

News from the Neighborhood

Doorstep, Inc. 1119 SW 10th Avenue, Topeka, Ks 66604 (785) 357-5341

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A Year of Growth in Support for Our Neighbors

In 2024, the need for food assistance surged to levels we haven't seen in years. In just two years, our food budget skyrocketed by **1,100%**, as we worked to keep our shelves stocked and meet the demand. This increase meant we provided **240% more food orders** compared to 2022, as our neighbors' faced challenges. Many are struggling to cover basic bills, and with no room left in their budgets for food, we've been here to help.

Anticipating a higher demand in 2024, we began reaching out to potential funders to help cover the costs. We're incredibly grateful to the organizations that stepped up to make this possible: **Advisors Excel, Everygy Foundation, Frontier Farm Credit, PrairieBand Potawatomi Nation, EFSP, Bishop's Storehouse**, and private family foundations. Their generosity allowed us to continue supporting our community. In total, **\$84,500** was spent on food, enabling us to distribute **167,833 pounds** of food to those in need in 2024.

A Hand Up, Not Just a Handout

Watching the stress lift from the faces of those we help is the most rewarding part of our work. Providing a little extra support at a critical time makes a huge difference in people's lives, and the relief it brings is the gratitude we cherish most.

As we move forward in 2025, we remain committed to helping our neighbors through the toughest of times. With your continued support, we will ensure that no one in our community must face hardship alone.

Celebrating 60 Years of Neighbors Helping Neighbors

In 2026, Doorstep will proudly celebrate **60 years** of serving our community! Over the next year, we'll be hosting a series of events leading up to our **60th Anniversary celebration**, culminating in the **Walk/5K Fun Run in June 2026**.

It all started 59 years ago when **six churches in central Topeka** came together to support their neighbors in need—literally helping people on their doorsteps. Since then, our mission has expanded, but the heart of our work remains the same: helping those in need with dignity, compassion, and a hand-up.

Today, Doorstep is powered by **55 Mission Members** who unite to assist our neighbors with basic needs and empower them to overcome life's challenges. We are proud to be a part of a legacy that's all about **Neighbors Helping Neighbors**.

59 years of Helping our Neighbors in Need

Lisa Cain, Executive Director

Donation Slip

I / We would like to donate to Doorstep: _____

Address: _____ City/State/Zip _____

Phone: _____ Faith Community Mission Member: _____

Email address: _____

2024 Services

Doorstep provided the following services to families & individuals in need:

Food Orders	2,964 orders
Utility Assistance	310 bills paid
Rent Payments	112 households
Prescriptions	482 Rx purchased
Dental	18 vouchers
Phone Bills	15 units
Childcare & Miscellaneous	12 units
Transportation Bus	113 sets of passes
Transportation Gas	224 vouchers
Transp. Auto Services	67 services
Christmas Adoptions	260 households
Outreach Services	120 services
Clothing Room	5,966 visits

A total of \$388,459 was spent on emergency services. We distributed 167,833 pounds of food & \$178,805 worth of clothing & household items to our neighbors in need.

DOORSTEP APPRECIATION BANQUET

Dinner

Taco Bake
Salad
Desserts
A 'Love Offering' will be taken

Program

Luke Bryan, Co-President
Sleep in Heavenly
Peace Topeka Chapter
"No Kid Sleeps on the Floor in Our Town!"

Quilt Drawing ~ \$1 & \$2 Per Chance

APRIL

29

6:30 PM

ST. JOHN'S EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH
901 SW FILLMORE

Music provided by:
St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Brass Quartet

RSVP to Doorstep Office by April 24, 2025
785-357-5341

Doorstep Theme Quilts

\$2
per
chance



Are you interested in winning one of our special Queen size theme quilts?

You can buy chances specifically for the theme quilt(s) you hope to win!

KC Royals

KU

KC Chiefs

K-State



Do Not Have to Be Present to Win!



Scan the QR code or use the link to buy your chances online. <https://bit.ly/2025quilts>

Online purchases end 4.28.25 at Noon!

Drawings Held at the Appreciation Banquet

Doorstep Quilt Drawing

\$1 Donation Per Chance

11 Quilts in Varying Sizes

The winning tickets will be drawn at the Doorstep Appreciation Banquet on April 29th.



Do Not Have to Be Present to Win!

Scan the QR code or use the link to buy your chances online. <https://bit.ly/2025quilts>

Online purchases end 4.28.25 at Noon!



SCAN ME

Follow Doorstep on Facebook!

Like and Follow us on Facebook, to keep up with current needs, volunteer opportunities, news and events! Invite your friends to Follow us too, and help us grow

Doorstep Donation Hours:

Monday - Friday 9am - 2pm, South door
Food ~ Clothing ~ Household Items

Christmas Adoption Project

Thank you to everyone who donated gifts, time, and/or money to Doorstep's Christmas Project in 2024! We provided food, gifts, blankets, school supplies, health kits, ice cream, laundry detergent, wrapping paper and gift cards to 260 households, making the holidays brighter for 824 individuals!

