support our food pantry and clothes closet. Bravo to all who helped and to those who shopped.
- Our clothes closet worked with other organizations to bless nearly 500 young women with prom dresses this spring. Thanks to all who contributed and helped with this effort.
- Hats off to Home Depot – Dixie Highway. They contributed picnic tables, landscaping materials and labor, and countertops for our new homeless resource center.



Partner Updates

- Heartfelt thanks to **Dare to Care** for their tremendous support - from supplying much needed food and contributing funding for our walk-in refrigeration unit, to donating a used, refrigerated box truck and featuring us in their social media. We enjoyed showing their staff our facilities recently and look forward to working with them even more closely in the future, when we begin helping them distribute Commodity Supplemental Food boxes from the USDA to seniors in our area.
- Welcome **Hope City Church**. We are happy to have you on board as a new partner and appreciate your joining us as we spent a day doing outreach.
- **Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield Medicaid** is generously including Exodus Family Ministries in their Renewal Resource Days to stock our pantry with fresh food items once a quarter.
- We are booking tours of our pantry, clothes closet, and resource center to share our progress. If your organization is interested in learning how to get more involved in our service to the community, please call [\(502\) 614-8544](tel:5026148544) or send us a request at info@exodusfamilyministries.com

New Phone Extensions

We are excited to announce we've upgraded our phone system to better serve our community's growing needs. While our number will remain [\(502\) 614-8544](tel:5026148544), you may now be directly connected to the appropriate program by entering the following extensions:

- 101-Food Pantry/Deliveries
- 102-Clothes Closet
- 103-General Info/Homeless Services
- 104-Faith Services





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