

2020 ANNUAL REPORT



The early months of the pandemic were rough. Find out how we responded.

PAGE 2

A record-setting 16.35 million pounds of food was distributed in 2020. Here's our year by the numbers.

PAGE 4

It was more important than ever for us to get food into our communities but we didn't have our volunteers.

PAGE 6

**SOUTHEAST MISSOURI FOOD
 BANK BOARD OF DIRECTORS:**

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 Chief Executive Officer

Mission

To end hunger and leverage the power of food to build healthy communities.



A Message From the CEO

Year of Challenges Gives Way to a Year of Hope

The phones rang as mothers, grandparents, veterans, and young families called, not knowing where to go to put food on their tables. As schools and businesses closed or reduced operations, many of our neighbors found themselves with nowhere to turn for the basic need of food. The early months of the pandemic were extremely worrisome for not just us, but food banks across the country. Will we run out of food? Will the truckload of chicken noodle soup be delivered on time? How high are prices going to rise? How long can we continue this heightened response? Those were just a few of the many questions we faced in 2020.

Fortunately, our staff, agencies, volunteers, and donors stepped up to ensure we could meet the increased need — a need that, in the early months, more than doubled in many of our communities; a need that has seen gradual improvement, but is still high today. In 2019, we served an average of 63,000 individuals per month through our agency network, mobile food pantries, Backpacks for Friday program, and senior boxes. Over the last five months of 2020, that number leveled

but remained an incredible 90,000 individuals per month. An estimated 40 percent were people seeking food assistance for the first time.

This report is just a glimpse of the reach and impact required to meet and sustain the response to the increased need. An astonishing 13.6 million meals were provided to our neighbors facing hunger in 2020. It took immense community support for us to meet this challenge. Without donations of food, funds, and time, many neighbors would have gone hungry. The battle against hunger is far from over, and in a high-poverty area like ours, it will continue to be fought on a daily basis.

Our hope is we can get back to normal sooner than later. Our hope is all individuals can be fully employed again, or find a job that can meet their family's needs. Our hope is to be able to feed people facing hunger as we continue our recovery. Our hope is for a healthier and happier 2021.

