

Marco's Our Daily Bread pantry to serve community from new location

J. Kyle Foster

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Our Daily Bread Food Pantry moved into its new home Sunday, July 27, a month earlier than expected and just \$400,000 from its capital goal.

"It's really our volunteers who have driven this, who have organized this, coordinated this, and they've given their blood, sweat and tears to really making all this happen," said Our Daily Bread Executive Director Evelyn Rossetti-Ryan. She was overseeing the 1.4-mile move from Family Church at 1450 Winterberry Drive to 1818 San Marco Road. "We did a lot. We did our part, but they were the boots on the ground packing, organizing, being here at 6:30 this morning, just amazing."

Among them were George Rogers and Craig Giese, who were moving the new racks into place and making sure they were secure. Board member Nancy Kit also was among those helping on moving day.

Our Daily Bread, started on Marco Island in 2016, has been serving nearly 1,000 families each Saturday from their borrowed home at Family Church. In October 2023, with a donation from Marco Island residents Pat and Scot Kaufman, the food pantry purchased the former Fifth Third Bank building on San Marco Road for \$3.025 million. A year later, the nonprofit bought the empty lot next door for \$1.1 million.

Empty building now 'a vital resource'

The former bank building has been transformed with garage doors in two locations for food deliveries and food distribution; with polished floors made of giant

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Our Daily Bread food pantry on Marco Island moved to its new home on San Marco Road on July 27. J. KYLE FOSTER/ USA TODAY

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