

# Year in Review 2020-2021



Ottawa Food Bank



**VISION:** Healthy, accessible, sustainable food for all.

**MISSION:** We work in partnership to create a healthier city by empowering people, increasing access to healthy food, and advocating for systemic changes that reduce food insecurity.

[www.ottawafoodbank.ca](http://www.ottawafoodbank.ca)

# A Message from the Chief Executive Officer



In the summer, with many of us being partially or fully vaccinated, we were filled with hope that the pandemic would soon be over. Food banks were able to provide services outside and safely meet with neighbours again. Then in the fall we were met with the challenges associated with a fourth wave; the community and the network of food banks continued to work hard and support their neighbours.

While we hope 2022 will provide some much-needed relief from the pandemic, we are preparing for an ongoing and increased need in our city. We know following the 2008 recession the need at food banks across the country increased by 28% and it took two to three years for food bank numbers to reach that peak. Scarier still – food bank volume has yet to dip back below pre-2008 numbers. While it is difficult to predict the long-term effects of the pandemic, we foresee the same steady increase over the next 24 months. We are now preparing to be able to sustain the level of food and support at the pandemic level for the foreseeable future.

With inflation at a 20 year high, we know the increased cost of living in Ottawa creates challenges to make ends meet for many. While it costs more for families and individuals to heat their homes, buy food to put on the table, and pay rent, the Ottawa Food Bank is also hit by these increased costs. As inflation continues to bring more people to a food bank door, it will continue to be more difficult and more expensive for us all to operate.

But there is hope ahead! Near the end of 2022, the Ottawa Food Bank will be moving to a new location. While our Michael Street location has been home for over 20 years, we have outgrown these walls and need to find more space to be able to accept a higher volume of donated food - particularly fresh and frozen items. We have found a new facility that will allow us to meet the need today and well into the future. We look forward to sharing our new home with you in the coming months.

Over the last year, the increased need would not have been met if not for the incredible community support as well as the resilience and commitment of staff and volunteers at our member agencies. The same can be said for the staff and volunteers at the Ottawa Food Bank. Many of our staff have adjusted to working from home while others have been on the front line since day one. Each staff member has played a vital role in ensuring no one goes hungry tonight. Our volunteers have been gracious and understanding as we reduced numbers on-site, built plexiglass dividers, and adjusted volunteer roles. They have helped sort millions of pounds of food, delivered to homes across the city, and kept our warehouse clean and safe. We are truly an organization by the community and for the community, with everyone playing an important role.

In 2021, the Board of Directors and staff of the Ottawa Food Bank have made a strategic commitment to ending food insecurity in Ottawa. For decades we have been focused on the symptom of hunger, but we have always known that poverty is the underlying cause. While more food will not solve the issue of food insecurity, we know providing emergency food is critical to meet the urgent needs of people today. We are committed to developing and working with partners to create and deliver programs that will help move people out of poverty and no longer needing a food bank. Providing food to the network of over 100 member agencies will always be the Ottawa Food Bank's priority and top concern. However, we know we have a responsibility to do more and to help everyone thrive in our city.

This has been a challenging first year as the CEO of the Ottawa Food Bank. I am incredibly grateful to the staff, Board of Directors, volunteers, donors, and partners who have helped me navigate through these unprecedented and ever-changing times. I am humbled and honoured to hold this role and look forward to continuing our work together to make our city stronger for all.

**T**he last 12 months have continued to be incredibly challenging for the Ottawa Food Bank and the network of over 100 member agencies.

In the fall of 2020, we found ourselves in the throes of the pandemic's second and third wave with further shutdowns, resulting in greater need within our community. The Ottawa Food Bank has delivered more food and resources to the community than ever before in our 37 year history. In addition to food deliveries among our member agencies, the number of home deliveries increased by 46% as more people were required to stay home due to COVID-19 diagnosis, being immune-compromised, mobility challenges, or being unable to access their local food bank.

During the spring months, with vaccines available in Ottawa, we worked closely with Ottawa Public Health on a neighbourhood approach to share information about the availability of vaccines with those accessing food banks. We held registration clinics in various languages to help stop the spread in high-risk communities.