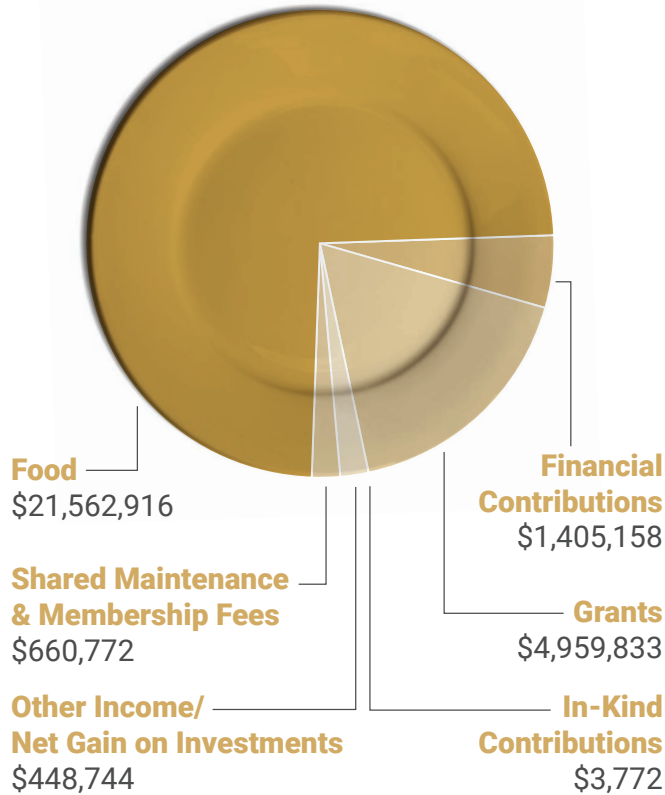


Joseph Keys
 CEO of Southeast
 Missouri Food Bank

2020 Annual Report

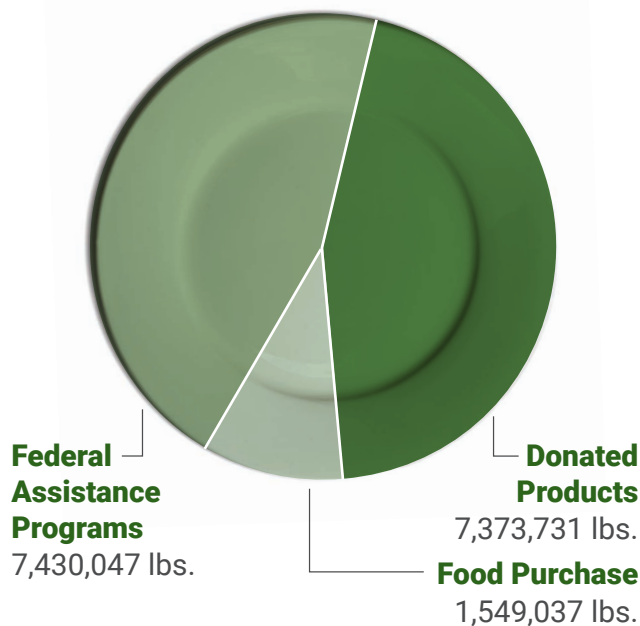
Revenue

Total: \$29,041,195

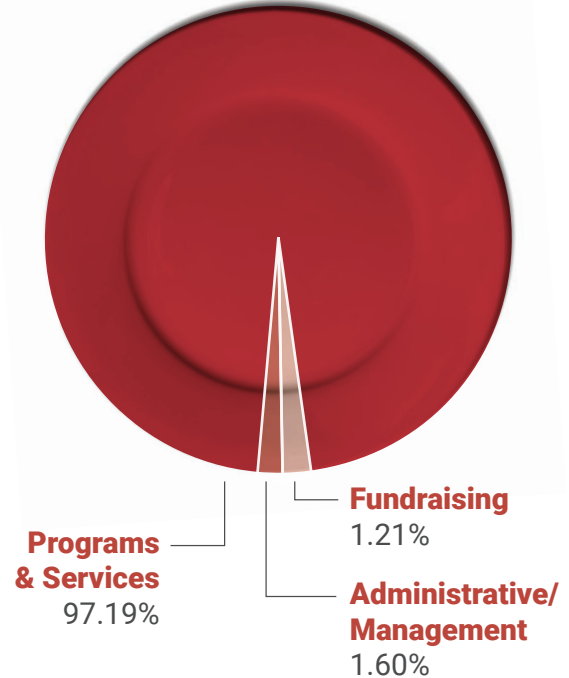


Food Sources

Total: 16,352,815 pounds of food



2020 Expenses



Income*

Total Income	\$29,041,194
Food/In-Kind	74.25%
Cash	25.75%

Expenses*

Total Expenses	\$24,718,687
Program Services	97.19%
Fundraising	1.21%
Administrative/Management & General	1.60%

**According to Southeast Missouri Food Bank's Unaudited Financial Statement for the calendar year ended December 31, 2020.*

2020 Achievements



A record 16.35 million

pounds of food were distributed last year through our network of 140 food pantries, soup kitchens, shelters, mobile food distributions, and other programs. This was an increase of 27 percent over the previous year.

One in five of our neighbors goes hungry. Hunger rates vary across our 16 counties, ranging from a low of 15 percent in Perry County to a high of 36 percent for child hunger in Pemiscot County. Job losses related to the pandemic caused a surge in the number of people needing food assistance.

2.57 million pounds of produce, dairy, and protein were distributed through the federal Farmers to Family program created specifically to address the pandemic's double whammy of increased food insecurity and market losses to food producers.



432 mobile food pantries were held last year — nearly double the number held in 2019. Mobiles were a key component of our coronavirus response because we could target high-need communities throughout our service area and deliver the boxes in no-contact, drive-through distributions. More than 3.36 million pounds of food were distributed through mobiles.



