

Community Impact

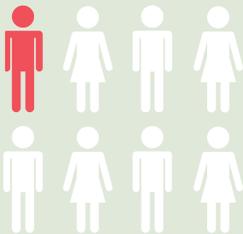
Data from the pandemic years tells a story both of startling need and of the Food Bank’s ability to meet that need. In 2019, before so many aspects of life were upended, we distributed 13.3 million pounds of food through our programs and network of hunger-relief partners. In 2020, as the world reeled, the demand for food support increased dramatically. Concurrently, we experienced a significant increase in donor support, allowing us to meet that demand and distribute an enormous 17.6 million pounds of food to our neighbors.

The government’s pandemic response included expanded public assistance, which also increased food access for struggling households in our region. For some, food insecurity proved to be a difficult, but temporary hardship that dissipated by the end of 2020. For others, hunger has been a long-term experience. When emergency response programs ended, many people were thrust back into the struggles they had long known. It is in this context that we analyze the 2021 data, looking at the 14.8 million pounds of food we distributed in relation to both 2020 and 2019. The current level of need speaks to the fact that as life

returns to a semblance of pre-pandemic normalcy, we must remember that for many in our service area, food insecurity was their pre-pandemic normal. Over these past two years, health, economic, and nutrition disparities have been magnified both around the world and in our own backyard.

Compared to baseline information from 2019, the 2021 need for food support remains elevated, and we have maintained an increased level of service to meet it. In this time, we have also increased our capacity to build hunger-free communities, achieving impacts that have more lasting meaning than pounds or pallets. Challenging circumstances have given rise to innovation, including new programs and partnerships to achieve the core outcomes of healthful food, increased access to available food, and strategic collaboration with partners across the Southern Tier. These strategic investments are critical to moving from crisis functioning to long-term recovery and growth for our communities. Thanks to the generosity of our supporters, the Food Bank has been able to set aside reserve funding to continue to meet the heightened need, with an eye, always, toward a hunger-free future.

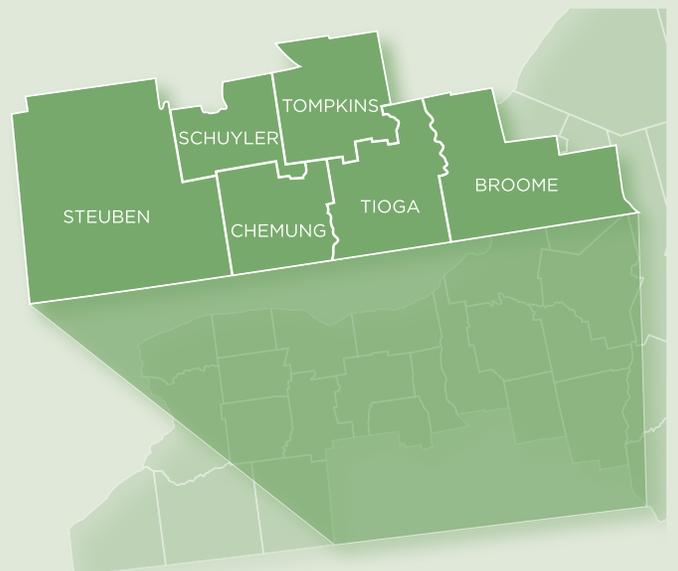
THE NEED



→ **1 in 8** people in the Southern Tier are at risk of hunger.



→ **18%** of Southern Tier children (or 1 in 6) are food insecure.