# A Message from the Chair of the Board



**Sarah Tremblay, Ottawa Food Bank Chair of the Board**

**N**one of us knew we would face such adversity for another year, but the pandemic continues to affect our daily lives. Emergency government benefit programs ended; inflation continued to drive up the cost of food - it would be easy to feel discouraged. However, what the Ottawa Food Bank and the network of member agencies have accomplished despite these hardships makes me feel grateful and inspired. Staff, member agencies, volunteers, and donors have shown incredible resilience and perseverance.

Through the adversity, a strong and capable new leader emerged. The Board of Directors appointed Rachael Wilson as CEO of the Ottawa Food Bank at the beginning of 2021. Rachael has a collaborative and transparent leadership style, an in-depth knowledge of the organization, and she brings a great deal of passion and energy to this demanding role. She has achieved a tremendous amount during her short time as CEO so far.

Through the adversity, support from our donors and volunteers has not wavered. Generous, kind-hearted members of our community donate food, money, and their time to the Ottawa Food Bank. It is thanks to their support that we can continue to collect, purchase, grow, and distribute fresh, healthy food to our member agencies and neighbours who need it most.

Through the adversity, our network has become stronger. The Ottawa Food Bank and its network of member agencies have had to adapt to change at an unprecedented pace. As the pandemic and its economic and social impacts unfold, the needs of those most vulnerable in our community are evolving. As a network, we have been able to meet those needs because we are communicating, co-operating, and collaborating more than ever before.

Through the adversity, new partnerships have rooted. Food insecurity is only one of several symptoms of poverty. Tackling these complex issues will require a multifaceted approach with participation and action from several organizations and all levels of government. Important conversations are taking place. New initiatives are taking hold. There is a deeper understanding of the issues and a greater determination to address them.

Through the adversity and continued uncertainty, we have a bright north star to guide us. We envision a city where none of our neighbours are food insecure.

Come what may, I know together we will persevere in the fight against hunger and food insecurity in Ottawa.

## Board of Directors

Thank you to these individuals who have volunteered their time on the Ottawa Food Bank's Board of Directors during the 2020 – 2021 fiscal year. You have helped guide us through a challenging and unique time. We look forward to the board's continued guidance as we work toward our strategic commitment of ending food insecurity in Ottawa.

### CHAIR

#### **Sarah Tremblay**

Principal Assurance, Ginsberg, Gluzman, Fage & Levitz, LLP

### VICE CHAIR

#### **Michaela Tokarski**

Partner, Tokarski Homes

### TREASURER

#### **Marian McMahon**

Assistant Auditor General of Canada (Retired), Office of the Auditor General of Canada

### SECRETARY

#### **Trevor White**

President, Taloh Solutions

### DIRECTORS

#### **Destine Lord**

Anti-Racism and Inclusion Consultant, Demand Different Diversity and Inclusion

#### **Erin O'Manique**

Executive Director, Gloucester Emergency Food Cupboard

#### **Kevin Williams**

Jericho Road Ministries, Director of Addiction Services

#### **Steve Mennill**

SVP and Chief Climate Officer, Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation

#### **Sylvie Manser**

Executive Director, Banff Avenue Community House

#### **Timothy Cullen**

Lawyer, McMillan LLP

#### **Yacouba Traoré**

Executive Director, Rideau-Rockcliffe Community Resource Centre

# Member Agencies

The Ottawa Food Bank's main role is to work in partnership with a network of over 100 food programs across the city. These programs are known as our member agencies. The Ottawa Food Bank is the central food collection, storage, and distribution centre for these front-line programs. The network includes community food banks, food cupboards, meal programs, multi-service programs, kids' summer programs, and After 4 Clubs.

These programs continue to operate at a level never seen before. As the pandemic continues to evolve, so too does their programming and ability to adapt, ensuring a high level of safety and service.

We are honoured to work among this network of organizations. Their staff and volunteers are the front-line heroes in their neighbourhoods who do so much to provide food, supplies, hope, and wrap-around services/referrals to their visitors. Please take the time to reflect on the list below and appreciate the hard work of our network.