Countless hours are spent in preparation for and during distribution week when it becomes all hands on deck to provide Christmas for our neighbors who cannot provide it themselves. We had at least 115 volunteers here working just for distribution! We spent nearly \$40,500 on food, gifts, hygiene items, school supplies and gift cards! **Cathy Butler**, Christmas Project Chair, said her goal was to get each individual one thing from their 'Wish List', and we did! However, Doorstep could not have provided Christmas for 824 of our neighbors without our wonderful donors, Mission Members, and volunteers!

"For All the kind & caring people that helped with Christmas, Thank you so so much!" ~CB

"Thank you all for the Christmas gifts. It's very appreciated. God bless you All." ~AB

Strategic Planning & Terminology

In 2024 a group of board members, staff, and volunteers worked with Coneflower Consulting on creating a new strategic plan covering 2025 - 2029.

We updated our Mission Statement and added Core Values to our work helping our neighbors in need. As part of that work we updated our terminology to be overall more inclusive.

Congregations = **Faith Communities**

Member Congregations = **Mission Members**

Mission Partner (New) = Groups, Individuals, Businesses, Faith Communities, etc.

In Memory & Honor...

The following people were remembered by love ones November 2024 ~ March 2025:

Memorials

Christopher Armstrong

Odie Michael Boyer

John Babcock

Kathy England

Norma Hudson

Rudy Kramer

Marguerite Newman

Monroe Rivers

Pat Blue

Jim Cain

Betty Bracken

Norma Hill

Bob Oroke

Jean Smith

Terry White

Honor Of

The Rt. Rev. Marian Budde

Betty Kramer

Ben Stowe

Successful SouperBowl Sunday!

We set a lofty goal this year as the need for food assistance has grown tremendously over the past two years.

Our goal was 10,000 pounds!

We received 7,083 in soup, crackers & other food, and \$4,458 from monetary drives for SouperBowl Sunday!

Once again, our community came through to help take care of their neighbors who need a hand up during these difficult times!

Thank You! Thank You!

Support Doorstep

Dillon's Community Rewards Program

Our NPO Number is EK321

Add Doorstep to your Rewards & help us earn \$\$!

Thrivent Choice Dollars

Remember Doorstep when you have Choice Dollars and designate our agency to receive those funds!

Donate Online

www.DoorstepTopeka.org

Click the Donate button and use your credit or debit card.

Produce for Doorstep!

Do you plant a garden? Would you consider planting a row or plant for your family, and one to donate to Doorstep?

Our neighbors seeking food assistance enjoy having fresh produce in their food orders throughout the summer months, & you can help us with this need!

Donation hours are Monday - Friday from 9am - 2pm, and we would love to have some of your bounty to share with others!

News From The Neighborhood

Return Service Requested

NON-PROFIT
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
TOPEKA, KS
PERMIT #122

Doorstep, Inc.
1119 SW 10th Avenue
Topeka, KS 66604-1182
www.DoorstepTopeka.org



Join us for the 8th Annual
Neighbor Helping Neighbor Walk/5k Fun Run
Our 60th Anniversary Kick-Off Event!

DATE
SATURDAY, JUNE 7, 2025 *

REGISTRATION 8:00AM **WALK/5K START** 9:00AM *

LOCATION
LAKE SHAWNEE
SHELTER HOUSES 1 & 2

REGISTER @
nhn2025.eventbee.com

Celebrity Starter:
Chris Fisher
WIBW-TV

Sign up by May 16th to guarantee a t-shirt!

Scan the QR code for our online registration

- Registration is \$30 for individuals or pledges (\$30 minimum)
 - One Mile Walk or 5k Run, you choose!
- Snacks & Drinks will be provided during the event in Shelter House #1
- One registered child age 10 & under can walk for Free with a paid adult (shirt extra)
- T-shirt included with \$30 registration fee or on total pledges of \$100+
- Registrations received after May 16th will not be guaranteed a t-shirt
- Late & Event Day Registrations are accepted

Thank You to our Sponsors!

2025 Doorstep Events

- April 29th** **Appreciation Banquet & Quilt Drawing**
- June 7th** 8th Annual **Neighbor Helping Neighbor Walk/5K Fun Run**
@ Lake Shawnee, 9am
- July**
(all month) **Summer Cash Bash ~**
Donations + Matching Funds
Christmas in July Collection
Proceeds of **Re-Imagined Jewelry** ~ Sold at Café Quetzal
- September 13th** **Sertoma Duck Race**
Buy Ducks for Doorstep
- October 3rd** 2nd Annual **Putt Out Hunger** Golf Tournament
- December 16th - 18th** **Christmas Distribution**
Volunteer Opportunities