

GOOD for you



COMMUNITY FOOD BANK
OF SOUTHERN ARIZONA

2023 GRATITUDE REPORT

dear friends & neighbors

This past year has shown us again the power of community. Together, we have had a productive year at the Community Food Bank, able to respond to the needs of the people we serve. We are always mindful that happens because of you.

While the initial crush of the pandemic has faded, we see a persistent and high need as families struggle to keep up with rising expenses. We were able to add milk and eggs – popular proteins – in a special distribution of 35,000 dozen eggs and 35,000 gallons of milk throughout our five-county service area.

We continue to prioritize distributing healthy, nutritious food, having completed a ranking of foods using Healthy Eating Research (HER) Guidelines put in place by Feeding America, our network of food banks. We successfully turned over Nogales produce rescue operations to our partner, Arizona Food Bank Network, so we could continue to focus our resources and energy on serving people in Southern Arizona.

We have worked to strengthen our services in rural parts of Southern Arizona, where poverty often runs high. As we continue to face the enormous challenge of hunger in our community, thank you for standing with us.

Your support allows us to continue to work and think in new ways to address hunger, and the poverty that often accompanies it.



Malea Chavez
Chief Executive Officer



Nathan Rothschild
Board Chair



402,352

EMERGENCY FOOD
BAGS
DISTRIBUTED-
AN INCREASE OF 37%
OVER THE LAST
FISCAL YEAR

36,037,177

POUNDS OF FOOD
DISTRIBUTED
INCL. 13,444,116
POUNDS OF
PRODUCE

160,492

PEOPLE SERVED
WITH EMERGENCY
FOOD

89,463

SENIOR FOOD
BOXES
DISTRIBUTED

66,270

AFTERSCHOOL
MEALS & SNACKS
WERE SERVED TO
3,712 PARTICIPANTS
AT 17 SITES

28,563

SUMMER BREAKFASTS
SERVED AT 22 SITES,
INCL. CLIFTON, DUNCAN
& THE SAN XAVIER
RECREATION CENTER,
PROVIDING 68,716
POUNDS OF
FOOD

27,714

AMAZING
DONORS
LIKE YOU

ALL TO THE GOOD

grow your own way

Saturday mornings find Kat Lopez tending her garden plot, and helping the community around her. Beets, broccoli, cilantro, arugula, lettuce and red kale will spring forth in the plot in the next few weeks. She and her husband have been gardening for a year and a half at Las Milpitas Community Farm. They've learned a lot.

"For so long when I think of food, I just think of going to the grocery store, right? But coming here and having the experience of planting it, pulling it, harvesting it, washing it at home, and thinking what am I going to do with these vegetables, it's changed all that. For me, it's a spiritual experience. I see all the creatures helping us, it really makes you think about interdependence."

Las Milpitas, operated by the Community Food Bank, offers people the chance to grow fruits and veggies in a 20 x 4 foot garden plot, along with advice, irrigation, seeds, and supplies, to help get growing.

As a plot leader, Kat reaches out to other growers to help build community at the farm and beyond. "I think for me one of my goals has been to not just grow for our household but try to make connections with my neighbors and my friends by offering food to them. Like hey, I have a garden and you should come visit, and it's super easy to grow your own food. Just trying to get everyone to come here to see just how magical this place is."



An average of

70 PLOTS

are planted each season, used by households totaling 360 people.



IN GOOD TIME



”

I was really nervous. What if nothing grew? But everyone was so nice. The community here is so loving and accepting, and always ready to help you. There is a lot of laughter here.

Kat Lopez, Gardener



”

It's a really welcoming space.
Everyone knows each other.
I've never seen a garden grow
this well in this area.

Chloe, U of A Senior
and Community Food
Bank's Nuestra Tierra
Garden Intern

AS GOOD

fueled by community

Five days a week in our Tucson warehouse, volunteers put in a solid three hours of work packing emergency food bags and boxes. The assembly line work is essential to what we do – provide emergency food for people in five Southern Arizona counties.

Last year, that was 402,352 bags – each one packed by a team of volunteers. The work can be physical and demanding, definitely repetitive, placing a bag of rice or can of vegetables in each bag that zips by.

It's a living example of community at work. We see dedicated individuals who show up each week, even several times a week. We also see groups of volunteers coming in from businesses or organizations to lend a hand. It's the only way we keep up with the need. And it reminds us again, we're in this work together.



282 VOLUNTEER GROUPS

came in to help in our Tucson warehouse last year – some of them making regular visits throughout the year to get the work done.



