

Year in Review 2021-2022



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

A Message from the Chief Executive Officer



Rachael Wilson, Ottawa Food Bank Chief Executive Officer

It has been yet another challenging year for the Ottawa Food Bank and the network of emergency food programs. When I look back on everything we have encountered this year, I am amazed and proud of how we worked together. The network has risen to every occasion and faced every challenge with perseverance and dedication.

As we move to a new phase of the COVID pandemic, we are facing new challenges. I have immense gratitude for the network of 112 emergency food programs. They have faced incredible challenges with grace and kindness. They have proven once again their incredible commitment and compassion for the city, providing their essential service no matter the obstacles.

Early in 2022, we faced another wave of lockdowns and a new strain of Covid. Still, the network of agencies supported their communities ensuring home deliveries were made, appointments were filled for safe interactions, and continued to provide support to those accessing their food banks.

In February, many of the agencies were faced with new challenges brought on by the Convoy in the downtown core. Many living in the area experienced added safety concerns, harassment, and distress. Through this difficult

weeks-long period, the agencies continued to support their community.

In May, the Derecho storm swept through Ottawa, causing mass power outages in many communities for days. The network rallied together to support anyone in need. The Ottawa Food Bank led the emergency response for food security, convening meal partners to deploy into communities across the city. Together with amazing partners and the City of Ottawa, we were able to help deliver thousands of meals over a ten-day period.

I can not imagine what the city would do without the amazing network. We should all have deep gratitude for their perseverance, dedication, and compassion.

None of this work would be possible without the incredible generosity of the people in Ottawa. Thanks to donor support, we've overcome these challenges and had incredible successes this year, including a record-breaking harvest at the farm, distributing more food than ever, and building a stronger network.

The network came together to unify our approach to the issues of food insecurity in our city. Through a co-design process, the network answered the key question of how we can collectively solve food insecurity in Ottawa and identified the key areas that will have the greatest impact. We recognized the strength of our community and what we can accomplish together. We have used this process to help set the path for an Ottawa without food insecurity.

Using this key information to direct our work, the Ottawa Food Bank and the Board of Directors created a three-year strategic plan toward ending food insecurity in the city by 2050. We are focused on increasing capacity at agencies by providing more food, better quality items, and leveraging our warehousing strengths, ensuring stability and sustainability for our network.

We have been hard at work, preparing our new warehouse at 2001 Bantree Road. This new facility will be double the size of our current warehouse and

includes dramatically increased cold storage. This new building will allow us to serve the network of agencies better- increasing fulfillment rates and providing healthier food for the community. While we are excited to move into our new building in 2023, it reflects the ongoing issues driving poverty in our city. As the economic impacts are felt by us all, the number of visits has reached historic levels almost every month of 2022. We know we must do more than provide food to address the underlying issues of food insecurity.

Delivering this food and operational support will create capacity for the network to continue the critical work needed to end food insecurity in our city. We have launched an innovative three-year project to more than double the number of supports available in our network through partnerships. We know food is what brings people to the door. Through increased wrap-around programs and holistic supports and services integrated into food banks, we can now help people access resources in their neighbourhood, no matter where they live in the city.

The Ottawa Food Bank staff continues to be an incredibly dedicated and compassionate team. We have also faced many of the challenges head-on. Each staff member has played a vital role in ensuring this critical work continues every day. Thank you to the board of directors for their strategic vision, and continued guidance and support. Our volunteers have been a critical support, helping to sort thousands of pounds of food, delivering to homes across the city, and helping us prepare for our move. We continue to be an organization by the community and for the community, with everyone playing an important role.

I am honoured to have led the Ottawa Food Bank through this past year and to be the steward of your gifts of time, talent, and treasure to end food insecurity in Ottawa. Your trust and partnership will help us all achieve a city where no one is food insecure. Thank you for your support.

A Message from the Chair of the Board



Michaela Tokarski, Ottawa Food Bank Chair of the Board

Together, the Ottawa Food Bank and its network of 112 member agencies have been working to meet the needs of individuals and families facing food insecurity across our city.

Over the past year, our network has seen the highest number of visits to food banks in our 38-year history. Natural disasters, inflation, and the rising cost of essentials such as food, fuel, and housing all contributed to increased food insecurity in Ottawa.

