

2021 ANNUAL REPORT



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Joseph Keys
 Chief Executive Officer

Mission

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

Our Values

Integrity, Collaboration, Stewardship and Respect



A Message From the CEO

Our Generous Donors Helped Us Meet Every Challenge of 2021

We started 2021 with hope and optimism. After all the challenges of 2020, we hoped for a return to normal.



That seemed to be the case as more people went back to work, and we saw fewer people needing food assistance. By

summer, we were serving an average of 70,000 individuals each month — still higher than the 63,000 we served monthly in 2019, but much lower than the 90,000-plus served during the pandemic. We hoped that downward trend would continue.

Instead, as summer turned to fall, the number remained steady. When prices climbed at the gas pump and on grocery aisles, families who were already living paycheck to paycheck struggled even more to make ends meet. The food bank isn't immune to rising costs either. We are paying more in freight and transportation costs to move food. And the food costs more, too.

However, our bright spot has been that donors continued to show their generosity. From first-time donors

to longtime supporters, gifts came in all year-long, enabling us to meet the rising costs and continue serving southeast Missouri families, children, seniors and veterans who struggle with hunger.

And as the year drew to a close, we found ourselves once again filled with hope and optimism. In November and December, the food bank hosted 36 special holiday food distributions across our 16-county service area, providing Thanksgiving and Christmas meals to more than 7,200 families — because when you're already struggling to put food on the table, the holidays can be even more stressful.

As we look forward to 2022, we know that whatever challenges it brings, we'll be there to meet them.

And with the support of our donors, we'll continue to put food on the tables of our most vulnerable neighbors in Southeast Missouri.

Joseph Keys
 CEO of Southeast Missouri Food Bank



"The food bank is very important because it helps us keep food on our table."

— Justine

2021 Highlights



One in six of our neighbors goes hungry. Hunger rates vary across our 16-county service area. Rates are as high as 31 percent for childhood hunger in Pemiscot County.

15.08 million pounds of food were distributed through our network of 143 food pantries, soup kitchens, shelters, mobile food distributions, and other programs.



\$1.47 million dollars was spent purchasing food. This was 60 percent more than what we spent in 2020.



368 mobile food pantries were held last year, each with enough food to feed 200 families. Thirty-three of those were A Better Childhood (ABC) mobile distributions, geared to school children and their families.



1,200 students in 31 school districts are receiving backpacks of food for the weekend through our Backpacks for Friday program. Each pack includes kid-friendly, no-prep foods in pop-top containers.

2.5 million pounds of additional food were distributed through TEFAP (The Emergency Food Assistance Program), a USDA program that serves families 185 percent below the national poverty level.



2.89 million pounds of fresh produce were given to our neighbors in need thanks in part to generous local farmers and gardeners. (See page 6 for a list.)



5,350 CSFP senior boxes were distributed each month. One in 8 seniors in southeast Missouri are food insecure. Commodity Supplemental Food Program boxes packed by volunteers provide about 35 pounds of nutritious, shelf-stable USDA food to seniors every month.

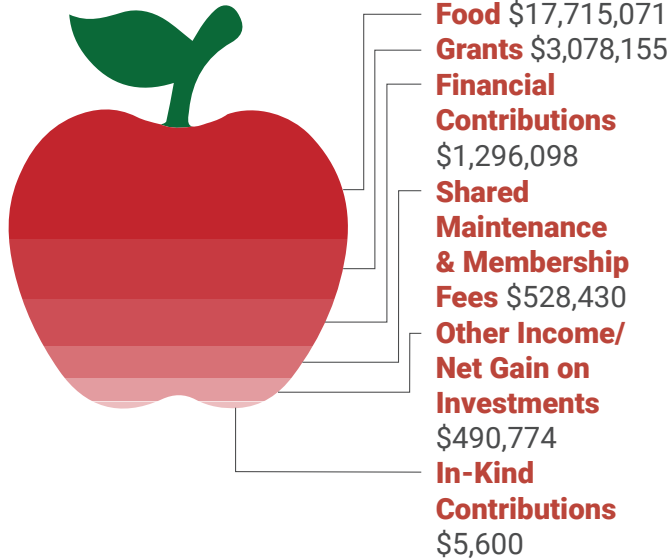
984 SNAP

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.

