



What is SHARE?

SHARE is a non-profit, community-based organization dedicated to moving healthy groceries at roughly a 50% discount into all homes in the Virginia, Maryland, and DC area. The SHARE program accomplishes this through high-volume purchasing and thousands of volunteer hours, which strengthens the community for all. SHARE is proud to say that we move more than two million pounds of nutritious food each year into kitchens, often replacing inexpensive and unhealthy choices. Thousands of families rely on us to help them stretch their food budgets a little further each month!

SHARE stands for Self Help And Resource Exchange and the program was formed in 1983 in San Diego, California by Deacon Carl Shelton and the Catholic Diocese. Deacon Shelton believed it was possible to implement a self-help approach to meeting the food needs in interested communities.

How does SHARE work?

SHARE purchases the best food at the best wholesale prices and passes the savings onto its customers. Staff receives and manages the inventory, using volunteer help to repack the produce from huge containers into family-sized portions. Each month, volunteer organizations (Host Sites) throughout the region and states take orders and payments from families in their own community, and then pick up the food on the scheduled distribution day to take back to their neighborhood for distribution to customers.

What is in the SHARE Package?

Typically we offer 4-5 pounds of frozen protein (red meat, chicken, fish), and 8-9 pounds of fresh fruits and vegetables, often with a grocery item such as beans, dessert, rice, or other staples. This entire package is available for a base price of \$21. Anyone and everyone may buy as many packages as they like. Each package is designed to supplement a family's food budget with savings of up to 50% over grocery retail. We also offer seasonal specials for holidays, grilling, or when we are offered a special buying opportunity.

How can I become a SHARE customer?

There are no income or eligibility guidelines. Anyone and everyone can be a SHARE customer. To begin, to find a Host Site near you. Each Host Site is volunteer-run. They follow our SHARE policies as guidelines and each has customized the program to ensure it is successful for their volunteer team and valued customers. Once you have found the Host Site nearest you, contact the coordinator and order your package! When you place your order, make sure to ask your coordinator about the "when" and "where" of the site's food distribution. We don't want you to miss out on getting your package!

Each customer is asked to document at least two hours of service to their community each month before buying. Just as volunteers donate time to make SHARE work, we ask that our customers donate time to make their community work better.

How can I pay for my SHARE Package?

SHARE accepts credit and debit cards, EBT cards, money orders, cash and organizational checks. Ask your Host Site coordinator about their preferred payment methods.

SSSU Participating Church

SHARE Site	City	Contact
Bethlehem Baptist Church 4700 Massaponax Church Rd.	Spotsylvania	Ethel Waller (540) 898-0949

Ms. Ethel Waller will gladly take SHARE orders and payments along with representatives from St. Jude Catholic Church (see flyer). We spoke with Ms. Ethel Waller of Bethlehem Baptist Church and will gladly work with any SSSU Churches who wish to bring the program to their churches. You may contact her at (540) 898-0949. If there are more SSSU churches who participate, please let us know so that we may list you on our website and in our future newsletter.