Despite these challenges, staff, member agencies, and volunteers continued to address hunger by being responsive and nimble, showing time and time again that we all share a dedication and commitment to ensuring healthy, accessible food for all of our community members. This is now a central tenet in our strategic plan supporting our new goal: that by 2050, no one in Ottawa is food insecure.

In the coming year, the Ottawa Food Bank will be moving to a new location with added space, new larger food

storage equipment, and improved systems to address the growing needs of our community more efficiently.

Longer term, in partnership with community and emergency food banks in our network, the Ottawa Food Bank is committed to increasing the capacity of our network to meet increasing demand, to listening in order to find solutions to improve health, and to leveraging the strengths of our collective voice.

We truly are stronger together.

It has been an honour to witness the collaboration of everyone in our network and the incredible generosity of our community firsthand. The Ottawa Food Bank could not do this work without generous donor support. It is heartwarming to see people donating money, time, and food to help people they may never meet. Your support has made it possible for us to continue providing food to those in need. The Ottawa Food Bank and I are immensely grateful for your support.

Board of Directors

The Ottawa Food Bank wishes to thank the following individuals for their service during the 2021 – 2022 fiscal year. They have helped guide our organization through a challenging and unique time, and we look forward to their continued guidance as we work toward our strategic commitment of ending food insecurity in Ottawa.

CHAIR

Michaela Tokarski
Tokarski Homes

VICE CHAIR

Trevor White
Talah Solutions

TREASURER

Marion McMahon
Office of the Auditor
General of Canada
(Retired)

SECRETARY

Timothy Cullen
McMillan LLP

DIRECTORS

Destine Lord
Demand Different
Diversity and Inclusion

Steve Mennill
Canada Mortgage and
Housing Corporation

Matthew Blostein
CIBC Wood Gundy

Sylvie Manser
Banff Avenue
Community House

Lisa Fabian
Care Centre Ottawa

Marilyn Matheson
Caldwell Family Centre

Erin O'Manique
Gloucester Emergency
Food Cupboard

Member Agencies

The Ottawa Food Bank's main role is to work in partnership with a network of 112 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 and 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
- FAMSAC Food Cupboard
- Foster Farm Family House
- Gloucester Emergency Food Cupboard
- Heron Emergency Food Centre
- LifeCentre Food Bank
- Lowertown Community House
- Morrison Gardens 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

- ACB Wellness Resource Centre
- Algonquin College Food Cupboard
- All Nations International Gospel Church
- Broadview – The Ottawa Mission
- Bruce House
- Carleton University Food Centre
- Carlington CHC
- Catholic Immigration Services
- Centre Psycho-Social
- Cité collégiale
- Eastern Ottawa Resource Centre
- Elizabeth Wynn Wood Alternate Program

- Harmony House
- Hunt Club Riverside (SEOCHC)
- 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 – The Ottawa Mission
- Youth Services Bureau - Besserer
- Youth Services Bureau - Cooper
- Youth Services Bureau - Nelson
- Youville Centre

MEAL PROGRAMS

- BGC Don McGahan
- BGC Ron Kolbus
- 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 Meal Program
- Cornerstone 172
- Cornerstone 314
- Cornerstone 515
- Door Youth Centre
- Empathy House of Recovery
- Heather Manor
- Jericho Road Ministries
- Orleans-Cumberland Community Kitchen
- The Ottawa Mission Food Truck
- Parkdale United Church - In from the Cold
- Regina Towers
- Rideauwood Addiction and Family Services
- Shepherds of Good Hope
- Somerset West CHC Drop-in
- St. Luke's Table
- Van Lang Community Kitchen
- Vesta Recovery Program for Women

MULTI-SERVICE PROGRAMS

- AIDS Committee of Ottawa (Living Room)
- Care Centre Ottawa
- Centre Espoir Sophie
- Inner City Ministries
- Minwaashin Lodge
- Operation Come Home
- The Ottawa Mission
- 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 Well

KickStart – AFTER 4 CLUBS

- After 4 Club - Banff Avenue
- After 4 Club - Blair Court
- After 4 Club - Britannia Woods
- After 4 Club - Caldwell/Carlington
- After 4 Club - Carlington CHC
- 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
- After 4 Club - Winthrop Court

FOOD & OPERATIONS INDUSTRY PARTNERS

Through their generous donations and wholesale of goods and services, our food and operations industry partners make a significant impact on the Ottawa Food Bank's efficiency rate. Thanks to their partnership, we can distribute more, healthier food to those experiencing food insecurity in Ottawa. Thank you to the following organizations for their continued support and partnership.

