

# TOGETHER, WE ARE STRONGER

A Letter from the President & CEO and Chairman

### THIS IS OUR SECOND YEAR INTO A GLOBAL PANDEMIC.

Something we never dreamed imaginable. Yet here we are: strong, resilient and **determined**. We are strong due to the support we have from you, our donors and volunteers. We are resilient as we have tapped into the strengths and support system of over 700 partner agencies to overcome the challenges that we have faced with COVID. And we are determined now more than ever to meet the needs of food insecure Kansans across our 85-county service area.

This past year we have provided a record **15.7** million meals to our neighbors experiencing hunger. Our programs remain strong. Two hundred pantries and 50 mobile pantries have provided groceries for families to take home and place meals on their tables. Over 350 schools provided weekend food packets to chronically hungry children every Friday during the school year and 24 summer **food programs** made sure kids had access to healthy meals all summer long. A combined 51 senior sites provided Bob Boxes and Commodity Supplemental Food Program boxes for seniors giving them a much-needed hand up.



The lens to hunger has changed for us these past two years. Opportunities came out of crisis. In addition to our programs that feed families, children and seniors, we have taken a look at health care with "Food as Medicine" and we have expanded our reach into underserved neighborhoods and rural communities. Together we are one and together we are stronger.

The Kansas Food Bank is proud to serve as both a conduit and safety net to our community. As we reflect on this past year and look to the future, we are committed to do everything in our power to ensure that No Kansan Go Hungry.

> **BRIAN WALKER** President & CEO

### **DAN EILERT** Board Chairman

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# **UNDERSERVED & RURAL**

Our food distribution strategy sits at the intersection of understanding where the need is and where our food distribution partners serve in our communities.

Covering over 73,000 square miles along with one of the most populous cities within our state, we look for a combination of **high-need with low access areas.** Our goal is to improve access to nutritious food among people experiencing the highest rates of food insecurity.





20,641
NEIGHBORS
SERVED

Evergreen and PMBC Totals in 2021

Within Wichita, we have started mobile pantries to reach our neighbors that have limited access to a food pantry & healthy food. The mobile pantries take place monthly at Evergreen Neighborhood Resource Center and Progressive Missionary Baptist Church. Both of these are located in an area within the city that is considered a Food Desert, meaning residents do not have the financial or transportation resources to get to a grocery store. Mobile pantries help provide a quick, cost-effective way to ensure our underserved neighbors have the same access to fresh produce and healthy dry goods that everyone needs for a healthy lifestyle.

In addition, rural communities also face significant barriers to accessing food. People who live in rural areas often face hunger at higher rates than people who live in urban areas. Living in a rural community comes with unique challenges. From lack of a local grocery store to a food pantry being miles away, lower wage jobs and higher rates of unemployment, all of these things create a perfect storm of rural hunger. We actively work to ensure food equity is available to all Kansans experiencing hunger.





# **FOOD AS MEDICINE**

# THERE IS AN INTERSECTION BETWEEN WHERE FOOD AND HEALTH MEET.

This past year we distributed over 4.3 million pounds of fresh produce. That equates to 23% of all food distributed ranked as nutrient dense and nutrient rich. In addition, we added heart healthy and diabetic friendly items such as whole grain cereals, low sodium vegetables and no sugar added fruit to our pantry staples. The distribution of healthy foods does not stop there.

The Kansas Food Bank has entered into partnerships with local healthcare providers to impact food-insecure individuals at their place of healthcare by providing healthy foods and nutrition education. The combination of nutrition education and healthy food access aims to improve food security status while also promoting chronic disease prevention and maintenance.

We embarked on a twelve week produce program "Good Food for All" with Partnership for a Healthier America to provide nourishing, high-quality fruits and vegetables to over 1,000 families. The program provided 50 servings of fruits and vegetables every week. Distributions took place at the WSU Metroplex and the Richard A. DeVore YMCA South location in Wichita.

Finally, we have taken the first steps in **nutritionally** ranking the foods we distribute. The colors green, yellow and red are all taking on new meanings within the Kansas Food Bank. Choose often, choose sometimes and choose rarely are helping guide our work as we provide nutrient rich, healthy foods for our neighbors seeking assistance.



Volunteers at HealthCore Clinic distribute fresh produce to those in need.

# **FEEDING FAMILIES**

THE KANSAS FOOD BANK PROVIDED FOOD FOR OVER 280,000 HOUSEHOLDS THIS YEAR.

New challenges are impacting the face of hunger as well as the services we provide because of inflation and volatile food supply chain issues. Prices on everyday items are going up, causing more Kansans to seek out help with food.

Guests that visit our partner agencies and mobile pantries come from all backgrounds. They have a multitude of stories that have led them to us for help. Some have experienced job loss. Many are in low wage-earning jobs and simply cannot make ends meet. Others have had health issues causing them to not be able to provide for their family. And, the everlasting ripple effects of COVID have also created an even larger number of households needing help this past year.

No matter why someone is needing assistance, we are there to provide a very basic need: **food**.