## COMMUNITY FOOD BANKS

Banff Avenue Community House  
Banque Alimentaire C.C.S. Food Bank  
Blair Court Community House  
Britannia Woods Food Pantry  
Caldwell Family Centre  
Centretown Emergency Food Centre  
Community Compassion Centre  
Confederation Court Community House  
Dalhousie Food Cupboard  
Debra Dynes Family House  
Foster Farm Family House  
Gloucester Emergency Food Cupboard  
Heron Emergency Food Centre  
LifeCentre Food Bank  
Lowertown Community House  
Morrison Gardens Emergency Food Centre  
Orleans-Cumberland Food Bank  
Parkdale Food Center  
Partage Vanier  
Pavilion Food Bank  
Pinecrest Terrace Family House - Food Bank  
Riceville Food Centre  
Rideau Rockcliffe - Emergency Food Program  
Russell Heights Community House  
Sadaqa Food Bank  
Westboro Region Food Bank

## FOOD CUPBOARDS

African, Caribbean, and Black Wellness Resource Centre  
All Nations International Gospel Church  
Broadview - Ottawa Mission  
Bruce House  
Carleton University Food Centre  
Carlington Community Health Centre  
Catholic Immigration Services  
Centre Psycho Social  
Cité collégiale  
Eastern Ottawa Resource Centre  
Elizabeth Wynn Wood Alternate Program  
Harmony House

Hunt Club Riverside (South-East Ottawa Community Health Centre)  
JF Norwood House  
John Howard Society - MacLaren  
John Howard Society - Ste. Anne  
Kosher Food Bank  
Lotus House  
Odawa Native Friendship Centre  
Richard Pfaff  
Sandy Hill Community Health Centre  
Tungasuvvingat Inuit Family Resource Centre  
UOSU Food Bank  
Woodlawn - Ottawa Mission  
Youth Services Bureau - Besserer  
Youth Services Bureau - Cooper  
Youth Services Bureau - Nelson  
Yerville Centre

## MEAL PROGRAMS

Boys and Girls Club Don McGahan  
Britannia Woods Grab and Go  
Caldwell Family Centre Cooking Class and Community Kitchen  
Capital City Mission  
Centre 454 - Anglican Social Services  
Centre 507  
Christie Lake Kids Meal Program  
Cornerstone 172  
Cornerstone 314  
Cornerstone 515  
Door Youth Centre  
Empathy House of Recovery  
Heather Manor  
Jericho Road Ministries  
Orleans-Cumberland Community Kitchen  
Ottawa Mission Food Truck  
Parkdale United Church - In from the Cold  
Regina Towers  
Rideauwood Addiction and Family Services  
Shepherds of Good Hope  
Somerset West Community Health Centre  
Drop-in

St. Luke's Table  
Van Lang Community Kitchen  
Vesta Recovery Program for Women

## MULTI-SERVICE PROGRAMS

AIDS Committee of Ottawa  
Care Centre Ottawa  
Centre Espoir Sophie  
Inner City Ministries  
Minwaashin Lodge  
Operation Come Home  
Salvation Army - Bethany Hope Centre  
Salvation Army - Booth Centre  
St. Joe's Women's Centre  
St. Joseph's Parish  
St. Mary's Home and Young Parent Outreach Centre  
The Ottawa Mission  
The Well

## KICKSTART - AFTER 4

After 4 Club - Banff Avenue  
After 4 Club - Blair Court  
After 4 Club - Britannia Woods  
After 4 Club - Caldwell/Carlington  
After 4 Club - Carlington Community Health Centre  
After 4 Club - Christie Lake  
After 4 Club - Club 310  
After 4 Club - Confederation Court  
After 4 Club - Debra Dynes  
After 4 Club - Emily Murphy  
After 4 Club - Foster Farm Community House  
After 4 Club - Michele Heights  
After 4 Club - Morrison Gardens  
After 4 Club - Orkidstra  
After 4 Club - Pinecrest Terrace  
After 4 Club - Rideau Rockcliffe / Leetian & Isaac  
After 4 Club - Russell Heights

## FOOD & OPERATIONS INDUSTRY PARTNERS

Through their generous donation and wholesale of goods and services, our food and operations industry partners make a significant impact on the Ottawa Food Bank's efficiency rate, while helping to improve hope to people experiencing hunger and food insecurity in our city. Thank you to the following organizations for their continued support and partnership.

