Since the beginning of December, Pre-K through second graders at Perkins School, in collaboration with staff, parents and students, have been collecting non-perishable food items, hats and mittens for the Newark Food Closet.

As of December 20th, when Newark Food Closet co-chairs Lisa Barrett and Becky Jandreau came to school to see what had been collected, boxes containing 336 non-perishable food items were arranged around the Christmas tree decorated with donated hats and mittens.

They were very appreciative of the drive initiated by Pre-K and Kindergarten pupils.

Barrett said the Newark Food Closet, located in the basement of the Newark Emmanuel United Methodist Church currently needs, in addition to monetary donations, canned fruit and vegetables.

The Food Closet is open from 10-Noon Monday through Fridays. Food donations can be dropped off during that time or at Citizens Bank at 711 W. Miller St.

Persons who would like to send a monetary contribution may send a check, made out to the Newark Food Closet, to this address: Newark Food Closet, 301 E. Miller St., Newark, NY 14513.