THE DeKalb CHRONICLE
DEKALB COUNTY GEORGIA
NEWS • COMMUNITY • CULTURE • DEVELOPMENT
Local News. A Stronger DeKalb.

FOOD ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

IN DEKALB COUNTY

by Noah Sanders



FREE GUIDE • dekalbchronicle.com • 678-789-7252

How to Use This Booklet

If you need food today, this booklet is where to start. It lists real places in DeKalb County that give out free groceries — with who each one serves and how to reach it — plus the longer-term help that keeps food on the table month after month.

START HERE — FIND A PANTRY NEAR YOU

- **Dial 2-1-1.** United Way of Greater Atlanta's 2-1-1 line is toll-free, 24 hours a day. Tell them you live in DeKalb County and need food. They keep the live list of which pantries are open and stocked this week.
- **Text FINDFOOD to 888-976-2232.** The Atlanta Community Food Bank's pantry finder. Text your ZIP code and it sends back the pantries nearest you.
- **Atlanta Community Food Bank.** Call 404-892-3333 or go to acfb.org/get-help for the full pantry list and hours.

CALL BEFORE YOU GO

Hours and eligibility change, and they change more around the holidays. A pantry can run out of food or close early. Always call before you go, and never pay anyone to apply for help — food assistance is free.

Where to Get Groceries

DEAM — Decatur Emergency Assistance Ministry

515 E. Ponce de Leon Ave, Decatur.

Call 404-373-9283 Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, or Friday, 8:30–11:30 a.m., to make a pantry appointment. The pantry is open 9–11 a.m. those days and closed Wednesdays. Bring ID and proof of address.

Decatur Cooperative Ministry — Project Take Charge

Food assistance for DeKalb County residents. Call 404-284-4411, Monday–Friday, 9 a.m.–5 p.m. Leave a voicemail and they call you back to set an appointment.

Atlanta Community Food Bank — Community Food Center, Stone Mountain

1979 Parker Ct, Stone Mountain. Call 678-553-5994. Appointments are required, so call or text first.

Toco Hills Community Alliance

1790 Lavista Rd NE, Atlanta. Call 404-325-0677. Pantry hours are Tuesday–Thursday, 1:00–3:30 p.m.

Longer-Term Help

Pantries cover this week. These programs help month after month.

SNAP (Food Stamps)

Monthly food benefits on an EBT card, for households that qualify by income and household size. Apply online through Georgia Gateway, or call 1-877-423-4746 for help applying.

DeKalb County DFCS

2300 Parklake Dr NE, Atlanta. Call 404-370-5000. The county office for SNAP applications, case questions, and other benefits.

WHAT TO BRING

- **ID** — a photo ID for the head of household.
- **Proof of address** — a bill, lease, or mail with your name and DeKalb County address. Some pantries ask for it, some do not.
- **A bag or two** — pantries hand out groceries; bringing your own bags helps, and some give out more when you can carry it.
- **Your questions** — ask the pantry about other help. Many can point you to rent help, utility help, and holiday meals.

A Final Word

Needing food is not a personal failure. Groceries cost more than they did a year ago, and one emergency — a lost job, an illness, a car repair — is enough to put a working family behind. The places in this booklet exist for exactly that moment.

If one pantry is out, try the next one. Text FINDFOOD again. Call 2-1-1 again. And share this booklet with someone who needs it — one share can put dinner on a family's table tonight.

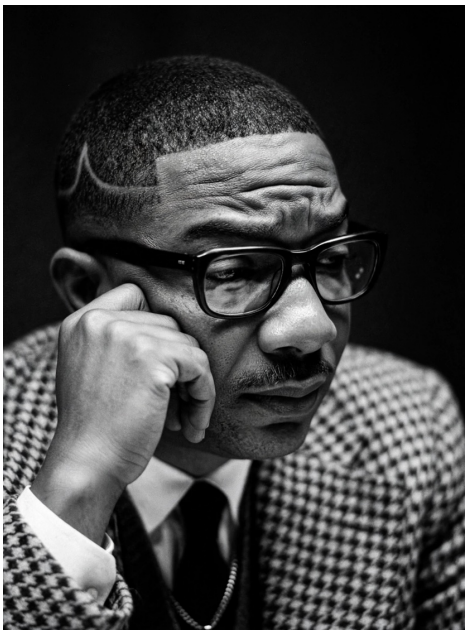
THE DEKALB CHRONICLE

dekalbchronicle.com • 678-789-7252

Founder, Noah Sanders

This booklet is general information, not legal advice. Hours, locations, and eligibility rules can change — always confirm details with the pantry or program before you go. Compiled November 24, 2026, by The DeKalb Chronicle. If any listing here is out of date, tell us so we can fix it for the next family that picks this up.

About the Author



Noah Sanders

Founder, The DeKalb Chronicle

Noah Sanders founded The DeKalb Chronicle to cover DeKalb County the way it deserves to be covered — local news, local businesses, jobs, housing, and resources for the people who live here, across all 13 cities in the county. He also runs Noah Sanders Advocacy and The Black Glow Experience, and he puts this guide together so no family in DeKalb has to face a hard week alone.

Have a pantry to add, a correction, or a story to tell? Reach out.

dekalbchronicle.com • 678-789-7252