

**NEWS > LOCAL NEWS****SHARE also helps people save on food**[Print Page](#)

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Those ineligible for FoodShare can receive grocery assistance, too.

SHARE, a nonprofit food buying club, helps people save 30 to 50 percent on groceries by purchasing food on the national wholesale market.

Unlike FoodShare, SHARE does not have eligibility requirements.

Instead, people join by placing an order and are asked to volunteer a couple times a year at the pickup center.

"It's another opportunity for people to pare down their spending on groceries," Beloit coordinator Jody Hopper said. "Not all people have a frugal mind."

She should know. She joined in 2000 after her husband lost his job.

"I had to save every bit I could everywhere," Hopper said.

Like FoodShare, the number of people using SHARE has increased in recent years. When Hopper started, the Beloit site would get about 46 orders a month. Now the average ranges from 75 to 96, and that doesn't include Internet orders.

The program serves about 20,000 people statewide, Hopper said, noting northern Illinois residents can also place orders with the Beloit site.

SHARE offers customers a big package, a mini package and the opportunity to purchase items individually. Food items vary each month but include meat, produce and desserts.

People can order by phone or online, which requires payment by credit or debit card. They pick up the orders at the Eclipse Center on Saturday mornings.

The next ordering deadline is April 7. Pick up is April 25.

Go to www.sharewi.org/ for more information or call Hopper at 608-365-5837.

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