- Aenos Food Services
- All Special Wholesale
- Alliance Seafood Inc.
- Amazon
- APS - Stericycle Expert Solutions
- Burnbrae Farms
- CanadaWide Wholesalers
- Carleton Mushrooms
- Chicken Farmers of Canada
- Costco
- Cote Poultry
- Craig Potato Farms
- Day and Ross
- Farm Boy Head Office
- Fawcettview Farm
- Feed Ontario
- Food Banks Canada
- Food Basics Grocery Stores
- Foster Family Farm
- Frank's Catering
- Embassy of France in Canada
- FreshCo Grocery Stores
- Healthcare Food Services
- Hindu Temple Of Ottawa
- Hudson's Farm Fresh
- Hunt Club Golf
- Italfoods
- iXCEED Packaging
- Jack Larabie
- No Frills Grocery Stores
- Lactalis
- Laprade, Christian Seniors
- Loblaws Grocery Stores
- Metro Grocery Stores
- Morguard Brokerage
- Muslim Welfare - Project Ramadan
- Natrel Inc. Sealtest
- Nestle Canada
- NG Wholesale
- NPI Group
- Ottawa Network for Education
- Orleans Cumberland Food Bank
- Orleans Fruit Farm
- Orleans Honda
- Ottawa Food Bank
- Ottawa Sikh Society
- PepsiCo Food Service
- Premium Meats
- Purolator
- Quality Meats
- RCGT Stadium
- Rideau Carleton Raceway
- Rochon Gardens
- Shoppers Drug Mart
- Sobey's Grocery Stores
- St. Laurent Academy
- Summerlea dairy
- SunTech Greenhouses Ltd
- Real Canadian Superstore
- Walmart
- Weston Bakery
- WorldWide Distributors
- Your Independent Grocer

Ottawa Food Bank Programming and Operations

YOU HELPED COMMUNITIES ACROSS THE CITY

In the 2021-2022 fiscal year, the Ottawa Food Bank and our network of 112 member agencies reported the highest levels of food bank visits in our 38-year history: 403,467 visits to food banks in Ottawa. Your donations helped our network of member agencies across the city continue their work by ensuring the needs of people experiencing food insecurity are met in communities every day. Despite the challenges of the lingering COVID-19 pandemic and increased need, community and emergency food banks, meal and snack programs, and food cupboards continued to provide food and support for those who need it most. Your support helped this valuable work continue.

In addition to our regular distribution of food, your support also helped provide 574,300 pounds of emergency hampers to the community this fiscal year.

Together, we have persisted through recessions, heightened inflation, tornadoes, and a global pandemic.

In May, the damage of the **Derecho storm** was widespread – suddenly leaving more people affected by power outages than both the ice storm of 1998 and the tornadoes of 2018.

Community food banks across the city as well as individuals and families had to throw away fridges and freezers full of food due to extended power outages. Thanks to your support and the support of our community partners, we were able to meet the immediate need to provide fresh food until the power was restored.

As the number of food bank visits increased, your support allowed us to meet the increased demand. Food distribution increased by 44% compared to last year – even though these numbers were already at a high level. Because of your generosity and support, we have been able to continue to offer our member agencies quotas of food and supplies to keep up with the increased volume of people coming through their doors.

We are grateful for your support, which allowed us to continue our **Home Delivery Program**, completing 4,317 deliveries during the 2021-2022 fiscal year. This program enables us to reach families and individuals who would otherwise not be able to leave their homes, including seniors, single parents, immunocompromised people, and those with illnesses or injuries. The need for this service continues to grow; we have seen a steady increase of approximately 15%, reflecting new households requiring this assistance each month.

YOU HELPED CHILDREN AND YOUTH ACROSS THE CITY

Children and youth under the age of 18 continue to represent a third of food-insecure individuals in Ottawa. In addition to supporting families with food through their community and emergency food programs, the Ottawa Food Bank also supports programming specific to children and youth across the city. **KickStart After 4 Clubs** provide healthy snacks for school-aged children and youth in

Ottawa. The availability of programs running through the school year has fluctuated due to COVID-19 safety measures. While 18 after-school programs were operational with Amazon Canada's gift of \$50,000, your support also helped ensure these programs provided healthy and nutritious snack options.

