

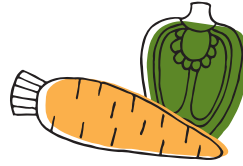


FOODBANK
FOR THE HEARTLAND

2024 ANNUAL REPORT

July 1, 2023–June 30, 2024

From the PRESIDENT & BOARD CHAIR



Dear Friends of the Food Bank,

2024 was another trying year for Food Bank for the Heartland, and more importantly, the neighbors we serve. According to new statistics from Feeding America, food insecurity levels have risen in every one of the 93 counties we serve. **1 in 8** Heartland individuals and **1 in 5** children face hunger. These numbers are up 38% for individuals and 56% for children from the previous year. Sadly, these grim statistics are not surprising to our Network Partners, who are witnessing longer lines and more first-time neighbors than they saw during the pandemic.

While there are many factors we can't control, your support and unending determination to create food security across Nebraska and western Iowa carries us through these times of uncertainty. Thank you for doing everything possible to create healthier communities across the Heartland. Though the problem can feel overwhelming, your generosity has provided security, hope, and energy to families and individuals making unthinkable decisions.

In FY 2024, nearly **25 million meals** were distributed across our 93-county service area. This feat is a direct result of what can be accomplished when we partner together for the greater good.

Our FY 2024 Annual Report showcases the work our team accomplished through the support of our volunteers, donors, partners, and board. On behalf of everyone we serve, THANK YOU for your gifts of time, talent, and treasure. We could not deploy our mission without supporters like you.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Brian Barks".

Brian Barks
President & CEO

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Steve Wallace".

Steve Wallace
Chair of the Board

MISSION

To eliminate hunger in the Heartland by ensuring consistent access to healthy foods through community partnerships.



VALUES

In everything we do, we serve with respect, integrity and urgency.



SERVICE AREA

We serve 93 counties in Nebraska and western Iowa through our 514 Network Partners.



■ Food Bank for the Heartland

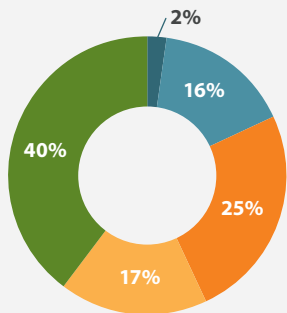
■ Food Bank of Lincoln

New Facility & Capital Campaign

Building a Healthier Heartland Together

On June 2, 2024, Food Bank for the Heartland publicly kicked off the Capital Campaign for our future facility on 84th & L Street in Omaha. The unprecedented need for food, paired with ongoing economic uncertainties and the limited structure of our current facility, led Food Bank leaders, and our Board to broader discussions several years ago on how to serve our neighbors more equitably, efficiently, and responsibly. This move is imperative for the future of the Food Bank and the 93 counties we serve. It will allow us to expand upon our mission—setting the stage for innovative solutions to alleviate hunger.

\$16,303,855 in Capital Campaign donations
(As of June 30, 2024)



- **FY 23 Cash:**
\$602,711
- **FY 23 Pledges:**
\$4,277,682
- **FY 24 Cash:**
\$6,798,099
- **FY 24 Pledges:**
\$4,625,361
- **Remaining to \$27M goal:**
\$10,696,144



FEATURES OF NEW FACILITY

The Food Bank's overall footprint will grow by **41%**.

Protein Repack room—a **514%** increase from our current space.

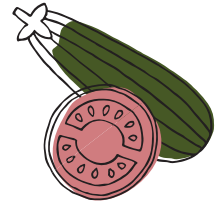
Cooler and freezer space—a **63%** increase to distribute more nutritious food.

Parking stalls will increase by **90%**—for an enhanced volunteer experience.



BuildAHealthierHeartland.org

Community impact BY THE NUMBERS IN FY 2024



1,565,449 INDIVIDUALS

served across the Heartland. In our service area, **1 in 8** people is facing hunger, including **1 in 5** children, **1 in 4** Hispanic individuals and **1 in 3** Black individuals.



29,893,815 POUNDS OF FOOD

distributed to neighbors in need. That includes **6,646,123** pounds of fresh produce.



24,911,513 MEALS

distributed across the Heartland.



1,379,072 CHILDREN'S MEALS

provided through the Backpack, Kids Café After School, and Kids Café Summer Feeding Programs.



\$6,941,602

spent to purchase food for neighbors in need.



