

The Deshler/Hamler Food Pantry has assisted hundreds of families in the Deshler-Hamler area over the years. It meets the emergency food needs of local residents and works with The Toledo Seagate Foodbank of NW Ohio, commonly called "the government food distribution". The government program is meant to be a supplement to local food pantries, so in any given month a large share of the "government distribution" is actually from the Deshler/Hamler Food Pantry and local donations.

The Deshler Council of Churches sponsors The Pantry and Cathy Hines is the Pantry Coordinator. She works with both the government program and local volunteers to assure that food is available when needed. Persons from Deshler or Hamler with an emergency need for food can call her at 419-278-8233 and she will meet them at The Pantry so they can obtain the needed groceries.

The government distribution is held at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Deshler from 10:00 am until noon one day per month. It is not necessary to call in advance to receive food. A form must be completed to receive food provided by the Seagate Foodbank, but no form is necessary to receive food that has been donated locally. Currently about 30 families per month participate in the program on a regular basis with an average of three emergency requests per month.

Donations of nonperishable food items may be dropped off at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Deshler. A table labeled "Food Pantry" has been placed just inside the back door by the kitchen. Monetary donations may be given to Cathy Hines or deposited in the Food Pantry account at The Corn City State Bank.