- Aenos Food Service
- All Special Wholesale
- Alliance Seafood
- Archer Chemicals
- Architects DCA
- Avenue North Realty Inc
- Burnbrae Farms
- Canadawide
- Chicken Farmers of Canada
- Costco
- Côté Poultry Inc

- DanCan Electric Ltd
- Egg Farmers of Canada
- Erb Transport Limited
- Feed Ontario
- Foster Farms
- Food Banks Canada
- Francis HVAC
- Frank's Catering & Baked Goods
- GN Johnson
- Independent Grocers

- Loblaw's Companies East - National Grocers
- Loblaw's Grocery Stores
- Metro Grocery Stores
- Metro Warehouses
- Natunola Health Inc
- NG Cash and Carry
- Parts for Trucks
- Pepsi Co
- Rush Truck Centre
- Ryder

- Saputo Cheese G.P.
- Sealtest-Natrel
- Shawn Robinson Refrigeration
- Slipacoff's Premium Meats
- Stericycle Expert Solutions
- Sun Tech Tomatoes
- Tim Hortons - St. Laurent
- Viral Clean Canada
- Wal-Mart Canada Corp.
- Weston Bakery
- Worldwide Distribution

# Ottawa Food Bank Programming and Operations

## YOU HELPED KEEP OUR COMMUNITY PROVIDED FOR AND SAFE

Your donations helped support our regular programming of providing food and supplies to a network of over 100 member agencies across the city who work hard to meet the need in each of their communities. As the pandemic carries on, these programs continue to rise to the occasion and provide support, day in and day out, for those who need it the most. In addition to our regular distribution of food, your support also helped provide 1,018,100 pounds of emergency hampers to the community this fiscal year, and \$117,127 worth of Personal Protective Equipment since the beginning of the pandemic.

Your support, plus corporate donations from Amazon Canada and Evolugen, helped us continue our new **Home Delivery Program**, where we completed 3,271 deliveries this fiscal year. Thanks to this program, we can reach families and individuals who would otherwise not be able to leave their homes and make it to their community food banks. This includes people who are seniors, single parents, immunocompromised, ill, or injured. As the need continues to grow, we have seen a steady increase of approximately 25%, reflecting new households requiring this service each month.

## YOU HELPED OUR CITY'S CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Children continue to represent over a third of food insecure people in Ottawa. In addition to supporting families with food through their community food banks and other emergency food programs, the Ottawa Food Bank also supports programming specific to children across the city. **KickStart After 4 Clubs** provide healthy snacks for school-aged children across the city. The availability of programs running throughout the school year fluctuated at times as they needed to respond to capacity and safety. However, with a bit of innovation, upwards of 11 (out of 17) of these after-school programs were able to still run at various points during the pandemic, and you helped provide them with healthy and nutritious snack options.

Traditionally, the Ottawa Food Bank provides food and snacks to support Summer Lunch Programs for children across the city when school programs are closed for the summer. However, out of an abundance of caution, these programs were not able to run last summer. Thanks to your support, we were able to fill that service gap by partnering with the Ottawa Network for Education (ONFE) to provide nutritious food to children and youth through the **Summer Nutrition Program – Children and Youth**. We reached school-aged children and youth through 29 community organizations and offered each participant Learn-At-Home Kits from ONFE and a Fresh Food Pack from the Ottawa Food Bank. Also included as part of the Summer Nutrition Program were literacy resources from the Ottawa Food Bank's Dietician Team, including simple recipes, food group facts, and fun activities.

A generous 5-year commitment from Preston Square coupled with support from the community provided 251,225 pounds of baby food and supplies, including diapers, through our **Baby Basics Program**. This ensured babies and parents had access to the necessary and expensive items they need to keep baby healthy and strong.

## YOU HELPED RESPOND TO AN INCREASE IN DEMAND

As the need across the city continued to rise for reasons relating to the pandemic and an elevated cost of living, your support allowed us to meet the demand. Food distribution increased 31% compared to the previous fiscal year – which was already a higher than usual volume. Your support has allowed us to continue to offer our member agencies double quotas of food and supplies to keep up with the increased number of people coming through their doors.