1,167 students in 32 school districts are receiving backpacks of food for the weekend through our Backpacks for Friday program. The program was revamped at the beginning of the school year to feature kid-friendly foods in pop-top containers that can be eaten right away without any prep.

67 A Better Childhood (ABC) mobile food pantries were held. ABC mobiles focused on providing food to school families and reached an estimated 16,750 families. Because of the pandemic, child hunger in Southeast Missouri rose to 30 percent — almost one in three children.



611,890 pounds of fresh produce were made available to our neighbors in need because of the generous support of Southeast Missouri farms. (See page 6 for a list.)

3.15 million pounds of additional food were distributed through TEFAP (The Emergency Food Assistance Program).

5,350 CSFP senior boxes

were distributed each month. One out of 12 seniors in Southeast Missouri is food insecure. Commodity Supplemental Food Program boxes provide about 35 pounds of nutritious USDA commodities each month.

774 SNAP

applications were completed to link people to an important resource to obtain food on a regular basis. Every \$1 of benefits provided in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (food stamps) generates \$1.70 in economic impact.

3,370 donors

contributed to the food bank last year — and for that we are incredibly grateful. Each dollar received can help provide four meals, and **96.6 percent** of donations are put back into programs.

Helping Spread Hope in a Year Filled With Fear

Fear and hope. Those two words probably best describe the impact of COVID-19 and the food bank's response for families — especially those who were already struggling.

As businesses were forced to close and workers lost their jobs or had their hours reduced, the food bank saw a massive spike in the number of people needing food assistance.

Edgar was laid off from his farm job. With no income, he feared how his family was going to survive.

"I tried to find another job, but now it's very hard, you know," Edgar said in April. "I don't know [when I'll be able to work]. I don't know what will happen tomorrow."

After hearing about food pantries in his area, he and his wife found the food they needed to survive. They also started volunteering at the pantries.

"These kinds of events help so many people, so I just want to say thank you for your help," Edgar said.

Even people who kept their jobs had trouble making ends meet. Ashley, a working mother with four children, said she sometimes sacrificed meals so the kids would have more.

"Sometimes you are taking it day by day trying to figure out how to make a meal, and sometimes you don't have a meal," she said.

Ashley also found hope with the food she

received from her local pantry in New Madrid.

"I appreciate what everyone is doing to help families in need," Ashley said. "It's a hard time right now with COVID-19."

When schools closed during the pandemic, some parents struggled to provide extra food for their children.

Ruth is raising multiple grandchildren. With no school breakfast and lunch for the kids, she faced the challenge of spending more at the grocery store.

"They are home and constantly eating, so we try to come to food pantries for help," she said.

Even those who had never visited a food pantry needed assistance.

Mike, a veteran who served 17 years in the Navy, started visiting a food pantry in Benton after two people in his family of four lost their jobs because of the pandemic.

With their only source of income being Mike's small disability check, they were thankful it was available.

"It's a variation of your lifestyle, but to a lot of these people it's desperate times," Mike said. "It's what's keeping them going. Without these (pantries), there'd be a lot of kids and people eating less and less."

COVID-19 may have brought fear to the people of our area, but through our devoted partners and generous donors, the food bank helped spread hope.



Edgar

Mike



Ashley



Ruth & her granddaughter

Without Volunteers, National Guard Steps up to Pack Boxes, Distribute Food



The food bank relies heavily on its network of volunteers to pack more than 5,300 food boxes for seniors each month. When the pandemic hit, volunteers and the food bank were reluctant to continue for safety reasons. The majority of regular volunteers are older and therefore at higher risk for the virus.

But because the food bank converted to drive-through, contactless distributions at our mobiles, we needed hundreds more boxes prepacked each week.

“At a time when it was more important than ever for us to get food into our communities, we were not able to use our volunteers as we normally would to help us get these boxes out to those in need,” said Camille Peters, Partner Relations and Compliance Director who oversees the food bank’s 140 partner agencies.