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. For the **2022 Summer Nutrition Program – Children and Youth**, we expanded our offerings to 13 community and emergency food banks within our network, providing a wider variety of nutritious snack items. Thanks to your support, we were able to fill that service gap by partnering with Food Banks Canada's After the Bell program to provide nutritious food to children and youth throughout the summer. Also included as part of the Summer Nutrition Program were fun, bilingual, nutritional literacy resources from the Ottawa Food Bank's Dietitian, including knowledge and skill-building activities.

A generous 5-year commitment from Preston Square coupled with your support provided 371,488 pounds of baby food and supplies, including diapers, formula, and cereal, through our **Baby Basics Program**. This ensured families had access to the necessary and expensive items they need to keep their babies healthy and strong.

YOU HELPED PROVIDE MORE HEALTHY AND CULTURALLY APPROPRIATE FOOD

In the 2021-2022 fiscal year, 16 member agencies of the network were provided with up to \$5,000 in funding through the **Global Marketplace Program**. This program and funding is offered in response to the City of Ottawa Human Needs Task Force on Food Security and Ottawa Food Bank member agencies, who expressed the need for food-insecure households to have greater access to ethnocultural foods. A total of \$78,920

was distributed through the program due to the success of the pilot that took place in previous years. Each community had the opportunity to identify culturally appropriate foods that they wanted to see represented in their local food bank. This program resulted in increased crop diversity at our Community Harvest Farm and new procurement considerations for the Ottawa Food Bank.

Our **Community Harvest Farm** had another very successful year, harvesting and distributing 179,706 pounds of fresh fruits and vegetables from our own crops. Thank you to the hard-working staff and volunteers for making it possible to provide 23 different crops to the community! Their labour enabled food insecure households 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 okra for the first time this year and reintroduced eggplant, harvesting 966 pounds and 3,925 pounds, respectively. When donations from local farmers and gleaning opportunities are accounted for, the Community Harvest Program provided a total of 193,402 pounds of produce in the 2021-2022 fiscal year.

YOU HELPED PROVIDE SOLUTIONS BEYOND FOOD

The Ottawa Food Bank network collaborates effectively to meet the needs of our community. In 2021-22 our member agencies worked alongside people with lived experience of food insecurity, and the Tamarack Institute, to create the **Community Co-Design Report**. The goals that emerged from the co-design are: to align and build equity between food banks by developing shared values; develop clear roles for the Ottawa Food Bank and the network, including the formation of numerous action groups; and to create a roadmap of prioritized actions to ensure we maintain a holistic approach to food banking.

The Ottawa Food Bank is also piloting a series of **wrap-around supports** at community food banks within our network. Wrap-around supports are non-food related resource programs for food bank clients. These programs take place at 5 community food banks, in partnership with 3 community health and resource centres. Supports can include connecting people with child-care options, employment, and medical services, to name a few. This work was motivated by research, including a collaboration with a University of Ottawa research team, which suggested that offering non-food support and resources at food banks improved food security outcomes. The Maple Leaf Centre for Food Security has provided funding (\$203,750 over three years) and support to expand the wrap-around service model across Ottawa and enable the building of a framework and evaluation for these models. The goal is to make wrap-around services available regardless of which food bank people visit, thereby improving food security outcomes across Ottawa. Aside from Maple Leaf, this work is also supported by the Wrap-Around Support Action Group that arose from the Ottawa Food Bank's Community Co-Design.

YOU HELPED US GROW OUR CAPACITY TO PROVIDE FRESH, HEALTHY FOOD

Your support is helping the Ottawa Food Bank transition operations to a **new location** so that we can increase our capacity to provide fresh, healthy food to thousands of children and adults in our community every month. Presently, the Ottawa Food Bank is located at 1317 Michael Street, a 20,000 sq ft facility that we have called home for 19 years. However, storage capacity limits have resulted in an annual loss of \$80,000 in large food donations. Your support of our capital campaign, **Moving To A Healthier Future**, will support our move to continue growing our operation in tandem with the increase of demand and ensure additional space, new, larger food storage equipment, and efficiency at our new location, located at 2001 Bantree Street.

Food Distribution: Fiscal Year 2021-2022

The primary function of the Ottawa Food Bank is to support the network of 112 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 \$9,424,131 worth of donated food and \$6,314,782 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 44% more food compared to last year.