## YOU HELPED PROVIDE MORE HEALTHY AND CULTURALLY APPROPRIATE FOOD

Following a successful **Global Marketplace Pilot** in 2019-2020, we were able to continue our Global

Marketplace Program this past fiscal year by providing funding to 19 interested member agencies. This program, and subsequent funding, is in response to the City of Ottawa Human Needs Task Force on Food Security and Ottawa Food Bank member agencies identifying a service gap in the accessibility to, and distribution of, ethnocultural foods for food insecure households in the Ottawa area. As member agencies know their clients and their clients' needs best, funding was provided to purchase the culturally appropriate foods based on each community's requests. The average grant distribution amount to member agencies was \$10,700 for a total annual expenditure of \$203,343. The longer-term goal of the program is for the Ottawa Food Bank to be able to include the most requested items in our own purchasing to provide to member agencies across the city. Most requested items include Halal meats (goat, lamb, chicken), oils, plantains, ginger, yams, pita bread, and dates to name a few.

Our **Community Harvest Farm** had another very successful year. For health and safety reasons, the program continued to work with fewer volunteers, but the team still managed to harvest a record-breaking amount of produce: 167,605 pounds of fresh fruits and vegetables was grown and distributed. Thank you to the hard-working staff and volunteers making it possible to provide 20 different crops to the community, allowing them to benefit from an incredible amount of local, fresh produce. Also, in response to the community wanting to see a greater variety of fresh items that are common across various cultures, the Community Harvest Farm grew garlic and yams for the first time harvesting 1,312 and 1,911 pounds of each, respectively. As a result of growing garlic, 216 pounds of garlic scapes were also harvested. When donations from local farmers and gleaning opportunities are accounted for, the Community Harvest Program provided a total of 198,462 pound of produce.

Next year, to further our commitment of providing more culturally appropriate food, the farm will be adding okra and eggplant to the mix of crops.



## YOU HELPED US AND OUR PARTNERS INNOVATE PROGRAMMING

Your support helped us work with member agencies to pilot and innovate programming to better suit the needs of our communities. An example of this is the **Food Security Pilot Project** by Pinecrest-Queensway Community Health Centre with the Ottawa Food Bank. The purpose of this pilot project was to explore how food banks that operate at community houses under the direction of a community health centre can foster the most efficient use of resources to offer effective food security supports and address the underlying causes of food insecurity. During the 14 month pilot, 2,122 service referrals were provided to

clients to help them further address issues relating to the root causes of their poverty and food insecurity.

## YOU HELPED US PLAN FOR OUR FUTURE

While we will remain at our Michael Street location for much of 2022, your support helped us secure a new location and begin the planning process for retrofitting and moving into our new home. This new location will be equipped with greater warehouse capacity which will increase our ability to accept a higher volume of donated fresh and frozen food. This increased capacity will save us tens of thousands of dollars a year on food costs as we will no longer have to turn down donations of fresh food due to lack of space.

Also, the uncertainty of the long-term effects of the COVID-19 pandemic will affect our operations in two notable ways: the number of clients may increase in coming years, and community support may begin to lessen as normalcy returns to the community. Your support has helped begin to prepare for this when it happens. While we cannot predict exactly what to expect post-pandemic, we can turn to the recession of 2008 as a model to help in our planning. Following that recession, food bank usage increased across the country by 28%. This increase did not happen overnight, but rather took two to three years to reach that peak - food banks have yet to see usage numbers fall back below pre-2008 levels.

# Food Distribution: Fiscal Year 2020-2021

The primary function of the Ottawa Food Bank is to support the network of over 100 member agency programs by collecting, purchasing, and distributing millions of pounds of food each year. This past fiscal year, the Ottawa Food Bank responded to the needs of the community by distributing \$8,705,333 worth of donated food and \$3,573,116 of purchased food. The items provided to families and individuals are broken down by distribution as shown below.

We are grateful for the generosity of our food industry partners and donors who support us through food drives, events, and collection bins at grocery stores across the city. Financial donations allow the Ottawa Food Bank to make up for any shortfall in food donations as well as purchase nutritious perishable items such as eggs, milk, bread, fish, meat, and fresh fruits and vegetables.

Thanks to the community's generosity and the hard work of staff and volunteers, we were able to keep up with the increased demand and distributed 31% more food compared to last year.