514 NETWORK PARTNERS

—including pantries, mobile pantries, schools, churches, emergency shelters and other non-profit organizations—to which the Food Bank distributes food.



383 MOBILE PANTRY EVENTS

distributed **2,687,108** meals.



384,317 MILES

driven by the Food Bank fleet, covering our **78,000**-square-mile service area.



52,497 VOLUNTEER HOURS

donated by individuals, corporations, and civic groups. That's the equivalent of more than **26** full-time employees.



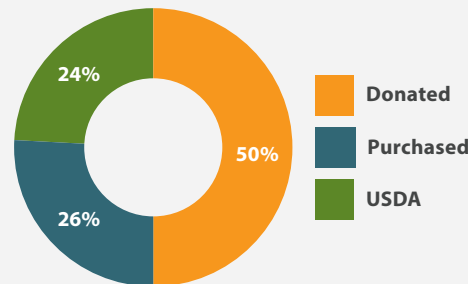
18,263 SNAP APPLICATIONS

submitted through our Nebraska and Iowa SNAP Outreach teams and their partners.



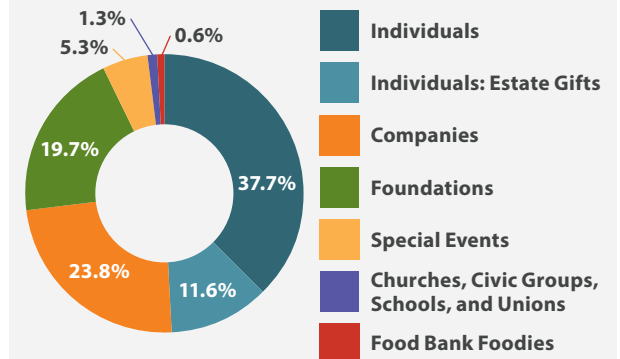
FOOD SOURCES

Calculated in pounds



\$13,621,201 in financial donations

(General operating, program support, and estate gifts)



Food Bank for the Heartland

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

JULY 1, 2023 TO JUNE 30, 2024 (Unaudited Financials)

Includes activities related to the Capital Campaign and new construction project.

Assets

	2024	2023
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$14,612,494	\$9,878,456
Accounts Receivable	\$3,624,944	\$1,856,743
Pledges	\$5,651,576	\$2,772,829
Prepaid Expenses	\$758,584	\$181,609
Food Inventory	\$2,093,558	\$1,802,621
Investments	\$4,810,556	\$2,890,590
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	\$31,551,712	\$19,382,848
NON-CURRENT ASSETS		
Fixed Assets, Net of Depreciation	\$18,261,240	\$15,938,938
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS	\$18,261,240	\$15,938,938
TOTAL ASSETS	\$49,812,952	\$35,321,786

Liabilities and Net Assets

	2024	2023
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Accounts Payable and Accrued Expenses	\$1,140,799	\$1,085,429
Other Current Liabilities	\$683,445	\$600,000
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	\$1,824,244	\$1,685,429
LONG-TERM LIABILITIES		
Note Payable	\$7,130,000	\$7,130,000
Operating Leases	\$73,693	\$100,857
TOTAL LONG-TERM LIABILITIES	\$7,203,693	\$7,230,857
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$9,027,937	\$8,916,286
NET ASSETS		
Without Donor Restriction	\$39,037,803	\$24,464,875
With Donor Restriction	\$1,747,212	\$1,940,625
TOTAL NET ASSETS	\$40,785,015	\$26,405,500
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$49,812,952	\$35,321,786

FY 2024

SUMMARY STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

(Accrual Basis)

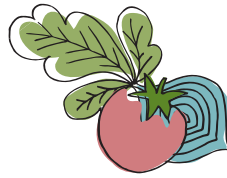
SUPPORT

Donated Food	\$22,532,216
Financial and In-Kind Donations	\$24,241,217
USDA Commodities	\$10,365,326
Government Support	\$8,234,102
Other Revenue	\$992,951
TOTAL SUPPORT	\$66,365,812

EXPENSES

Program	(\$49,674,732)
Administration	(\$823,880)
Fundraising	(\$1,487,685)
TOTAL EXPENSES	(\$51,986,297)
Change in Net Assets	\$14,379,515
Beginning Net Assets	\$26,405,500
ENDING NET ASSETS	\$40,785,015

Food Bank for the Heartland PROGRAMS



Food Bank for the Heartland works with more than **500 Network Partners**, including pantries, mobile pantries, schools, churches, emergency shelters, and other non-profit organizations to ensure consistent access to nutritious food. Network Partners play an integral role in assisting neighbors experiencing food insecurity. In FY 2024, the Food Bank distributed nearly **25 million meals** through our partners and programs.