More than 2,500 donors

contributed to the food bank last year, 592 for the first time, and for that we are incredibly grateful. **97 percent** of donations the food bank receives go back into our programs to combat hunger in southeast Missouri.

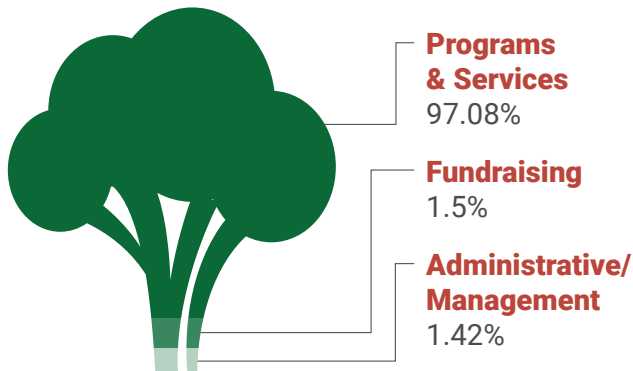
Revenue



Income*

Total Income	\$23,114,128
Food/In-Kind	76.64%
Cash	23.36%

Expenses



Expenses*

Total Expenses	\$21,759,668
Program Services	97.08%
Fundraising	1.5%
Administrative/Management & General	1.42%

**According to Southeast Missouri Food Bank's unaudited financial statement for the calendar year ended December 31, 2021.*

Food Bank Growing

to Better Serve Those in Need

We're excited to announce we've acquired warehouse and office space in Cape Girardeau County.

The food bank purchased the 18,500 square-foot former Sappington Pro Outdoors building on Highway 61 in Jackson. The space is being repurposed to serve as additional food storage and a hub for volunteer activities, such as packing food boxes.

"One of the things we learned when responding to the increased need for food assistance during the pandemic was that we had some gaps in our infrastructure we needed to shore up," said food bank Chief Executive Officer Joey Keys.

"The food bank is the designated source of food and water should we have a disaster in southeast Missouri. We need to maintain an ample supply of both and be ready to coordinate a distribution within a moment's notice. This site will help us do that."

The food bank has started repairing the building's roof, updating some HVAC and electrical components, and renovating the flooring and interior finishes on the building.

"We don't expect to move in until the middle part of this summer," Keys said.

Anyone interested in supporting the campaign for this important expansion can contact Heather or Joey at 573-471-1818.

The food bank will continue to be headquartered at its Sikeston location along Interstate 55.





Volunteers pack senior food boxes during a monthly Help More, Feed More open volunteer day.



Charleston High School JAG students volunteer at a mobile food distribution.

Return of Volunteers Brings Renewed Energy

Candice Blaylock was a retired Air Force veteran looking for something to do in her newly abundant spare time. So, she searched for volunteer opportunities online and came across a listing for Help More, Feed More open volunteer days at Southeast Missouri Food Bank.



Candice

“My family, we never needed to get a box of food, but we were right above that line,” Candice said. “So, this seemed like a good way to help people who need it.”

After closing our doors to volunteers during the COVID-19 pandemic, the food bank was thrilled to welcome groups and individuals back in 2021.

Familiar faces like volunteers from New McKendree and St. Vincent de Paul churches returned and got right back to work. And new groups showed up, eager to help families facing hunger in southeast Missouri.

Orgill Inc. took home the prize for the largest group of volunteers, bringing 50 employees to pack food boxes one Saturday in December.

“I’m a big believer in physical volunteering,” said Dennis Foley, general manager of Orgill’s Sikeston distribution center. “When you’ve got sweat equity in a project, you feel great at the end of the day and know you’ve helped someone.”

Foley and some of his supervisors volunteered at the food bank during a networking event and the Saturday volunteer session grew from there.

“We really liked that the food bank covers our entire employment area,” Dennis said. “A lot of our families and employees are probably next to someone they’ve helped (in their community).”

From small and large groups to volunteers of all ages, the volunteer center came alive as groups packed boxes and helped in other areas.

Kyle Johnson, JAG (Jobs After Graduation) specialist for Charleston High School, not only brought students to the food bank to pack boxes, but his class also signed up to distribute boxes at mobile food distributions.

“Volunteering at the food bank is a good opportunity for them to see how organizations come together to help a common goal: feeding those in need,” Johnson said. “These kids got to see how the process works. They’ve heard about food drives, where the food just shows up. But by volunteering, they packed the boxes, they handed out the boxes.”