One More Bite, the provincial meat and protein recovery program with Metro grocery stores, has maintained its success, bringing in 282,650 pounds

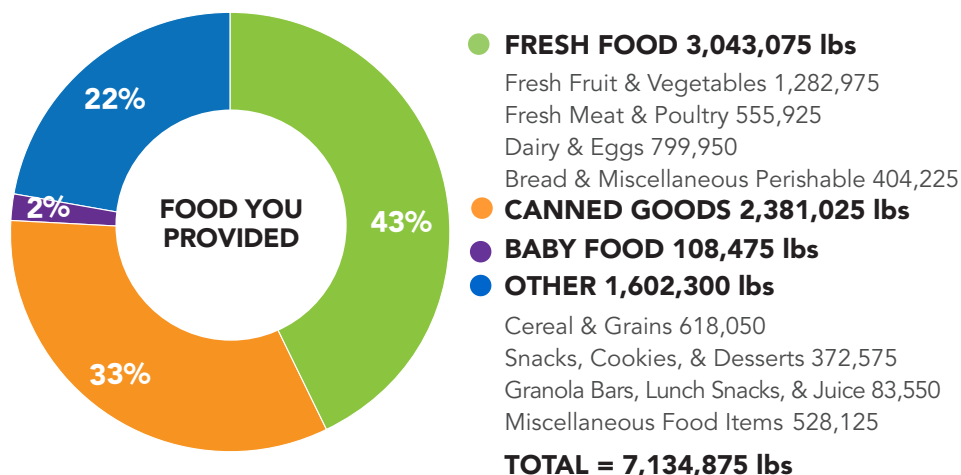
of protein. We were delighted when all six Food Basics locations in Ottawa signed on to participate in this program in May of 2021. As a result, our total meat distribution increased to 555,925 pounds, surpassing last year's extremely successful year by 41%. Thank you to our grocery store partners for making this possible.

Efforts once again to provide more milk and eggs to the community were a success as our distribution in that category increased by 15% over last fiscal.

Beyond much-needed food, we also provide necessary non-food items such as household/hygiene supplies and diapers. These items accounted for an additional 134,150 pounds and 142,750 pounds of goods distributed, respectively. These items are in addition to the food distribution outlined below.

We continued to distribute emergency hampers, adding a total of 1,018,100 pounds of food to our distribution. This is accounted for in the amount below.

### DISTRIBUTION NUMBERS BY CATEGORY (IN POUNDS)



# Financial Overview

Our fiscal year is October 1, 2020, to September 30, 2021.

**\$8.7 MILLION**

TOTAL VALUE OF FOOD



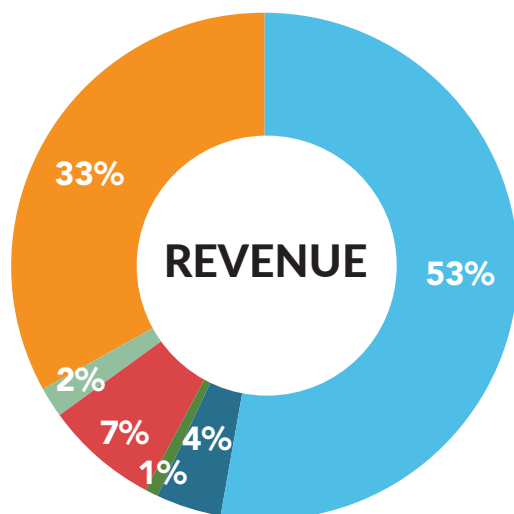
**\$17.3 MILLION**

TOTAL FUNDS DONATED



**\$26 MILLION**

TOTAL FOOD AND FUNDS INVESTED  
TO SUPPORT THE COMMUNITY



- Individual Donations \$13,896,564
- Grants and Corporate Sponsorship \$966,098
- Other Income \$233,264
- Community Engagement Events \$1,894,076
- Government Grants \$1,384,345
- Value of Food Donated and Distributed \$8,705,336

## Impact of Your Donations



**\$17,064,177**

Charitable Programs  
including food purchases,  
distribution of donated  
food, and operations



**\$1,972,661**

Food and Fund Raising  
efforts



**\$1,058,146**

General Administration

Total revenue, including the value of food donated and distributed, was \$26,077,475. Once again, the community's generosity allowed us to continue to operate at a higher capacity with increased spending in our key areas of focus, including fresh food, culturally appropriate food, building capacity, and our Home Delivery Program. At the same time, we also made investments in the member agency network to assist with innovation, capacity, and the demands associated with COVID-19. Overall, total expenses were \$20,094,984.