Missouri Foundation for Health stepped up with a grant to allow the food bank to hire temporary displaced workers to pack boxes for several months. When that arrangement was over, the Missouri National Guard came to the rescue. Guard members were deployed to help with COVID-19 relief efforts statewide, including at the food bank where they have been packing boxes and helping distribute food.

“With the help of the Missouri National Guard, we didn’t miss a beat packing and moving these boxes from our food bank into the hands of our monthly clients as well as new clients who needed a little extra help during the pandemic,” Peters said.

Top Local Retail/Manufacturing Donors

Walmart Supercenters
Sam’s Club
Procter & Gamble

Aldi
Refresco
Ruler Foods
Kroger

DI Supply
Schnuck’s
Target

Thank You to Our Top Farm Donors!

Beggs Melons
Black Gold Farms
Bibbs Produce
Keller Farms
Blake Wade Melons
Peterson Farms
Southeast Correctional Center
Asa Kinnaman
David Renaud

Top 10 Foods Distributed (in pounds)

Produce
3.71 million

Meats/Fish/Poultry
1.88 million

Dairy
1.71 million

Mixed & Assorted Food
1.49 million

Vegetables (canned/frozen)
1.14 million

Beverages
1.01 million

Meal Kits/Entrees/Soup
895,988

Juices
694,197

Protein (non-meat)
635,061

Fruits (canned/frozen)
503,696

Thank You to Our Donors!

Gifts of \$25,000+

Buzzi Unicem USA
Care to Learn
Community Foundation
of the Ozarks
David Tepper Charitable
Foundation
Enterprise Holdings
Greenway Equipment
J.R. Albert Foundation, Inc.
Mary Kay McAllister
Midwest Sterilization Corp.
Missouri Foundation
for Health
Randol & Charlotte York
Tetra Pak, Inc.
Tyson Foods
Wells Fargo

Gifts of \$10,000-\$24,999

Adam & Tamara Morgan
Bayer Fund
Cargill, Inc.
Creve & Company
Dr. Linza & Julie Killion
Farmers Insurance
Harps Food Stores
James & Teresa Maurer
Joe & Tommie Tidwell
Matthew & Marissa Mills
Missouri Farmers Care
Nutrien
Red Nose Day Fund
Thomas Luttrull
TJX Companies
Walmart Foundation

Gifts of \$5,001-\$9,999

Arvil Adams
Barbara C. Glackin
Big Stuff Preschool
& Child Care
Bonnie R. Poythress
David & Gail Crader
Donny & Kaki Beasley
Joyce Luttrull
Liberty Utilities
Lori Moyers

MFA Charitable Foundation
Naomi Wahl
Nestle Purina
Peter & Toni Martin
Prevention is Key
Foundation
Spire, Inc.

Gifts of \$2,501-\$5,000

Amazing In Home Services
Ameren Missouri
Andrew Bullinger
Ann Ritter
Anthem, Inc.
ANW Refrigeration
Services
Bank of Missouri
Banterra Bank
Bill & Shirley Pullen
BNSF Railway
Centene Management
Corteva
Craftsmen Trailer
Dawn Moynihan
Debbie Toney
Dexter BPO Elks
Lodge 2439
Donna Morgan
Drury Southwest
First State Community
Bank
Floyd Family Foundation
Fred Schuerenberg
General Mills
Great Southern Bank
Infinity Recycling Solutions
Johnny Cloud
Julie McGrath
Kraft Heinz Company
Kroger
Kyle & Calli Thoma
Lutesville Ford
Macy's
Marilyn Weaver
Mary Dyer
Midwest Dairy Association
MLW Holdings
Neil & Dina Casey

Paul & Leola Douglas
PepsiCo
Realty Executives Edge
Roman & Alyssa Burleson
Shelby Spray
Sikeston Jaycees
Tom & Cheryl Dameron
Toyota Coad Park West
Trevin & Fallan Mayabb
Tweedy Law Office

