



STANDING

STRONGER,

TOGETHER

ANNUAL REPORT JULY 2021 - JUNE 2022



Blue Ridge Area
FOOD BANK

Everyone should have enough to eat.

A member of
**FEEDING
AMERICA**

TOGETHER

WE ARE

STANDING

STRONGER



COVER PHOTO: Fauquier Community Food Bank and Thrift Store's Executive Director Sharon Ames greets a returning guest.

A continued public health emergency. An uneven economic recovery. Historic inflation. Supply chain disruptions. Labor shortages.

What does it look like to stand strong against headwinds like these?

We're proud to say that it looks like the Blue Ridge Area Food Bank and our community of partners, supporters, and friends.

In the following pages we share our collective resilience, the traction that we're making in the effort to end hunger, and the continued urgency that we feel.



Michael McKee

Michael McKee
Chief Executive Officer



Nicholas Perrine

Nicholas Perrine
Chair, Board of Directors

There's more to do and we will do it. We will use data to identify and map disparities in access to food across our region. We will learn about community members' challenges and the barriers they face in getting food assistance. We will enlist our guests, partners, and other community stakeholders in designing solutions that ensure equitable access to nutritious food.

But first, let's reflect on and celebrate the difference that we made last year, together.

Your gifts inspired and uplifted all of us in this community. You provided food *and* hope.

Thank you for your generosity and your trust.

Total Impact

JULY 2021 - JUNE 2022



109,500

People served each month, on average



165,100

Individuals (unduplicated) served*



20.8 million

Meals provided



24.9 million

Pounds of food distributed



7.2 million

Pounds of produce distributed

*The unduplicated number of people served is a conservative and low estimate; not all partners use the same method of data collection at this time.

STANDING

STRONGER,

WITH OUR NEIGHBORS

We exist to serve our guests, and we are inspired by them, too, like Carmen and Alfred.

“We pick up for seven different families and it’s a must for these people to get food,” explained Carmen at a recent Mobile Food Pantry (MFP) in Dillwyn. “Some of them are older and disabled and they can’t get out, and they need the groceries to live. So, this is an important place.”

Raising two grandchildren (ages 10 and 12), Carmen and Alfred have been visiting the MFP for three years and never miss a distribution. Neighbors each pitch in \$2 or \$3 to help them fill up the gas tank for the 50-mile round trip.

The urgency fuels them too: “Without this food bank a lot of people would be in trouble. They rely on this,” Carmen stressed.

The Food Bank volunteers and staff packed good food into every corner of their van because as Carmen insisted: “We can’t leave anybody out if we can get it for them.”



“Tell your people they’re doing awesome work. And that people are really grateful.”

STANDING

STRONGER,

WITH OUR PARTNERS



Grants from the Food Bank enable pantries who apply for such equipment to expand their fresh food offerings for guests. Erika picked up fresh dairy and produce from the Verona Community Pantry for her family of five.

Investing in greater impact and innovation

Many of our pantry and program partners have big dreams for improving nutrition security and health in their community but operate on very modest budgets. This is where the Partner Impact & Innovation Grants* come in. In 2022 the Food Bank was able to award \$1.4 million in grants to 107 partners across the service area.

What do we mean by **impact and innovation**?

We mean helping to create a dignified, welcoming experience for guests. We mean helping our partners enhance services or expand so they can serve more people. We mean making their work easier by providing necessary tools and technology. And we mean improving the volunteer experience so pantries can retain their workforce.

With the help of Food Bank donors, over the past six years we've invested more than \$4.1 million in building the capacity of our distribution network. Our aim is to equip our partner food pantries, soup kitchens, shelters, and program partners with the tools and resources they need to keep their doors open, no matter what comes.

We couldn't anticipate the pandemic when we launched this initiative in 2017, but the annual investments made through these grants meant our network was better positioned to meet the unprecedented need, when it arrived.

The need still exists, and our investments continue.

Community Partners

220
Pantries, soup
kitchens, and
shelters



191
Health and
nutrition program
site partners

If you or someone you know needs help, find the locations of our partners and programs in your community:
<https://foodfinder.brafb.org/>

*We changed the name this year. These were formerly called Agency Capacity Fund grants.



HERE ARE TWO PARTNERS WHO ARE USING FOOD BANK GRANTS TO INCREASE THEIR IMPACT IN THEIR COMMUNITIES.

PANTRY PROFILE
Feeding Greene

- Serving 800 families per month with 63,000+ pounds of food
- Location: Stanardsville, Virginia
- Operating since: before 1997
- Open: Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays, with home delivery as needed



“When I apply for the grant, I think of things that will help my volunteers. [Thanks to the Food Bank] we’re able to get more pallets of food, work much more efficiently, and we’re able to serve a lot more people.”