The net surplus for 2020-2021 was \$5,982,474. As the continued and long-term impact of the pandemic stays unknown, the excess of revenue over expenses will help the Ottawa Food Bank continue to serve the community. With added pressure of external factors like high inflation rates, the surplus will ensure that we can maintain service levels, meet increased need, secure the new location, and make up for revenue shortfalls that may occur in the coming years.

To see the full impact of your support, please visit [www.ottawafoodbank.ca](http://www.ottawafoodbank.ca) to review our complete Audited Financial Statements.

# Ottawa's Best Volunteers

The Ottawa Food Bank is fortunate to be able to continue working with Ottawa's Best Volunteers. Throughout the pandemic, we have adapted our volunteer program to realize the great benefit of being able to work with incredible groups, individuals, and organizations who are so generous with their time.

For more information on our volunteer program, please visit [ottawafoodbank.ca/volunteer-to-help](http://ottawafoodbank.ca/volunteer-to-help) and read our **Volunteer Impact Report**.



## VOLUNTEER HOURS

- Hamper Delivery 1,083
- Food Sorting 6,975
- Events 543
- Community Harvest 5,255
- Board of Directors 746

**Total Volunteer Hours = 14,602**

## VOLUNTEER INFORMATION:

In year two of pandemic operations, we continued to operate with a restricted volunteer program to abide by COVID-19 protocols and keep everyone safe. Even though some volunteer positions (such as delivery assistants and reception assistants) have had to be temporarily eliminated and volunteer group sizes have had to be decreased, we have only observed a 12.5% decrease in the number of volunteer hours donated compared to our last pre-pandemic fiscal year. **THANK YOU** to all who have been so generous with their time.

- Approximately 1,500 volunteers donated 14,602 hours of their time.
- When a conservative living wage of \$17 per hour is applied to the number of hours donated, the time Ottawa's Best Volunteers have given to the Ottawa Food Bank has an incredible value of \$248,234!
- Our Volunteer Lounge is sponsored by Tim Hortons – St. Laurent, who provide coffee and tea to keep our volunteers tummies warm. Thank you to the team at Tim Hortons for this support.



## How You Can Help

### Volunteer

See all your volunteer opportunities online at [www.ottawafoodbank.ca/volunteer-to-help/](http://www.ottawafoodbank.ca/volunteer-to-help/)



### Monetary Donation

Make a secure donation over the phone or online today!  
613-745-7001  
[www.ottawafoodbank.ca/donate](http://www.ottawafoodbank.ca/donate)



### Food Donation

Drop off a food donation at our Michael Street warehouse (Monday to Friday) or in a bin at your local participating grocery store.



### Fundraise Online

Set up a virtual event and make your own online donation page! Contact our events team to find out how.  
[events@ottawafoodbank.ca](mailto:events@ottawafoodbank.ca)





# Community Engagement and Events

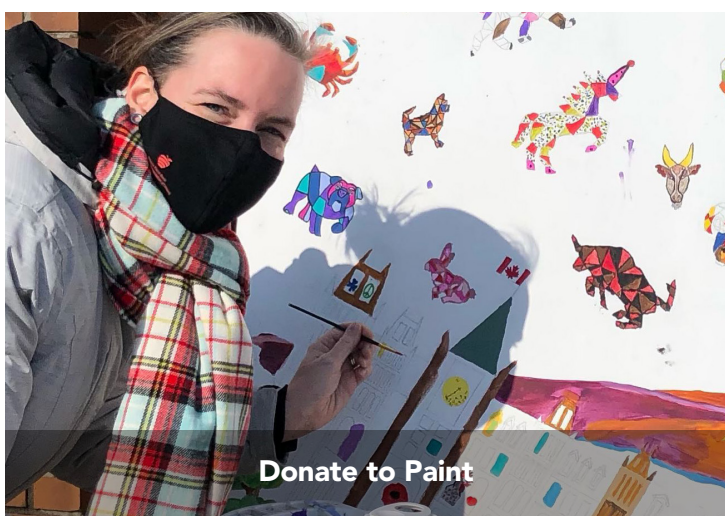
**Thank you to our community partners who donated and raised funds, collected and contributed to food drives, and shared their 'why' this year!** From neighbourhood food drives, online birthday fundraisers, and artistic initiatives to large scale virtual events using our peer-to-peer fundraising platform, and so much more, the people of Ottawa rose to the occasion once again. People's willingness to fundraise in new ways and engage their own networks have helped fill thousands of fridges for families and individuals in need. We are so grateful for your generosity and for choosing to support the Ottawa Food Bank. Your continued partnership is much appreciated and most needed. **THANK YOU.**