93,486 HOURS

of work was contributed by Community Food Bank volunteers last year.



AS GOLD

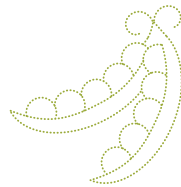
reading, writing, & groceries.....

More and more we see schools as a critical place for families to get food. What used to be a storage closet at Apollo Middle School is now a freshly painted, stocked pantry where parents can “shop” for free. The option to choose the food their families like and use adds respect and dignity to the process.

“We have families who are struggling. To me it’s important we’re here for the community,” says Thad Dugan, Principal at Apollo Middle School.

At Desert View High School, volunteers from the Sunnyside Foundation serve a line of cars with people waiting for food. They can serve around 1,000 people in a one-hour distribution.

33 SCHOOL PANTRIES SERVED 47,822 STUDENTS



Fresh produce was 30% of the

531,209 POUNDS

of food distributed at school pantries

“The best thing about our distribution is no one has to qualify and all are welcomed.

Boys and Girls Clubs
of Bisbee



This is the first time I’ve used the pantry. Everything is so pricey right now.

Marta



..... *half a
million meals*

were prepared last year, showing Caridad Community Kitchen gets the job done.

360,991 SENIOR MEALS PREPARED

These meals can feature entrees from Greek farro and chicken salad, to pork loin with apricot jam, or a Denver omelet. They are prepared in partnership with Pima Council on Aging, Catholic Community Services, Interfaith Community Services, and Lutheran Social Services who coordinate deliveries through the Mobile Meals on Wheels Program in our county.

187,052 GRAB-N-GO MEALS

were served by several community partners and were distributed at Caridad Community Kitchen five afternoons a week. No ID is required. Many people picking up the meals are living outside. These meals are bagged and include items from sandwiches or burritos, trail mix, fruit and other snacks. A separate bag holds cold water bottles.

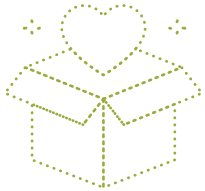


A WORLD OF GOOD

from truck to table

Serving people in five counties over 26,000 square miles poses a constant challenge in getting food to people who need it. That means about 20 times a month, our drivers head out to rural areas from Ajo to Bylas to Douglas. When the truck arrives, volunteers help set out the food.

Cars have usually lined up beforehand. And for a few hours, a church parking lot, school grounds, or local service group becomes the food bank for the day. Thousands of people receive their food this way each month. On this day, zucchini and yellow squash, watermelon, plums and other produce are available, along with bread and non-perishables. It's another example of how volunteers are essential in distributing food. One volunteer was asked, "What keeps you coming back?" Her answer: "My heart."



We work with

400 AGENCY PARTNERS

incl. 250 food distribution partners

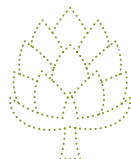


GOOD NEWS

fresh & local

Greens, beets, radishes, even purple carrots. Our Santa Cruz River Farmers' Market continues to spring up every Thursday afternoon near the Mercado annex. "My doctor keeps telling me to eat healthier," says Lila, a regular customer. "The coupons really help."

Lila's using coupons from the Farmers Market Nutrition Program, available for people who meet income guidelines. She's going home with kale, onions, microgreens and garlic – fresh and locally grown.



42% of total farmers' market sales were in Public Assistance benefits including SNAP [food stamps], SNAP-match and the Farmers Market Nutrition Program. That's a total of

\$86,459



start a conversation

We began regular Cafecitos In Tucson, Nogales and Caridad Community Kitchen this year, reaching out to people to see what's on their minds. Offering coffee, pastry, and a seat in the shade brings a chance to connect before or after people pick up their food.

Our goal: to listen and grow in community.



You're the only people I'll see today. Thank you.

Roger



TRAVELS FAST

opening up

Your support allows us to reach out in new ways. In June we began opening up to serve people on Saturday mornings once a month from 9am – noon in Tucson.

It has proven to be a popular move and had drawn more than 300 people, including families and seniors, in the first distribution alone. The Saturday hours also offer an opportunity for volunteers who can't make it in during the week. They help check people in, distribute food, and pack emergency food bags.