- DONNA FIELDS



“We’re relying on the [Partner Impact & Innovation Grants] more than we ever have. Rural communities don’t have as many funders available, and competition for dollars has gone up. These grants definitely made a difference for us. We absolutely would not be here without the Blue Ridge Area Food Bank.”

- RHONDA OLIVER



PANTRY PROFILE
Elkton Area United Services

- Serving: 582 families per month with 60,000 pounds of food
- Location: Elkton, Virginia
- Operating since: 1973
- Open: Tuesdays and Fridays, with home delivery for 43 households



STANDING STRONGER, WITH OUR VOLUNTEERS

RIGHT: Joe has been a Mobile Food Pantry guest for years (shown here with his son Joey). He picks up a Senior Food Box each month, filled with about 30 pounds of shelf-stable protein, dairy, vegetables, and other nutritious staples. Volunteers pack these boxes each month in our Charlottesville warehouse.



Giving their time, talent, voice, and muscle to help their neighbors, volunteers across the service area inspire us.

Some are or were guests at one time. Some were new to the Food Bank family this year, and some have been donating their time for decades. Some inspect food for safety and repackage food for distribution. Some contribute their unique skills like collecting data, training other volunteers, or playing music at a distribution. Some arrive in groups and some come by themselves (and meet new friends).

We are grateful for your valuable contributions—we could not do this work without you!

Volunteer Contributions
JULY 2021 – JUNE 2022



**We use the standard value of volunteer time in Virginia, as provided by independentsector.org*





“Every time something leaves out of here, we know we’re helping someone. A lot of folks get things here that they just can’t afford to buy. And [it brings] a sense of accomplishment when you see that happen.”

- DAVE BARNETT

Volunteers Tom Morris, Harry Newman, Tom Lloyd, David Barnett (not pictured: Jimmie Shipp)

The Winchester Wednesday Crew: Service and Camaraderie

Stop by the Food Bank’s Winchester warehouse on a Wednesday morning and you will see a group of five friends who delight in each other’s company and in helping their neighbors get enough food to eat.

- They meet for breakfast at a local restaurant before their volunteer shift.
- They help with the Partner Pickup Program, rescuing food from grocery retailers and delivering food to local pantries.
- They have logged a combined total of 9,324 volunteer hours.





STANDING STRONGER,

WITH GOOD FOOD FOR ALL

LEFT: Robinson, who works 7 days a week at his Harrisonburg-based employer, picked up his daughter Amayd from an after-school program, along with a produce box at the Food Bank's Neighborhood Produce Market.



To help our community members enjoy brighter tomorrows, we are focused on providing nutritious food today.

One way we strive to reach **our strategic goal to “support improved nutrition and health”** is by tracking the nutrient profile of the foods we receive. After securing donations from a variety of sources (see chart on page 9), we purchase food to round out a healthy offering for our guests. Food in our inventory system is ranked Green, Yellow, or Red, based on the levels of saturated fat, sodium, and added sugars.



Average Monthly Participation

NUTRITION PROGRAMS*

JULY 2021 - JUNE 2022



*Nutrition programs are direct distribution efforts organized by the Food Bank, with the help of partners focused on reaching underserved populations. These numbers do not include the children or seniors who receive food from pantries in our network.

2021 Sources of Food

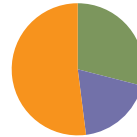
Sources of Food

- Retail Grocer Donations **37%**
- USDA Contributions **24%**
- Donations from Farmers and Produce Traders **15%**
- Purchased Food **10%**
- Manufacturer Donations **8%**
- Miscellaneous **4%**
- Food Drives **2%**



Product Mix

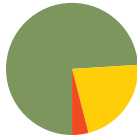
- Dry **52%**
- Produce **29%**
- Perishable **19%**



Nutrient Profile of Food Received

JULY 2021 - JUNE 2022

- Green **74%**
- Yellow **22%**
- Red **4%**



**Purchased, USDA, and bulk food donations are now screened by the Food Bank's innovative Nourish system, a tool we pioneered and are actively working to improve to share with sister food banks.*

A good life starts with good food.

It's really that simple, though the solutions are not. After more than 40 years of working to solve hunger and fueled by a renewed sense of urgency, we are thinking differently about solutions. We are digging deeper to find those who need us and to partner with others to innovate and to serve. This is a transformational time for food banking, and we are grateful for the generous support of our community.



Average Monthly Participation

COMMUNITY

FOOD DISTRIBUTION**

JULY 2021 - JUNE 2022

***Community food distribution primarily refers to distribution through a network of pantry partners plus Mobile Food Pantries and other, direct distributions organized by the Food Bank.*



93,300

People served each month through partner food pantries



4,000

People served monthly through mobile distributions



1,000

First-time visits each month



400

People served monthly with Emergency Food Boxes

STANDING

STRONGER,

WITH OUR DONORS

Thank you for your steadfast support of our collective work this year.