As for Candice, she doesn’t have as much spare time these days. In December, she started a new full-time job as the volunteer coordinator at the food bank.

If you’re interested in bringing a group or participating in open volunteer days, contact Candice at cblaylock@semofoodbank.org or 573-471-1818.

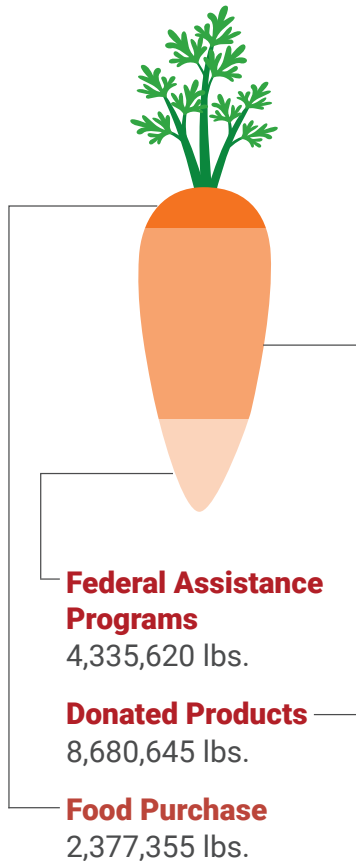


"We live in a small, depressed area and I'm glad things like this food distribution can happen here."

– Ivan & Sandra

Food Sources

Total: 15,393,620 lbs.



Top 10 Foods Distributed (in pounds)



Meats/Fish/Poultry
1,201,631



**Fruits
(canned/frozen)**
527,906



Dairy
757,822

Snack Foods/Cookies
511,413



**Meal Kits/
Entrees/Soup**
636,037



Fresh Produce
2,887,374

**Vegetables
(canned/frozen)**
1,034,796

Beverages
729,924

**Mixed &
Assorted Food**
3,419,109

Juices
665,437

Top 11 Local Retail/ Manufacturing Donors

Walmart
Sam's Club
Refresco
Aldi
Procter & Gamble
Ruler Foods

Unilever
Kroger
DI Supply
Schnucks
Target

Thank You to Our Top Farm-to-Food Bank Donors!

Beggs Melons
Blake Wade/BW & Melons Co.
Beggs Berry World/Cameron Beggs
Black Gold Farms
Frey's Farms
Bula's Heartland Farms

David Patrick
David Renaud
Southeast Correctional Center
Heritage Rice Co.
Tri-B Farms
David Diebold

Thank You to Our Donors!

Gifts of \$25,000+

Feeding America
Margaret A. Cargill
Foundation
Anthem Inc.
Enterprise Holdings
Mary Kay McAllister
Greenway Equipment
Walmart &
Walmart Foundation
Tyson Foods
Subaru
J.R. Albert Foundation
Midwest Sterilization Corp.

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

Beasley Family Giving Fund
Casey's General Stores
David & Gail Crader
Dr. Linza & Julie Killion
Farmers Insurance
James & Teresa Maurer
Joe Tidwell
Martha Jahnke
Michael & Laura Williams
Missouri Foundation
for Health
Peter & Toni Martin
Ray C. McKinley Family
Foundation
Robert & Anna Drury
Foundation

Gifts of \$5,000-\$9,999

Adam & Tamara Morgan
BNSF Railway
Corteva
Enbridge

Feeding Missouri
Kroger
Lori Moyers
Mary Dyer
Maryann Darden
Montgomery Bank
Naomi Wahl
Nutrien
Paul & Barbara Horn
Prevention is Key
Foundation
Sedgewickville Baptist
Church
Sisters of Charity
Steve Gehl
Union Pacific Foundation

Gifts of \$2,500-\$4,999

Ameren Missouri
American Express
Andrew Bullinger
Ann Ritter
ANW Refrigeration
Services
Barbara Glackin
Buzzi Unicem USA
Donna Morgan
Elizabeth J. McFarland
First Liberty Missionary
Baptist
First Presbyterian Church
of Cape
Frederick & Susan Janzow
General Mills Inc.
Infinity Recycling Solutions
John Richbourg
Joshua & Julianna Ford
Kyle & Calli Thoma