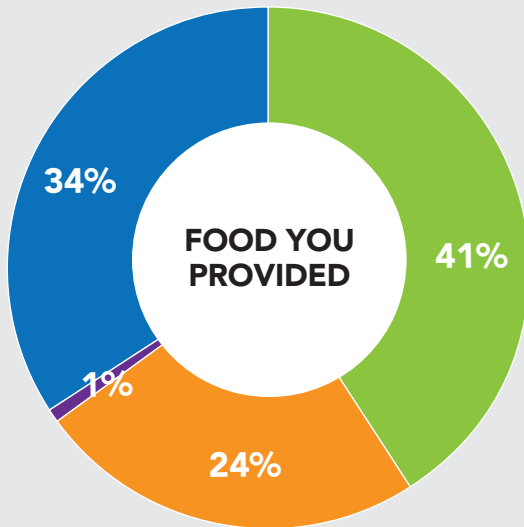
One More Bite, the provincial meat and protein recovery program with Metro grocery stores, has continued to provide a variety of meats and proteins to families across Ottawa. This year, participating Metro grocery stores provided 16,765 pounds of protein.

We greatly appreciate the support through this food recovery program, a vital step in getting healthy food to our neighbours.

Beyond much-needed food, we also provide necessary non-food items such as household/hygiene supplies and diapers. These items accounted for an additional 205,250 pounds and 247,825 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 574,300 pounds of food to our distribution. This is accounted for in the amount below.

DISTRIBUTION NUMBERS BY CATEGORY (IN POUNDS)



- **FRESH FOOD 4,200,200 lbs**
 Fresh Fruit & Vegetables **1,922,500**
 Fresh Meat & Poultry 665,500
 Dairy & Eggs 1,181,300
 Bread & Miscellaneous Perishable 430,900
 - **CANNED GOODS 2,504,025 lbs**
 - **BABY FOOD 123,663 lbs**
 - **OTHER 3,446,440 lbs**
 *Including grains, cereal, snacks, and other food items.
- TOTAL = 10,274,328 lbs**



Financial Overview

Our fiscal year is October 1, 2021, to September 30, 2022.

\$ 9.4 MILLION

TOTAL VALUE OF FOOD



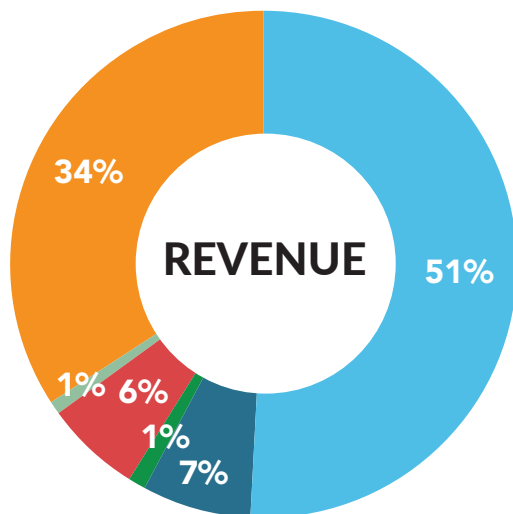
\$17.8 MILLION

TOTAL FUNDS DONATED



\$27.2 MILLION

TOTAL FOOD AND FUNDS INVESTED TO SUPPORT THE COMMUNITY



- Donations \$13,769,058
- Grants and Corporate Sponsorship \$1,866,163
- Other Income \$235,574
- Community Engagement Events \$1,524,082
- Government Grants \$392,032
- Value of Food Donated and Distributed \$9,424,131

Total = \$27,211,040

Impact of Your Donations



\$20,541,714

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



\$2,275,301

Food and Fund Raising efforts



\$2,095,879

General Administration

Total revenue including the value of food donated to the organization was \$27,211,040.

Again, this fiscal year, the community's generosity allowed us to continue to increase spending in our strategic key areas such as fresh food, culturally appropriate food and building capacity while also making investments in the member agencies network. Overall total expenses were \$24,912,894.

