It may not seem like it, but hunger is a big problem in Minnesota. 1 in 10 Minnesotans are food insecure, meaning they don’t know where their next meal comes from. That’s half-a-million people in our state struggling to put food on the table each day. These are neighbors, friends, and family members who are forced to choose between paying for rent, medicine, or food all too often.

Hunger Solutions brings people together to find real solutions to hunger through partnerships, programs, and policy because food is a basic human right. We work with over 300 food shelves, seven food banks, and leaders in agriculture, healthcare, business, and government because hunger can only be solved if we work together.

At the state and federal level, we work with agencies to distribute millions of pounds of food across the state. In our work with food shelves, we offer expertise, support, and grant funding for times when they struggle to keep up with local needs. And our programs, like Market Bucks and SNAP Rx, are examples of how we convene a wide range of cross-sector advocates to effectively fight against hunger in every community across Minnesota.

Our goal is to connect people struggling with hunger with the help they need to put food on the table. As the only anti-hunger organization whose services reach every county in the state, we fight hunger not only today, but also work hard to find longterm solutions to end hunger.

We thank you for your support last year and we look forward to future our work together. Let’s keep up the fight!

Colleen Moriarty
Executive Director
Visits to food shelves
Minnesotans made 3,117,865 visits to food shelves in 2017—the seventh consecutive year with more than 3 million visits.

Food shelf visits by region, 2017

Share of food shelf visits by age, 2017

The Open Your Heart Fundraising Challenge leveraged

$100,000 matching funds  $1.5 million in local fundraising by 155 food shelves

State Grants to Food Shelves
Hunger Solutions, in partnership with the Minnesota Department of Human Services, distributes state grants to food shelves.

In 2017, $2.6 million was distributed to 276 food shelves throughout Minnesota.
Mobile Food Shelf Grant
Mobile food shelves increase access to nutritious food for individuals who experience barriers to accessing traditional bricks-and-mortar food shelves because of transportation or mobility challenges. In 2017, mobile food shelf funding resulted in:

- **8 vehicles** purchased
- **150 service sites**
- **1.49 million pounds of food** distributed
- **87,402 visits**, nearly 40% of which were by children

The Emergency Food Assistance Program
Hunger Solutions partners with the Minnesota Department of Human Services - Office of Economic Opportunity (OEO) to administer USDA's The Emergency Food Assistance Program. TEFAP is the backbone of the emergency food system, providing commodity foods to food banks, food shelves, and meal programs. In FFY 2017 (October 1, 2016-September 30, 2017), we distributed TEFAP to 7 food banks serving 270 food shelves:

- **70 products**
- **10,452,148 pounds of food**
- **$7.8 million value**
The Minnesota Food HelpLine answered 3,658 calls, emails, and live chats from people looking for help with food resources in 2017. We connected 5,404 people with food resources.

Where HelpLine Callers Were Connected, 2017

Ills to the HelpLine came from 81 of Minnesota’s 87 counties.

Minnesota Food HelpLine By-the-Numbers

- 365 callers were screened and qualified for SNAP
- 1,121 callers were already enrolled in SNAP
- 673 SNAP applications were mailed

SNAP Rx

In January 2017, Hunger Solutions partnered with 3 HealthPartners clinics to pilot SNAP Rx. Clinics screen their patients for food insecurity during routine care and refer food insecure patients to the Minnesota Food HelpLine where we connect them with food resources in their local community.

82 referrals to the HelpLine

- 31 referrals to food shelf
- 29 to Fare for All
- 15 screens for SNAP
- 10 Farmers Markets
- 2 NAPs or meal programs
Market Bucks

Hunger Solutions helped pass legislation to make Minnesota's Market Bucks program the first publicly-funded farmers market incentive program in the nation. Market Bucks double the amount SNAP customers spend at farmers markets (up to $10 per market visit). Market Bucks were offered at 87 market locations in ___ counties during the regular farmers market season from May 1 to October 31, 2017.

EBT & Market Bucks Sales, 2015-2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Market Bucks</th>
<th>EBT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>$156,301</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>$337,884</td>
<td>$201,399</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>$179,563</td>
<td>$198,143</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Extra money was available for more incentive gift certificates to jump-start the program in the first biennium. 2017 numbers reflect a more normal year moving forward.
Partners to End Hunger

Hunger Solutions convenes and chairs the Partners to End Hunger Coalition, a group of over 25 organizations working together on a common legislative agenda with four priority bills aimed at reducing hunger across the state of Minnesota:

1.) Increase funding to Minnesota’s food shelves,  
2.) Continue mobile food shelf funding,  
3.) Improve SNAP for adults without dependents, &  
4.) Support the Good Food Access Fund.

The Partners to End Hunger Coalition was successful in securing a 2-year increase of $750,000 for food shelf funding earmarked for produce, proteins, and diapers. We also successfully advocated for restored funding for Market Bucks after the program was cut in initial budget negotiations.

Voice of Hunger Network

The Voice of Hunger Network connects anti-hunger advocates to lawmakers via through action alerts, emails, phone calls, and Hunger Day on the Hill. In 2017, constituents made 722 email contacts and countless phone calls and visits with lawmakers on behalf of Partners to End Hunger legislative priorities.

Hunger Day on the Hill

The 3rd annual Hunger Day on the Hill brought 100+ advocates together to learn about legislative bills and meet with their legislators.

At left: Participants from Valley Outreach, a food shelf in Stillwater, Minn., take a Capitol steps selfie after a successful visit with their lawmakers.
**Revenue**

- **Program Services**: $44,679
- **Investment Income**: $71,902
- **Contributions**: $848,534
- **Government Grants**: $4,314,182

**Expenses**

- **Management & General**: $443,000
- **Fundraising**: $82,135

Total Revenue: $5,078,076

Total Expenses: $5,059,060

95.4% of Hunger Solutions Minnesota’s funding goes to program services.

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**Corporate, Business, and Foundation Donors**

**$50,000+**
- Food Research & Action Center

**$15,000-$49,999**
- Minnesota Humanities Center
- Target Foundation
- Hunt Electric
- General Mills Foundation
- MAZON: A Jewish Response to Hunger
- Greater Twin Cities United Way
- Hugh J. Andersen Foundation
- Jim & Yvonne Sexton Family Foundation
- F.R. Bigelow Foundation
- The Saint Paul Foundation

**$5,000-$14,999**
- Treasure Island Resort & Casino
- Michael Foods
- Berean Baptist Church
- Richard M. Schulze Family Foundation
- BNSF Railway Foundation
- Gale Family Foundation
- Greenberger Family Fund

**$1,000-$4,999**
- Barr Engineering Company
- James T. Nystrom Foundation
- Cargill
- Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota
- Sampson Family Charitable Foundation

**Palisade Asset Management LLC**
- Elmer L. & Eleanor J. Andersen Foundation
- University of Minnesota
- Dancing Cat Productions, Inc.
- The Benevity Community Impact Fund
- Parasole Restaurant Holdings, Inc.

For additional financial information, including our audited financial statements, Form 990, and list of contributors visit [http://hungersolutions.org/annualreport](http://hungersolutions.org/annualreport).
Hunger Solutions Minnesota works to end hunger in our state. We take action to assure food security for all Minnesotans by supporting programs and agencies that provide food to those in need, advancing sound public policy, and guiding grassroots advocacy.

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Hunger Solutions Minnesota proudly meets the standards of the Charities Review Council at smartgivers.org.