



Fairbanks Community Food Bank

HARVEST



Neighbors Helping Neighbors

Annual Report 2025

Today We Received a \$25 Donation.

What if ... 100 donors each month gave \$25/month, for 12 months, we would raise \$30,000/year! Can you even imagine what a gift your \$25/month is? We are so thankful for your regular giving. **Here is our report about YOUR \$25 gifts for the past year:**

- 137 people in the past 12 months have given \$25 one time
- 14 of those people have given twelve times
- 2 have given 13 times
- 1 has given 15 times
- 1 has given 26 times

We invite you and your friends and family to help us reach a goal of 100 donors each month who give \$25.

We are so blessed to have the warehouse space we need in order to be a good local food bank warehouse, special thanks to **Dennis and Mary Wise**. We also have 30-40 volunteers each day (2/3rd of our daily workers are volunteers). All that is possible with the \$25 YOU choose to give us each month!

In 1982, this food bank was started by a small group of local people who did not want anyone in the Tanana Valley to go to bed hungry. It was a

seemingly impossible time to create a new community organization that collected local surplus food and gave it away to local people in need.

And here we are 43 years later, still doing the same daily mission statement. Alaska has had fires, floods, earthquakes, recessions, COVID, political changes in Alaska's focus during these 43 years ... but we still have COMMUNITY support. Jeff Cook told us in the early 1990s, when he was employed by ARCO, that the most reliable source of funding since the Great Depression was INDIVIDUAL DONATIONS. That has been OUR focus because our name is the Fairbanks COMMUNITY Food Bank, and we still take that very seriously. This local food bank is not funded by government agencies, and it is not part of a larger association or corporation. While we do get grants from time to time for special projects, our day to day operations funding comes from YOU. **Four percent** of our annual budget comes from government grants. Your financial support helps ensure our continued solutions-oriented coverage of best practices in local emergency hunger relief.



What does it mean to end hunger, really? Can our COMMUNITY food bank do that?

Based on others who try to discover how to end hunger, and based on surveys and interviews with people with lived experience, there are four possible stages of hunger. The first two stages describe households that do not have enough food. Those in Stage 1 (2%) don't have enough food and are not accessing any food assistance, while those in Stage 2 (5%) are accessing some assistance. **The goal is to have enough food without assistance.** The distinction between hungry and food-insecure households is important because it dictates different solutions. We want to do everything we can to meet today's needs. No, we have no illusions about ENDING HUNGER for everyone in the areas we serve. But we are here for emergency situations, because we do CARE and SHARE here.

Our mission is to (1) collect local surplus food and give it to people who need it and (2) keep food waste out of our local landfill. Today, we do not want any household to go to bed hungry in the Tanana Valley or in Interior Alaska. And we believe we CAN fix that with your help.

We expect to encourage our communities to salvage local surplus food and SHARE it with others who need emergency help, or, in the case of the FOOD IS MEDICINE program, we want to provide 6 pounds of fresh produce/day (five days/week) to patients who are referred by their medical providers with the hopes that the patients can improve their diets and overall health.

Each morning, as we start our day, we hope we will have:

- The needed number of volunteers who have signed up for the day (we need 30-40 people each day to put in about 75 volunteer hours/day).
- Enough salvaged local surplus food to meet the demand for the day (5-10 TONS of food each day).
- We want to meet the needs of up to 60 households/day who do not have food. That will be 200-250 people each day.

We do all this work with hundreds of our partners in our community while operating 12 months of the year.

What can YOU do to keep the doors of our local COMMUNITY food bank open?

- 1 Be a volunteer (Monday thru Saturday).
- 2 See if your employer will turn your volunteer time into a donation, or have a team-building project here in the food warehouses.
- 3 Help us collect enough food for people who are in need of a food box. Loss of jobs, illness, changes in government programs such as SNAP. YOU know someone who needs a little help.
- 4 Talk to and THANK our local grocers and food vendors and ask them to please call (907)45-SHARE if they have surplus food which can be used in our community.
- 5 Grow a garden and share that great Tanana Valley fresh food with people who need to improve their health.
- 6 Help us pay for space heat (natural gas) and power (GVEA) for our food warehouses.
- 7 We LOVE your great ideas of how we can do a better job of food banking in Fairbanks! When we work together, we inspire and are inspired by the people in the communities we serve.
- 8 Trust us to be honest, accountable, and authentic in our words and actions with YOU.
- 9 Help us embrace a creative, spirited, and fulfilling environment for all who work here, and generously give so much of their time.
- 10 Help us share the abundance of fresh produce and prevent food waste because everyone deserves access to fresh and nutritious food.

Your Donations at Work!

What does it cost to get the work of collecting local surplus food for people who need it, and also prevent the waste of valuable food in our landfill?

94% of all donations, including in-kind, go directly to feeding hungry people in Interior Alaska. Your financial gifts are partnered with donated facilities and 27,042 volunteer hours to support the collection of healthy, nourishing food, which is shared free of charge to those in need.

The annual CASH budget of the Fairbanks Community Food Bank is just over two million dollars. When you add the annual value of DONATED ITEMS (also known as IN-KIND) our annual operating budget is over ten million dollars. What types of items do we include in this added IN-KIND value?