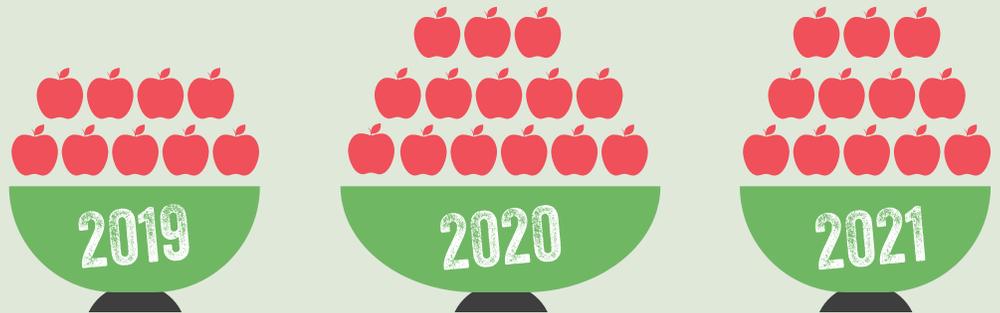
With your help

WE'RE FIGHTING HUNGER

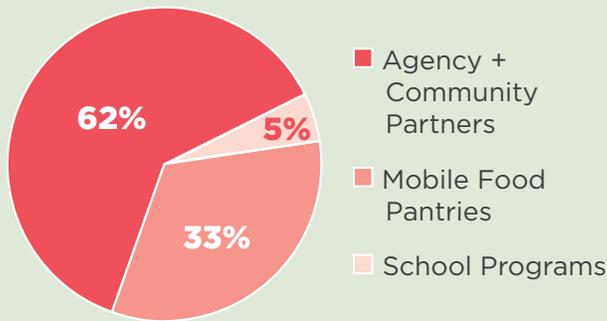


→ In 2021, we distributed **14,835,041** million pounds of food. This is the equivalent of **10,597,350** meals.

- **16%** less than 2020
- **12%** more than 2019



2021 MEALS DISTRIBUTED



- We distribute food in multiple ways: our agency and community partners, Mobile Food Pantries, and school-based programs.
- In 2021, we received **1,039,172** requests for food across all programs and partners.
 - Partners providing on-site meals responded to **452,205** requests for food.
 - Our network providing grocery items responded to **586,967** requests for food.

- **1 in 3** grocery requests — or **39%** — were for children.
- **1 in 6** — or **16%** — were for seniors.
- Of the total pounds distributed, **2,469,524** were fresh produce.
- More than half of client survey respondents reported choosing healthy food options often.

Over **90%** of client survey respondents said that distribution staff and volunteers were friendly, and they felt treated with respect.

CHALLENGES DRIVE INNOVATION

In 2021, our school-based food support included:

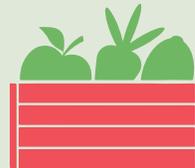
5 College Pantries



2,689 children received BackPacks of food from **42** partner school districts



9,652 healthy snacks distributed at **26** partner school districts



7,857 households received produce boxes from **18** partner school districts

21 Kids' Farmers Market sites — up from **9** in 2020 and back to pre-pandemic levels!



→ Strategic investments supported core outcomes of healthful food, increased access, and strategic collaboration through:



Network & Program Capacity Building

Developed Diaper Bank program with **10** pilot sites and **259,325** diapers distributed.



Client-Driven Services

Trained **100** advocates and **5** Community Advocates Program participants.



Healthcare Partnerships

Launched **HealthMeetsHome** with **10** participant households and **52** medical students.



Service Insights

On-boarded **13** additional partner agencies to FreshTrak for a total of **43**.



"The Food Bank had a huge impact on my life. It allowed me to connect not only myself but a lot of other people in my community with fresh, high-quality food. Then I joined the Food Bank's Community Advocates Program, which connected me with a passionate group of people that I'm planning to keep in touch with. The Program inspired me to pursue the advocacy work that has always been important to me and gave me the skills to inspire others."

- Charley, Tompkins County

YOUR TIME, TALENT, TREASURE, AND VOICE MAKE A DIFFERENCE

25,181 volunteer hours in 2021, up from **16,921** in 2020 and **20,698** in 2019

11,373 financial donors

340 education workshop participants

34 Board and Committee Members



“My wife and I fell on hard times and needed help from the Food Bank. I wanted to give back, so started volunteering. Hard times affect everyone at some point, and there is no shame in needing help. Sometimes you’re in a position of needing help, and sometimes you’re the one providing it. I feel a real sense of accomplishment from volunteering at the Food Bank.”

- Randy, Chemung County

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION*

SUPPORT & REVENUE	2021	EXPENSES	2021
Food-in-kind assistance	\$11,366,706	Program	\$18,681,049
Grants and contracts	\$5,160,925	Fundraising	\$992,726
Contributions	\$5,236,045	Management and general	\$655,285
Program fees	\$541,929		
Other income	\$25,036	Total Expenses	\$20,329,060
Total Support & Revenue	\$22,330,641		

*These are preliminary numbers as of May 2022. Audited financials will be approved in June and available at www.foodbankst.org



Working together to build and sustain hunger-free communities throughout the Southern Tier.

foodbankst.org

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