Our Green Valley Resource Center re-opened to welcome people back inside after more than two years operating with an outside window because of COVID precautions. The change means people can once again choose the food they prefer, adding more respect and dignity to the experience.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023

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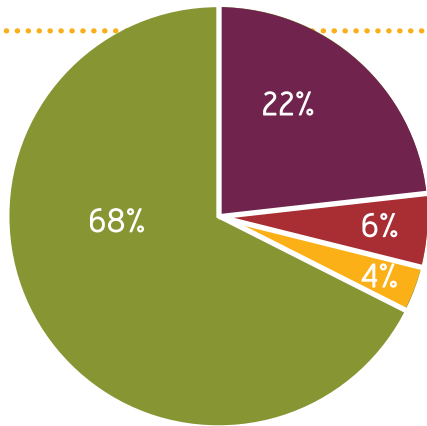
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the numbers

FINANCIALS: July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023*

View our 990 online at:
communityfoodbank.org/financials

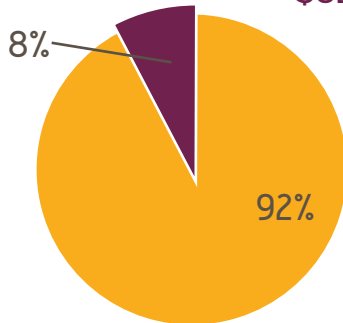
Your gifts fight hunger today by providing meals to our community. Funds also support the broader work of building a healthy, hunger-free future, including community gardens, farmers' markets, nutrition programs, advocacy, and other initiatives that address the root causes of poverty and hunger.



ANNUAL OPERATING REVENUE

Donated Food	\$56,069,641
Government Grants	\$3,019,630
Contributions	\$18,199,889
Miscellaneous	\$5,313,655

\$82,602,815



ANNUAL OPERATING EXPENSES

Food & Programs	\$74,239,817
Admin/Fundraising	\$6,369,138

\$80,608,955

NET ASSETS & EXPENSES

NET ASSETS

Without Donor Restrictions	\$47,135,534
With Donor Restrictions	\$4,103,430
TOTAL NET ASSETS	\$51,238,964

EXPENSES

Health & Food	\$69,226,451
Education	\$1,736,600
Community Development	\$3,276,766
PROGRAMS EXPENSES TOTAL	\$74,239,817
Fundraising	\$2,681,917
Administration	\$3,687,221
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$80,608,955

* FY23 numbers are unaudited as of press/printing time.



SEEDS OF *life*

Seeds of Life donors are generous individuals who have made the Community Food Bank a priority in their planned giving. We thank the following donors, whose gifts were realized this year and whose legacy lives on in the continued work to build a healthy, hunger-free community.

Royce Ballinger

James J. Britt

Louise [Newitz] Carucci Trust

Anna K. Hacker

Kathryn H. Lance

Barbara A. Olsen

Frances M. Orlando

Roger E. Rosecrans

Jerry D. Shirley

Thank you to all 280 donors who continue to think of us in your planned giving. We're honored to be part of your plans.

CORPORATE & FOUNDATION *partners*

Abbett Family Foundation

AHS Foundation

Alan's Shoes

Ally Financial Inc

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Amazon Smile Foundation

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Arizona Department of Education
– Child Nutrition Program

Arizona Food Bank Network

Arizona Food Bank Network - Local
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Arizona Party Bike

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Walnut Foundation
Watermark for Kids
Wells Fargo Foundation
Whataburger Restaurants, LLC
Wildfire – Arizona Community
Action Association
Witthoft Apprill Family
Foundation
Zuckerman Family Foundation



WE CHANGE *lives*

in the communities we serve by feeding the hungry today,
and building a healthy, hunger-free tomorrow.



COMMUNITY
FOOD BANK
OF SOUTHERN ARIZONA

3003 S. Country Club Road • Tucson, AZ 85713
(520) 622-0525 • communityfoodbank.org

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..... LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

We are gathering on the ancestral and occupied lands of the Tohono O'odham, Pascua Yaqui, Ak-Chin, Hohokam, Akimel O'odham, Hia-Ced O'odham, and many more who may call this place home. We pay respects to their elders past and present. Please take a moment to consider the many legacies of violence, displacement, migration, and settlement that bring us together here today.

THE COMMUNITY FOOD BANK, a nonprofit 501(c)(3) charity, relies on over 150 employees and hundreds of community volunteers to ensure that the people of southern Arizona have access to the food and programs they need. The food bank is based in Pima County and also serves Cochise, Graham, Greenlee, and Santa Cruz counties. The Community Food Bank provides services to eligible applicants without regard to race, color, creed, religion, handicap, age, national origin, sexual orientation, political beliefs, or gender.