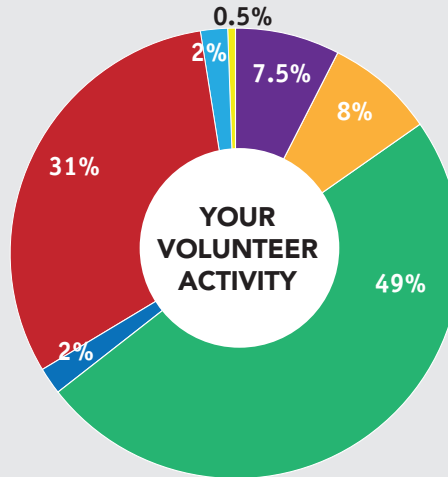
The net surplus for 2021-2022 was \$2,298,146. This will allow the Ottawa Food Bank to continue to serve the community as we are experiencing an unprecedented increase in need as well to make up for revenue shortfalls that are planned in the 2022-2023 fiscal year.

To see the full impact of your support, please visit www.ottawafoodbank.ca to review our complete Audited Financial Statements and look at our Charity Intelligence page to get a complete breakdown of outputs.

Ottawa's Best Volunteers

The Ottawa Food Bank is fortunate to work with Ottawa's Best Volunteers. Over the years, our volunteer program has adapted to realize the great benefit of being able to work with incredible groups, individuals, and organizations who are so generous with their time and skills.

For more information on our volunteer program, please visit ottawafoodbank.ca/volunteer-to-help and read our **Volunteer Impact Report**.



VOLUNTEER HOURS

- Hamper Delivery 1,327
- Delivery Assistants 1,436
- Food Sorting 8,523
- Events 291
- Community Harvest 5,449
- Board of Directors 350
- Admin Support 110

Total Volunteer Hours = 17,486

VOLUNTEER INFORMATION:

Our volunteer program is stronger than ever - thanks to the dedication of Ottawa's Best Volunteers! During our 2021-2022 fiscal year, the Ottawa Food Bank's volunteer program was very fortunate to have a 5% increase in donated volunteer hours over the pre-pandemic fiscal year of 2018-2019. We are honoured to be your charity of choice and the recipient of your time and talent.

- From October 1st, 2021, to September 30th, 2022, we were grateful to the over 2,000 volunteers who donated more than 17,000 hours of their time to supporting the Ottawa Food Bank.
- Our dedicated team of individual volunteers supported our warehouse with food sorting, emergency hamper deliveries, and agency order deliveries, as well as shared their time at special events, like food drives, across the city.
- We are thankful for the many corporate and community groups that support our food sorting and the farm, year after year.



How You Can Help

Volunteer

See all your volunteer opportunities online at 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

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

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 Every Thursday Art Auction



OnlyTakesOne Fundraisers



MCA Golf Tournament



Billy Talent Food Drive



Grumpy's Golf Tournament



The Ottawa Guild of Potter's Great Bowls of Fire Fundraiser

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 2021 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 20 of 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 2021 Holiday Food Drive individuals, community groups and workplaces raised **83,500 pounds of food, and over \$350,000, filling 2,383 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 112 community food programs across city for whom we provide food.



FILL PLATES FOOD DRIVE

The Fill Plates Food Drive is one of our important signature events that helps stock our shelves through the spring and summer months so we can continue to provide food to 112 member agencies and thousands of families throughout Ottawa. This year was our first Fill Plates Food Drive since 2019 due to pandemic lockdowns and restrictions. Thanks to your generous participation, we collected **27,445 pounds of food!**



ADOPT A CROP

Adopt a Crop, presented by Mondeau Bathroom & Kitchen, invites local businesses to get involved with our community harvest. Each Adopt a Crop Ambassador selects a crop and "champions" it over the course of the growing season. This year, there were 9 Adopt a Crop Ambassadors 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 **179,000 pounds of fresh food** harvested in 2022! That's a record-breaking amount of food that is being delivered from farm to table to the 112 member agencies in the Ottawa community. We know that fresh is best and how quality food improves the lives of people experiencing food insecurity everyday. Thank you to all Adopt a Crop Ambassadors!

Thank you to our supporters

We are thankful for the support of our generous donors who have made it possible for us to continue the work we do: supplying food and other resources to communities across Ottawa. This year, the need for our work was unprecedented. With the increasingly high cost of living, many individuals and families found themselves experiencing deeper food insecurity. This was reflected in record-breaking demand experienced by the member agencies in our network.

Visit www.ottawafoodbank.ca/thanksforyoursupport/ to access the list of those who have donated \$1,000 or more. Please be aware that everyone mentioned, as well as those who are not mentioned, have enhanced the quality of life for families and individuals in our city.

