Vicenta Buitrago leaves Nourishing Hope-Sheridan Market with her food items on Feb. 26. Food pantries in Chicago are struggling to meet demand amid migrant crisis, Chicago food pantries experience unprecedented demand

By Rebecca Johnson and Jake Sheridan

Chicago Tribune

A new Church of Scientology building stands Wednesday at 625 S. Clark St. in the South Loop, BRIAN GAMMA/LANDOV TRIBUNE

A new Church of Scientology opened over the weekend in Chicago, with gold and white exterior and prominently in the middle of a seven-story building in South Loop. But everyone—especially those in the new neighborhood—is loving the controversy.

Bari Berger, a spokesperson for the church, said the new location is called “Ideal Church of Scientology.” The church is the first in the United States to open a new building on a city block in the middle of a city. The building is the first in the country to be built on a block in the middle of a city. Berger said the church is planning to expand the building to include a theater and a church hall.

In the new neighborhood, community members are excited about the new church. “It’s a great addition to the neighborhood,” said Neighbor John. “It’s going to be a great place to hang out and meet people.”

However, some community members are concerned about the impact of the new church on the neighborhood. “I’m worried about the noise and traffic,” said Neighbor Jane. “I don’t want to live next to a noisy church.”

Mayor Brandon Johnson urged the church to continue to work with the community to ensure a positive impact on the neighborhood. “We’re excited for the church to open,” said Mayor Johnson. “We want it to be a positive impact on the neighborhood.”

The church plans to continue to work with the community to ensure a positive impact on the neighborhood. “We’re going to work with the community to make sure the church is a positive impact on the neighborhood,” said Berger. “We want to be good neighbors.”

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