

# Annual

# IMPACT REPORT

July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024





Dear Friends,

This past year for the food bank was anything but the same old, same old! It has been a year filled with excitement, as well as some challenges and concerns.

Most exciting for us, we have a new home. We are filled with gratitude as we reflect on the incredible journey that led us to this new chapter. Moving into a beautiful new space is a dream come true. Every step of the way, we've been supported by so many wonderful people, and we want to express our heartfelt thanks to everyone who believed in us, helped make this possible, and continues to be a part of our story. This is more than just a building – it's a symbol of hard work, perseverance, and the love and support of those around us. We're truly thankful for this new beginning and the opportunity to better serve our community and fulfill our mission.

The year also brought challenges. The number of people requiring emergency food assistance continues to rise. Families are struggling to buy food, as well as to pay for housing, childcare, health care and other basic needs. This leads families to have to make difficult choices about what to prioritize and what to give up. The pantries, meals programs, schools, and shelters that we serve have been seeing this reflected in the long lines at their doors, and we continue our efforts to provide more food and resources to our partner agencies.

These challenges require an organized community effort, innovative solutions, and commitment from government, nonprofits, businesses, and individuals, as we all work together to provide assistance, resources, and basic human needs with kindness, compassion, and empathy.

Looking ahead, we remain committed to our mission and continue to push forward in our new chapter with renewed energy and purpose. We are excited about the opportunities that lie ahead, and with your continued support, we will achieve even greater things together.

Debbie Callery
Executive Director

Jimmy Good Board Chairman





BEFORE MOBILE PANTRY

BEFORE

SORTING AREA



REFRIGERATOR







FREEZER



**MVFB WAREHOUSE** 





**AGENCY SHOPPING AREA** 



# OUR PROGRAMS

#### **FOOD DISTRIBUTION**

MVFB's Food Distribution program collects, safely stores, and distributes food from the USDA, Massachusetts Emergency Food Assistance Program, food company and individual donations. Food is distributed to a network of more than 100 member agencies, such as food pantries, meals programs, shelters, and schools, bringing food to people right in the neighborhoods where they live, work, learn, and play.

#### **MOBILE PANTRY**

The Mobile Pantry makes personalized monthly grocery deliveries to homebound seniors and individuals with disabilities in Greater Lowell, tailored to their dietary needs and food preferences. This program served over 300 individuals a month and also provided bags of food for 200 people at the Lowell Senior Center. Altogether, more than 84,840 meals were distributed.

#### **OPERATION NOURISH**

Operation Nourish provides food for students to enjoy on weekends and vacations when they are not getting school breakfast and lunch. Through a combination of take-home bags and inschool food pantries, the program serves students in more than 30 schools.







# OUR PROGRAMS

#### SUMMER LUNCH

During the summer, MVFB partners with the USDA to provide healthy lunches and snacks to children and teens participating in summer activities in Lowell. In Summer 2023, the MVFB team prepared and distributed 8,947 lunches and snacks during July and August.

#### **COMMUNITY MARKET**

MVFB's Community Market is a free farmer's market that occurs monthly from June to November at six low-income and senior housing properties in Greater Lowell. The FY24 markets distributed food to an average of 248 people a month, providing 17,286 pounds of nutritious food during the market season. Attendees also received a supermarket gift card in November to help with the cost of holiday meals.

#### **FOOD RESCUE**

MVFB's Food Rescue program picks up fresh food from grocery stores. These are items that might be overstocked, nearing their expiration dates, or considered "ugly" produce, but are still good to consume. Items include fresh produce, deli and bakery items, and prepared salads and sandwiches. In FY24 this program diverted more than 97,000 pounds of food from the landfill.







# **OUR PARTNERS**

#### **MVFB Member Agencies**

Activation Church
Bedford Food Pantry
Beverly SDA Comm. Food Pantry
Billerica Community Pantry
Bread & Roses

Caleb Group – Chestnut Square

Caleb Group - Sirk Building Catholic Charities

Central Food Ministry Changing Lives Christian Church

Chelmsford Community
Exchange

Christ Jubilee Food Pantry Clear Path for Veterans - Devens Clear Path for Veterans - Lawrence

Coalition for a Better Acre Common Ground Café

Community Action-Amesbury

Community Action-Haverhill Council on Aging

CTI - YouthBuild

CTI - Youth Services

Daybreak Shelter

Dracut Food Pantry

End 68 Hours of Hunger En Ka Food Pantry

Evangelical Church of Holiness

First Stoneham Church

Good Samaritan Baptist Church Great Commission Food Pantry

Greater Lawrence Community

Action Council

Haitian Baptist Church

Haverhill Clubhouse

Hope Dove

House of Hope House of Mercy

Immaculate Conception - SVDP,

Lowell
mmaculate Conce

Immaculate Conception -Newburyport

Incompass Human Services International Institute of New

England

International Veterans Care

Services

Jerusalem Hispanic SDA

LASA Foundation

Lawrence Hispanic SDA

Lazarus House

Leap for Education

Life Connection Center

Living Waters Living Waters Shelter

Liz Murphy Open Hand Pantry

Lowell House Recovery Home

Lowell House Sheehan

Lowell House Tower Hill

Lowell House SOAP Program Lowell House Solstice House

Lowell Transitional Living Center

Lowell VA Food Pantry

Lowell va rood Pariti

Matthew 2535

Megan's House

Merrimack Valley YMCA

Middlesex Comm. College -

Bedford

Middlesex Comm. College -

Mobile Pantry (MVFB)