Lavina B Owen
M. D. & Dorothy Limbaugh
Marilyn Weaver
Neil & Dina Casey
Orgill Inc.
Patricia P. Abell
Renaissance Charitable
Foundation
Shelby Spray
Stonebright Foundation
Theodore & Tammy Rogers
TJX Companies Inc.
Toyota Coad Park West
William & Georganne Syler

Gifts of \$1,500-\$2,499

Amber Miller
American Eagle Outfitters
Amy Lee
Berneda Greene
Bonnie J. Akridge
Cap America Inc.
Carol Grueneberg
Catherine Rapp
Cheryl A. Fornkahl
Christopher Micheal
Siebert
Darrell & Connie Ulrich
DFA Cares Foundation
Donald & Jane
Rosenbarger Jr.
Ed & Jackie Cowan
Edward E. Shafer
Ernestine Kidd
Frederick & Connie Biondini
Gary Williams
Holden Pallet Co. Inc.
James & Helen Hays

Kellogg Company
Larry DeWitt
Linda Burns
Linda Sebaugh
Luke Small
Marilyn Caul
Marni & Morris Propp
Foundation
Mary Abts
MH Equipment
Michael & Sharon Eck
Naomi Atkinson-Newman
Oscar & Donna Sapp
Peter & Cindy Maher
Richard & Christine
Montgomery
Richard & Marilyn Hawkins
Roger & Kay Tolliver
Rotary Club of
Southeast Missouri
Sheila & William Boyer
Skip Wrape
Sue Anne Bartelsmeyer
Thrivent No. 1921
Tom & Laveta Williams
Unilever U.S. Foundation
Vernon Cross
Vince & Peggy Raddle
William & Carol Fetterhoff
William & Carolyn Bohnert



"I appreciate the food I get, it really helps out. I know they're others in worst shape than me that this food really helps out, too."

– Delbert

Food Insecurity & Pounds of Food Distributed by County

Area	Pounds of Food Distributed, 2021	Food Insecure Population, 2021
SEMO Food Bank Service Area	15,087,269	16.8%
Bollinger County	303,713	15.5%
Butler County	1,743,109	19.9%
Cape Girardeau County	1,722,096	13.1%
Carter County	299,334	15.6%
Dunklin County	1,152,981	20.4%
Madison County	509,731	16.1%
Mississippi County	899,338	18.7%
New Madrid County	575,908	18.3%
Pemiscot County	552,301	20.9%
Perry County	460,579	10.8%
Reynolds County	538,936	17.7%
Ripley County	434,967	21.7%
Scott County	1,020,971	16.5%
Ste. Genevieve County	2,057,272	11.9%
Stoddard County	2,190,693	18.1%
Wayne County	404,713	21.1%

Improving Veterans' Access to Healthy Foods

The relationship between healthy foods and healthy bodies isn't anything new. Neither is the fact that some of the healthiest foods cost more.

That's an issue Southeast Missouri Food Bank worked to address in a partnership with the John J. Pershing VA Medical Center in Poplar Bluff. Under the grant-funded program, the food bank provided a box of 35-40 pounds of fresh produce, lean protein and other foods to about 75 participating veterans.

Bobby Brooks, an Air Force veteran, received a box through the program. Bobby, who was temporarily unemployed after losing his job because of the pandemic, shares the healthy food with his family. It nourishes his body, but also relieves some of the financial stress he's felt over the last year.

"This food means a lot to us, especially at the end of the month, because the bills still come in," Bobby said. "It's been a godsend, it truly has."

Eighty-eight percent of the 58 veterans who completed both a pre- and post-survey in the program reported improved health because of the healthy food they received.



How You Can Help

Volunteer

Volunteer at the food bank with a group or as an individual. Open volunteer days are 1 to 4 p.m. the third Thursday of each month and 9 a.m. to noon the fourth Wednesday of each month. Call volunteer coordinator Candice Blaylock at 573-471-1818 for more information.

Donate

Every \$1 donated helps provide four meals. Consider setting up a monthly donation or ask if your employer will match your gift. Host a virtual food drive to maximize your giving and involve friends and family.

Get Involved

Follow us on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and LinkedIn, and share our posts to spread the word about our work. Sign up for our quarterly newsletter at semofoodbank.org. Contact elected officials to support hunger-related issues.

