Open Pantry to start growing neighborhood garden

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SPRINGFIELD, Mass. (WWLP) – Neighbors will soon be picking apples off trees near downtown Springfield. Open Pantry, the agency that provides food for the poor, will start growing a neighborhood garden on its property at Spring and Temple Streets.

Matt Castleman, Executive Director of The Open Pantry told 22News that apple trees will be a key element in their new garden.

He also stated, “We’re going to have about five or six vegetable boxes that we’ll be growing assorted vegetables probably for use in our kitchen. People who come to our center can help themselves to it and people in the community.”

Once the Apple trees start bearing fruit, neighbors will be invited to come by and pick an apple. Open Pantry prides itself on distributing 800,000 pounds of food every year to the needy in Springfield.