Gifts of \$1,500-\$2,500

Altrusa Club of Sikeston
Amber Miller
Amelia Essman
Becky Brown
Berneda Greene
Bettina S. Moxley
Brenda C. Witt
Campbell Soup Co.
Carla Latourette
Casey's General Stores
Century Casino
Christopher Dittmer
Cornelius & Barbara Fisher
CVS Health
Darrell & Connie Ulrich
Donald & Jane
Rosenbarger, Jr.
Douglas Nanna
Eastwood Memorial United
Methodist Church
Ed & Jackie Cowan
First Liberty Missionary
Baptist Church
First Midwest Bank of
Piedmont
Frederick & Connie Biondini
Frederick & Susan Janzow
Jeffie's Choice
Jerry Stone
John Richbourg
Johnny Vavak
Jon & Erin Ezzell
Josephine Baer
Kate Nichols
Larry & Dorothy Green
Laverne Schaefer

Lavina B. Owen
Linda Burns
Luke Small
Macy's Inc.
Mark Leibold
Mary Abts
MH Equipment
Michael & Linda Myers
Michael & Sharon Eck
Missouri Employers Mutual
Naomi Atkinson-Newman
Orthodox Anglican Church
Patricia P. Abell
Peter & Cindy Maher
Produce for Kids
Richard & Christine
Montgomery
Save A Lot
Scott County Farm Bureau
SEMO Electric Cooperative
SERVPRO of Cape
Girardeau & Scott Co.
Sheila & William Boyer
Shelter Insurance
Foundation
Stephen & Vicky Dowdy
Stephen Gold
Steve Gehl
Stonebright Foundation
Subaru
Subway
Theo Rogers
Thomas C. Thomsen
Tim & Linda Sue Garner
Tim & Sarah Allen
Toyota Dealer Match
Program
Vernon Cross
Walmart Sikeston

Food Insecurity & Pounds of Food Distributed by County

Area	Number of Agencies	Pounds of Food Distributed 2020	Food Insecure Overall pop. COVID-19 adjusted
SEMO Food Bank Service Area	140	16,351,621	22.2%
Bollinger County	3	323,662	20.6%
Butler County	18	2,156,055	23.4%
Cape Girardeau County	24	2,046,092	17.6%
Carter County	3	323,896	22.3%
Dunklin County	8	1,187,297	25%
Madison County	6	440,759	20.5%
Mississippi County	6	1,473,133	24.1%
New Madrid County	6	661,321	23.6%
Pemiscot County	9	726,957	26.4%
Perry County	4	368,285	15.3%
Reynolds County	5	713,024	21.1%
Ripley County	5	549,615	25.2%
Scott County	16	1,504,142	21.2%
Ste. Genevieve County	6	273,344	17.3%
Stoddard County	13	2,820,139	21.2%
Wayne County	8	570,587	25%

Mobilizing for Pandemic Response

"Our agency partners really came through to distribute more food because of the pandemic. Those that pick-up were coming here a lot more frequently to help us get food out quickly. **Even just staying open was hard for some because they're operated by volunteers — many of whom would be at high risk for contracting the virus.** I can't say enough good things about our agencies."

-Camille Peters, *Partner Relations and Compliance Director*



"Every open hour of the day, we either ran a mobile or distributed extra food to the agencies. Our trucks were almost running nonstop the whole time until about August. **Due to COVID-19 response, we went from having 15 to 20 mobiles a month to 50.**

It was non-stop. And honestly, all the warehouse staff really stepped it up."

-Tom Ward, *Warehouse Director*



How You Can Help

Volunteer

Volunteer with a group or as an individual.
Ask about our open volunteer days. Call 573-471-1818.

Donate

Make a one-time gift or sign up for a recurring donation.
Sponsor a child to receive a weekend backpack of food.
Include SEMO Food Bank in your estate planning.
Donate food or host a food or fund drive.

Get Involved

Follow us on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.
Contact elected officials to support hunger-related issues.
Sign up for our newsletter at semofoodbank.org.