Your gifts mattered more than ever as we faced the economic headwinds of rising food and transportation costs and continuing supply chain disruptions. In addition, we shouldered more financial costs for our partners and worked hard to overcome disparities, all possible because of your support.



OPPORTUNITIES TO STAY INVOLVED

Learn

more about hunger in the Blue Ridge:
www.brafb.org/learn

Donate

time: www.brafb.org/volunteer
funds: www.brafb.org/give-now

Engage

Follow us on social media and subscribe to our *Come to the Table* e-newsletter for impact updates several times throughout the year:
www.brafb.org/subscribe.

HOW WE WORK



Your donations helped Carmen and Alfred, Joe and Joey, Robinson and Amayd, Erika, and tens of thousands of other neighbors across 25 counties and 8 cities in central and western Virginia.
Thank you.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021 - Audited

Assets

Cash	\$	1,728,398
Receivables - Government Programs		374,263
Inventory		5,529,954
Investments - Short-Term		9,218,430
Investments - Long-Term		20,070,888
Other Current Assets		280,545
Property and Equipment, net		5,540,837
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TOTAL ASSETS	\$	32,743,315

Liabilities & Net Assets

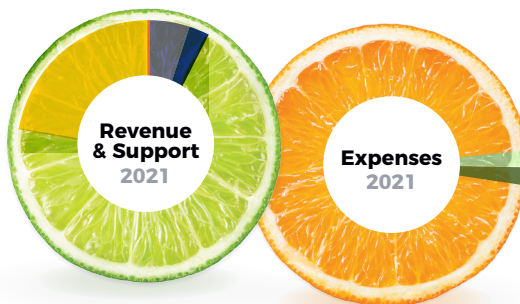
Liabilities

Current liabilities	\$	289,423
Accrued payroll liabilities		463,409
Operating lease liabilities		1,387,210
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$	2,140,042

Net assets

Without donor restrictions		
Undesignated	\$	15,368,019
Board designated:		
Operating reserve		2,783,600
Capital reserve		3,959,000
Quasi-endowment		6,479,883
Total unrestricted		28,590,502
With donor restrictions		2,012,771
TOTAL NET ASSETS	\$	30,603,273

TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS \$ 32,743,315



Revenue & Support

Revenue

● Agency handling & delivery fees <1%	\$	151,333
● Government reimbursements 5%		3,237,050
● Investment earnings 3%		1,674,291
● Other <1%		43,049

Support

● Donated food 70%	\$	46,353,637
● Contributions 22%		14,686,640

TOTAL REVENUE & SUPPORT \$ 66,146,000

Expenses

● Program services 95%	\$	52,925,689
● Fundraising 3%		1,648,824
● Management & General 2%		1,089,157

TOTAL EXPENSES \$ 55,663,670

CHANGE IN NET ASSETS \$ 10,482,330

NOTE: These audited FY21 financials include the value of donated and purchased food. Donated product on hand at year-end is valued at the national wholesale value of one pound of food as determined by the most recent study conducted by Feeding America. Food donations and distributions of donated product are recorded at the weighted average wholesale value in effect during the year. A significant increase in the amount and value of donated inventory on hand is reflected in the change in net assets. This inventory and other surplus funds will help us to meet future demands for and costs of food and storage capacity for the Food Bank and its partners.



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Blue Ridge Area
FOOD BANK

A member of
FEEDING AMERICA

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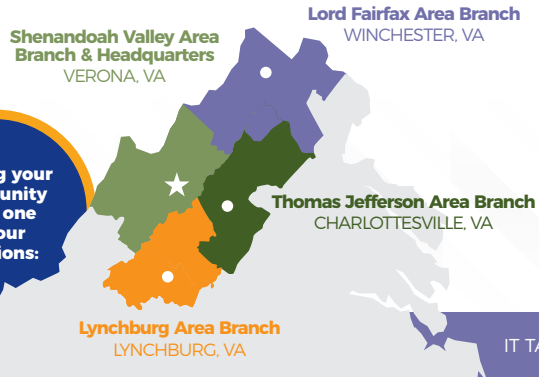


Blue Ridge Area FOOD BANK

Everyone should have enough to eat.



Headquarters:
P.O. Box 937 | Verona, VA 24482



IT TAKES AN ENTIRE COMMUNITY TO ADDRESS HUNGER—THANK YOU FOR STANDING STRONG WITH US.

Our **VISION** is that everyone has enough to eat.

Our **CORE BELIEFS** are that hunger is unacceptable, that everyone deserves access to enough food, that food sustains life and nourishes health, and that we are called to serve without judgment.

Our **MISSION** is to provide nourishing food to our neighbors in need through vibrant community partnerships and passionate public support.