We have a strong, dedicated team along with volunteers who assist us. Our volunteers are changemakers. Their efforts change the lives of our neighbors that we help feed each month. Our changemakers are an extension of our mission. They sort our food. They build our food kits. They distribute our food kits. They work in our offices. They have worked tirelessly while wearing masks and gloves, having their temperature taken and having been asked about their health and possible travels.

**Together**, our team, our volunteers and our donors help put missing meals on the table for our food-insecure neighbors.



# **FEEDING KANSAS KIDS**

Our **child hunger programs** are designed to run back-to-back to ensure kids have access to **kid-friendly**, **healthy foods**.



352
Participating

151,280 Weekend Packets



### **FOOD FOR KIDS**

runs during the school year. Every Friday, children who are considered chronically hungry receive a weekend packet of food to take home.

Food 4 Kids is not an entitlement program. Rather it is designed to reach children who do not have access to regular meals when school is not in session. For children who participate in the program come marked differences: their grades improve, attendance at school is better, truancy decreases and the kids come to school on Monday focused and ready to learn.

Again, this year, the program was always pivoting to ensure kids received their packets whether school was held in-person or remotely.

### FILLING THE GAP

provides shelf stable meals to kids during spring break. Each location distributed a week's worth of lunches for kids to make sure they had access to food. The sites did a mobile drive-thru distribution to help keep everyone safe from COVID exposure.

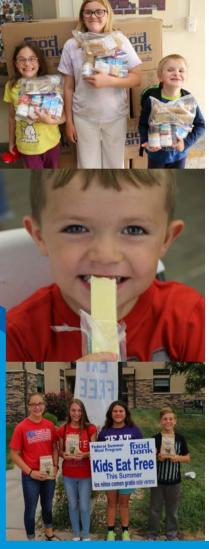
### THE SUMMER FOOD PROGRAM

operates sites that provide meals to kids in the summer.

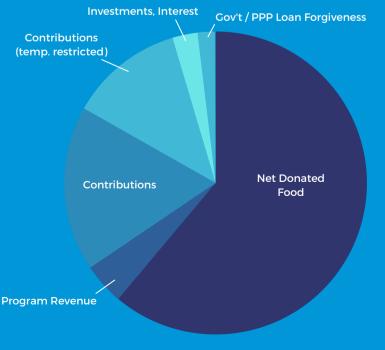
Filling the Gap







# <u>FINANCIALS</u>



### REVENUE

Net Donated Food	61.1%	\$17,761,423
Program Revenue	4.4%	\$1,289,563
Contributions	17.6%	\$5,128,083
Contributions (temp. restricted)	12.2%	\$3,548,365
Investments, Interest	2.7%	\$779,297
Government, PPP Loan Forgiveness	1.8%	\$534,059
Other Revenue	0.2%	\$23,051

Total Revenue \$29,063,841

# **FEEDING KANSAS SENIORS**

Seniors are one of our most vulnerable populations. All too often, a senior will not ask for help and when they finally do, they are embarrassed because they are asking for assistance. We have heard more than once, "I was not raised that way".



For a senior living on a fixed income, there are many challenges. They may have to decide between paying a utility bill or purchasing food. They may have to decide between paying for medicine or purchasing food. These are choices that put added stress on our seniors who paved the way for generations to follow.

The Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP) operated in 25 counties serving over 830 senior households each month.

CSFP provides a balanced diet box containing: cheese, shelf stable milk, nonfat dry milk, peanut butter and beans,

cereal, meat, vegetables, fruits, juice, and instant potatoes, rice or pasta. Along with each box we provide nutritional information, health information and recipes.

Our **Bob Box program**, named after the late Kansas Senator Bob Dole, provides a "hand up" to seniors in 26 northwest and southwest counties. Over 800 Bob Boxes were distributed this past year, giving seniors who previously may have been



Food Boxes Distributed

# too proud to ask for assistance the help they need.

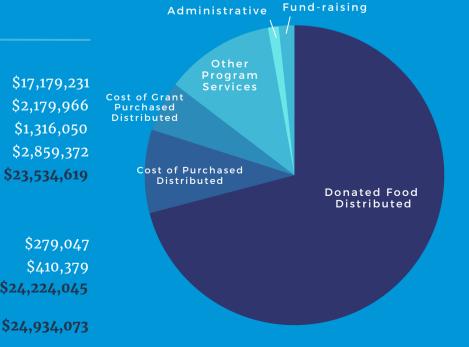
### **PROGRAM SERVICES**

EXPENSES

**Donated Food Distributed** 70.9% \$17,179,231 Cost of Purchased Distributed 9.0% \$2,179,966 **Cost of Grant Purchased Distributed** 5.4% \$1,316,050 **Other Program Services** 11.8% \$2,859,372 **Total Program Services** \$23,534,619

### SUPPORT SERVICES

**Administrative** 1.2% \$279,047 **Fund-raising** 1.7% \$410,379 **Total Expenses** \$24,224,045 **Total Net Assets, End of Year** 





The Kansas Food Bank provides service to 85 counties in Kansas, covering more than 73,000 square miles, with more than 24 monthly delivery routes based out of our main warehouse located in Wichita.

# ADVOCATE VOLUNTEER DONATE

Learn more about how to join the fight against hunger at www.kansasfoodbank.org/how-to-help







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