- Donated Food
- Donated Facilities
- Donated Labor
- Donated Equipment

That means our CASH needs are 1/5th of what we need to keep these doors open each year. We feel our obligation to you is to keep our need for CASH as low as possible and give each of you an opportunity to donate what you feel you can SHARE with those in this community who need your help. Of course, we must be able to pay our staff for organizing volunteers, writing grants, driving trucks, paying for insurance, and maintaining the operations of these warehouse facilities. Though CASH is less than 20% of what we need, it is the glue that makes this whole community project work.

EVERY DOLLAR you donate is important to us!

- To our "large " donors – **THANK YOU!**
- To our donors who can only afford \$5 and yet you still invest in us, **THANK YOU!**
- **Every \$1 counts here!**

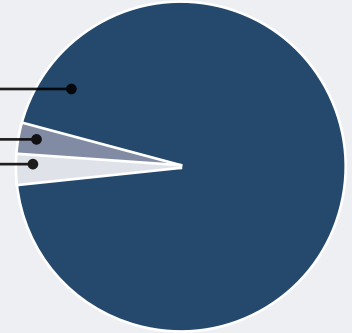
GOOD (still) HAPPENS HERE (As we celebrate 43 years of an impossible community business plan)

We are at our highest efficiency when we are in our goal range. With these higher numbers, thanks to this community's support, we have been able to go beyond our goals to meet additional needs as they have arisen. It has never been easy, but this amazing community always steps up, allowing us to meet our local needs. Our community CARES, and NEIGHBORS truly do help NEIGHBORS through the Fairbanks Community Food Bank. Thank you!

PLEASE NOTE: We have met and greatly exceeded our annual baseline goal each of the past three years. This Food Bank receives free food and gives it away free, so no person needs to go hungry in Interior Alaska.

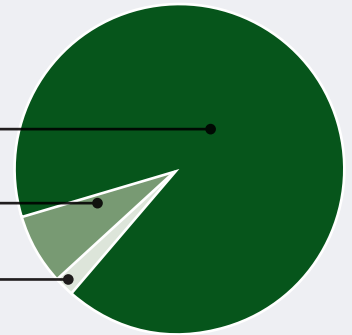
Actual FY2025 Expenses CASH & IN-KIND

Programs \$9,803,200
Fundraising \$316,981
Administration \$303,484



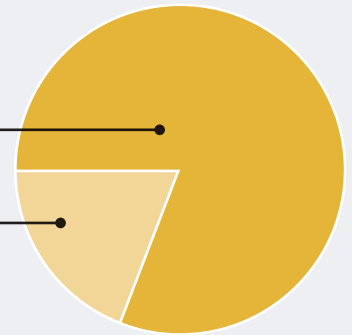
Actual FY2025 INCOME CASH & IN-KIND

Community Cash & In-Kind \$9,458,032
Government Grants & USDA Food \$748,963
Earned Income \$183,400



Actual FY2025 CASH & IN-KIND

In Kind 81%
Cash 19%



GOOD HAPPENS	GOAL Annual	ACTUAL July 2023- June 2024	ACTUAL July 2024- June 2025
Food Bank Meals Served	350,000	818,233	873,103
Food Distributed by the Food Bank to Other Local Agencies	450,000	920,371	1,053,547
Pounds of Food Received	1,500,000	3,668,344	3,415,603
Volunteer Hours	13,200	24,541	27,042
Cost Per Meal		\$1.63	\$1.43



Mission Moments

All of these stories and other daily stories of courage and donor excitement come from our FACEBOOK page.

Please go to www.fairbanksfoodbank.org and click on the FACEBOOK icon to see what we do every day.

Our Mission Statement

The Mission of the Fairbanks Community Food Bank is to collect local surplus food in the community and share it with local people who need it.

Board Members 2025

- President:** Gene Therriault
- Vice President:** Trevor Hanson
- Secretary:** Patty Walter
- Treasurer:** Hollis Hall
- Genevieve Bell
- Ray Bronson
- Derek Dickinson
- Nancy Hanson
- Chad Hutchison
- Bob Hajdukovich
- Uriah Nalikak
- Marisa Sharrah
- Ron Wall

Staff Leadership Team

- Anne Weaver, CEO
- Samantha Kirstein, Community Development Director

Contact Information

725 26th Avenue
 Fairbanks, Alaska 99701
Phone: (907) 45-SHARE (457-4273)

The Difference Your Donation Makes

We will keep you fully informed about the difference your donation makes, and we ask you to consider 5% for the Fairbanks Community Food Bank as you prepare for the next generation in your estate planning. **Thank you.**



Elizabeth M. Woods, Natalie Henry, Lynn Slusher, Lori Grosline, Helen Howard, Ruthie Bratcher, Billie Kassel, Anne Flenor, Kaylee Nelson

Over the years, we have had over 70 members of our Board of Directors, and every one of those Board members has genuinely worked hard to make sure this food bank remains a reliable organization. **Karen Kiss** was one of those Board members. She came on the Board of Directors in

August of 1993 and stayed on the Board until she died in May 2021 — 28 years! Her heart was very focused on helping those in our community who needed a little help.

She attended St. Matthew's Episcopal Church all of that time, too, and this photo is of Karen's Kupboard, which was put up before she died. It is a tribute to the hard work Karen did in our community to make sure no

one had to go to bed hungry in the Tanana Valley. Her friends at St. Matthew's keep this outdoor pantry stocked and have expanded their daily work with a group they call ANGELS IN MOTION.

What a privilege to work with such wonderful church volunteers who so faithfully continue this good work in 2025.