Neighbors In Need

**New Beginnings** 

New Hope Community Church NFI Family Resource Center

Northern Essex Comm. College

- Haverhill

Northern Essex Comm. College

- Lawrence

Open Pantry

Pathfinder-Bridgewell

Pegasus

Peoples Pantry

Place of Promise

Point After Club

Pregnancy Care Center -Haverhill

Pregnancy Care Center -Lowell

Presidential Gardens

Project Kompass

Regis College

Rehoboth Helping Hands Food

Pantry

Renaissance Club

Rescue Ministry

Revival Church - Peabody

Salvation Army - Lawrence

Salvation Army - Lowell

Salvation Army - Newburyport

Shepherd's Pantry

Somebody Cares New England

St. Basil's

St. Benedict

St. Charles - SVDP

St. George Orthodox

St. Marguerite Dracut - SVDP

St. Mary Magdalen - SVDP

St. Paul's Soup Kitchen

Stone Soup Kitchen

Tabernacle Evangelique

Tewksbury Community Pantry

**UMASS Lowell** 

Veterans NE Outreach

Wakefield Food Pantry

Washington Street Baptist Church

Water Source (Fuente de Agua)

West Congregational Church Westford Food Pantry

Women's View

You Forward (VinFen)

#### **MVFB's Operation Nourish**

Bailey School

Bartlett School

Butler School

BRIDGE

Cardinal O'Connell Early

Learning Center

Career Academy

Collegiate Charter School of

Lowell

Daley School

Greater Lawrence Technical

High School

Greater Lowell Technical High

School

Greenhalge School

Haverhill High School

Innovation Academy Charter

Laura Lee School

LeBlanc Therapeutic Day

School

Lincoln School

Lowell Community Charter

School Lowell High School

Lowell High Sch

McAuliffe School McAvinnue School McCarthy Middle School

Moody School

Morey School

Murkland School Pawtucket Memorial School

Pyne Arts School

Reilly School

Robinson Middle School

Rogers School (STEM) Shaughnessy School

Stoklosa School

Sullivan School

Wang School

Washington School

#### **MVFB's Community Market**

Chelmsford Senior Housing Centralville Gardens Dracut Senior Housing Francis Gatehouse Mill North Common Village

## South Common Village MVFB's Summer Lunch

Caleb Group

Christ Jubilee

Greater Lowell Technical High

School

Highland Parkway

LCHC Teen Block

Lowell Youth Leadership Program McPherson Park

North Common Village

O'Donnell Splash Pad YES Learning (CBA)

YWCA

\*Partners List as of 6/30/2024.

# Merrimack Valley Food Bank Service Areas Bedord Ringston New Hampshire Spabrook Merrimack Londonderry Milford Littleid Mindon Methuen Petham Methuen Geotopetown Rowley Londonderry Londonderry Masch Brockline Townsend Rowley Londonderry Londonderry Londonderry Londonderry Methuen Geotopetown Rowley Londonderry Lowestord Rowley Lowestord Billerica Reading Reading



## FY 2024 BY THE NUMBERS





CRINI

Volunteer

**Hours** 

104

6,693

Member Agencies
Operating

168

Hunger Relief Programs

4,053,143

Pounds of Food Distributed

71,414

People Served Monthly

### **FINANCIAL OVERVIEW**

#### Revenue

Hevenue	
\$5,282,189	
\$2,361,140	
\$185,930	
\$154,926	
\$32,874	
\$1,160,549	
\$9,177,608	

<sup>\*</sup>Includes value of food received

#### Expenses

Program Services*	\$5,485,121
General & Admin**	\$2,366,674
Fundraising	\$34,137
Total Expenses	\$7,885,932

<sup>\*</sup>Includes value of food distributed

At the time of this report, audited financial statements for FY 2024 are not yet available. This is unaudited data. Final audited numbers can be viewed in our Form 990 on our website when available.



96,409

Highest Monthly Number Served -April 2024





<sup>\*\*</sup>Includes sale of building at 735 Broadway Street

<sup>\*\*</sup>Includes warehouse expenses & depreciation

#### \$100,000 and Above

MA Department of Agricultural Resources\*

#### \$50,000 - \$99,999

An Anonymous Family Foundation Cummings Foundation Annmarie and Jon Galli\* Nathaniel & Elizabeth P. Stevens Foundation\* The Theodore Edson Parker Foundation\*

#### \$25,000 - \$49,999

Community

Development Block Grant Corning Incorporated Foundation Digital Federal Credit Union

**Essex County Community** Foundation The Ludcke Foundation

\$10,000 - \$24,999 100 Women Who Care -Westford Lorraine Adams Alice Willard Dorr Foundation Blue Cross Blue Shield Columbia Construction Company\* Bill and Marge Curry Tom Curtis\* Dunkin' Joy in Childhood Foundation Enterprise Bank\* **Enterprise Holdings** Foundation Fallon Health Hannaford Helps Highland Street Foundation Josephine G. Russell Trust Katharine C. Pierce Trust, Bank of America, N.A., Co-Trustee Roland and Beatrice Lambalot Lowell Five\* Margaret M. Collins Charitable Trust

Mason Family Charity Inc.

James and Irene Reagan\*

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Rogers Family

Foundation

#### \$5,000 - \$9,999

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#### \$1,000 - \$4,999

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You're never going to realize that the money isn't there. I'm donating at a level I can afford, and it doesn't impact my bills or the way that I live. But I know that it greatly impacts other people.

> -Member of MVFB's Stock the Shelves Club (monthly donor)

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Thank you to all of our supporters on every level!







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