The Mobile Pantry Program delivers fresh and shelf-stable food directly to communities with a high need but limited food resources. These one-day, recurring drive-through distribution events are free to attend. Community packs include various shelf-stable items. Other items distributed can include assorted fresh produce and bakery items. In FY 2024, the Food Bank hosted **383 Mobile Pantry Events in 40 counties**, distributing nearly **2.7 million meals** and helping **63,946 households**.



The Backpack Program, a partnership with area schools, offers packs of weekend breakfasts and lunches to elementary school children. Each week during the '23-'24 school year, **8,404 packs—equaling 33,616 meals**—of easy-to-prepare or ready-to-eat nutritious food were distributed to children in **245 schools** across **110 school districts** in Nebraska and western Iowa. In total, **1,277,408 meals** were distributed to children during the '23-'24 school year through this program. Backpack meals are assembled by Food Bank volunteers using food purchased by the Food Bank.



Kids Café is one of the nation's largest free-meal service programs for children—serving meals to kids in partnership with organizations that offer a safe environment after school and during the summer months. The Food Bank distributed a total of **101,664 meals** during the FY 2024 program year. We provided an average of **1,782 meals** each week to **12 sites** around the Omaha metro area as part of the Kids Café After School Program, and **3,396 meals** each week to **7 sites** during the Kids Café Summer Feeding Program.



Food Bank for the Heartland's **SNAP Outreach** (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) team helps families and individuals navigate the application process, understand program benefits, and access additional community resources. As an equal-opportunity provider, our team helped submit **5,772 applications in Nebraska** and **12,491 applications in Iowa** in FY 2024. The Food Research & Action Center (FRAC) estimates that **\$1 in SNAP benefits** generates **\$1.79 in economic activity** at local retailers.

Together, we're HEARTLAND DIFFERENCE-MAKERS

Collectively, the Food Bank's circle of supporters is working across our 93-county service area to serve our neighbors with urgency, integrity, and respect. Through the versatility and strength of our communities, we are working every day to create a healthier Heartland.



“

When I took over the pantry, I thought I would see a lot of families, but it's probably 80-85% elderly couples. They are so strapped on a fixed income that they can't afford everyday essentials. I also don't think we have a family where both parents don't work. People are working and they can't afford groceries.

– Emily, Caring Cupboard Pantry, Alma, NE

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“

If I didn't have access to this food, there would be a lot less nutrition in our home.

– Tamara, Mobile Pantry Recipient, Plattsmouth, NE

”

“The prices for groceries right now are terrible. I have four kids and it's just not possible with the price of groceries. This is my first time here. It's great!”

School-Based Mobile Pantry Recipient, Bellevue, NE

If it weren't for the Food Bank, and the food they send us, we would be in trouble. We're able to give our community the food they need—dairy, eggs, and protein.

– Brad, Pantry Coordinator, Atlantic, IA

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“

I've had to go without meals to make sure they eat. I'd rather my kids go to bed with something in their stomach. I'm a grown-up, I can handle it. As a mom, you make sure your kids have what they need.

– Julie, Mobile Pantry Recipient, Atlantic IA



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“When I was receiving SNAP benefits, it allowed me to eat healthier meals each day.”

SNAP Recipient, Nebraska

How food banking works at Food Bank for the Heartland

DONORS



Individuals, businesses, foundations, governments, and other organizations donate food, funds, and volunteer time.

The Food Bank also purchases food to meet the high need.

FOOD BANK



The Food Bank collects, stores, and prepares food for distribution to more than 500 Network Partners in 93 counties across Nebraska and western Iowa.

NETWORK PARTNERS



The Food Bank distributes food to pantries, shelters, meal providers, mobile pantries, and child nutrition programs.

HEARTLAND NEIGHBORS



Children, families, seniors, and veterans receive critical nutrition that helps them thrive.

Food Bank for the Heartland BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Tiffani Keckler, Vice-Chair	Five Points Bank
Susan Violi, Secretary	Baxter Auto
Daniel Applegarth, Treasurer	Carson Group
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Angi Chamberlain	Valmont Industries
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Russ Wagner	Farm Credit Services of America
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FoodBankHeartland.org



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