Christopher Griffin's Art Auction



OnlyTakesOne Fundraisers



Donate to Paint



Milano's Pizzeria Making Cents of My Steps



**FIRMS  
FILLING  
FRIDGES**

**CCLA | ABCC**  
COUNTY OF CARLETON LAW ASSOCIATION  
ASSOCIATION DU BARREAU DU COMTE DE CARLETON  
and  
LAW FIRMS OF OTTAWA

  
Ottawa Food Bank  
La Banque d'Alimentation d'Ottawa

Firms Filling Fridges



Rogers Food and Fund Drive

# Thank you to the attendees, sponsors, and supporters of our annual signature events.

This year we focused on helping our Event Ambassadors spread the word about how we help and who we impact. We strive to make our events an opportunity to connect and create understanding of the causes of food insecurity while serving an important purpose: to help generate the monetary and food donations necessary to support our member agencies.



## THANKS FOR GIVING FOOD DRIVE

As the kick-off to the Giving Season, the 2020 Thanks for Giving Food Drive, held on Thanksgiving long weekend, is essential to us in ensuring we are stocking our shelves for the colder months ahead. Thanks to everyone who donated and to our participating grocery store partners, **25,515 pounds of food was donated during this effort.** A big thank you to our volunteers who hand out donation bags and help turn grocery store customers into Ottawa Food Bank donors.



## HOLIDAY FOOD DRIVE

This fund and food drive, presented by Mosaic, is critical to the Ottawa Food Bank as it stocks our shelves and helps us provide for tens of thousands of people every month throughout the Winter and into the Spring. During the 2020 Holiday Food Drive individuals, community groups and workplaces raised over **\$439,000, filling 2,341 fridges** for a family of four for a week. Please know that your kindness over the holidays, and all year round, is not only appreciated by us, but also the community food programs across city for whom we provide food.



## ADOPT A CROP

During a year of canceling in-person events, it was refreshing to create a new program, sponsored by Mondeau, that was supported by 15 organizations who adopted a crop, volunteered their time on the farm, got their hands dirty, and supported the Ottawa Food Bank's Community Harvest program with over **167,000 lbs. of fresh food harvested** in 2021! That's a record-breaking amount of food that is being delivered from farm to table. We know that fresh is best and how quality food improves the lives of people experiencing food insecurity everyday. These companies made an amazing impact in the inaugural year of the Adopt A Crop program!

## Thank you to our supporters

We do not take for granted the incredible generosity we have received during the 2020-2021 fiscal year from individuals, community groups, and workplaces near and far. We are only able to operate at the capacity we do thanks to those who have made the decision to support the local community through the Ottawa Food Bank.

It has continued to be a trying year for so many, and it means a great deal to us that our supporters, both long-time and new, recognize the need for food support in our city. Food programs across the city have seen an increase in demand throughout the year for many reasons including the pandemic, the end of emergency financial supports, high inflation, and the skyrocketed housing market.

Thank you to everyone who donated during last fiscal year. To view the list of those who have donated \$1,000 or more, please visit [www.ottawafoodbank.ca/thanks-for-your-support](http://www.ottawafoodbank.ca/thanks-for-your-support). Please know each name there, as well as those who are not mentioned on this list, have made a difference in the lives of families and individuals in our city.



Ottawa Food Bank | 1317 Michael Street | Ottawa, ON | K1B 3M9  
Tel: 613-745-7001 | Email: [foodbank@ottawafoodbank.ca](mailto:foodbank@ottawafoodbank.ca) | [ottawafoodbank.ca](http://ottawafoodbank.ca)

Ottawa Food Bank