




Despite being physically distant, 2020 will be remembered as the year that Minnesota came together. While we couldn't hug, or celebrate birthdays or graduations together, the challenges of the year brought us closer than we've ever been. When the pandemic crept into our lives in March, Minnesotans stayed at home, wore their masks, and protected their neighbors. When George Floyd was murdered and communities in the Twin Cities were left without grocery stores, Minnesotans led pop-up food distributions and donated their time and their resources to keep their neighbors fed.

2020 will also be remembered for the largest rise in food insecurity since the 2008 recession, and marked the 10th consecutive year with over 3 million visits to food shelves, setting a new record with 3.8 million visits made to food shelves by our family members, friends and neighbors. These visits happen in every corner of the state, so it doesn't matter if you live in a rural, suburban or urban area - hunger exists in every community.

Hunger Solutions Minnesota works to end hunger in three ways: connecting hungry people with food today, working with food banks and food shelves to distribute food tomorrow, and advocating for programs and policies that will lead to long-term solutions to hunger. Through the Minnesota Food HelpLine, Market Bucks, and SNAP Rx programs we were able to connect over 21,000 Minnesotans to local food resources in 2020, answering 2.5x the calls received in a normal year. Our food shelf capacity work helped almost 600 food shelves and food program partners meet the increased need in our state, and we worked with federal and state government to coordinate the acquisition and distribution of 21 million pounds of commodity food to Minnesota food banks and food shelves through TEFAP. Serving as the anti-hunger community's leading voice at the Minnesota legislature, we remained steadfast defending Minnesota's food safety net and addressing systemic issues of poverty in order to end hunger long-term, while ensuring the emergency food system was protected and had the resources needed during the heart of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Unfortunately, the emergency food system continues to be flawed. While the state rose up against racial injustice, Black and Hispanic/Latino Minnesotans reported food insecurity at more than double the rate of White residents during the pandemic¹. Hunger Solutions Minnesota remains committed to diversity, equity, and inclusion as essential components to fulfilling our mission to end hunger in the state. We believe transformative change requires authentic inclusion of those directly impacted by food insecurity in identifying the most meaningful solutions to dismantle barriers. We passionately work as an active partner bridging the perspectives of people experiencing hunger, organizations on the front lines of hunger relief, and multi-sector food system leaders to advance equity and achieve a more just food system that works for everyone.

We thank you for your generous support during a difficult year. There's much more work to do - so let's keep up the fight!


Colleen Moriarty
Executive Director

¹ USDA, Household Food Security in the United States in 2020

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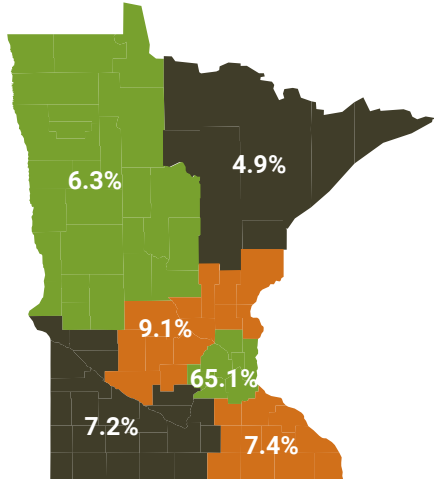
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Food Shelf Capacity

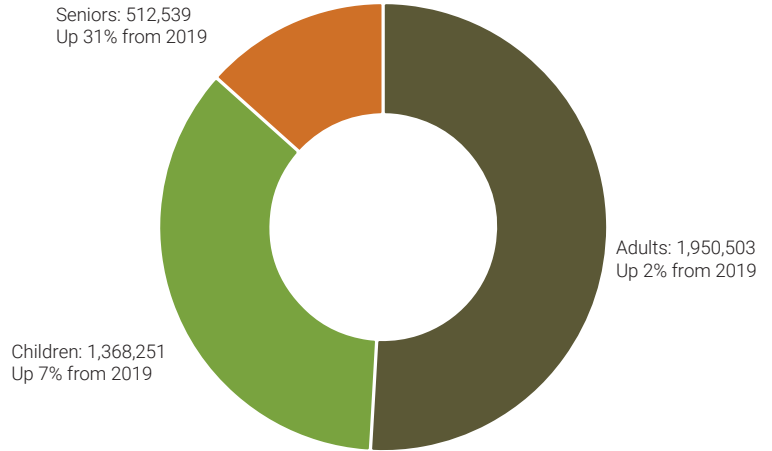
Visits to food shelves

Minnesotans made 3,831,293 visits to food shelves in 2020—the tenth consecutive year with more than 3 million visits.

Food shelf visits by region, 2020



Food shelf visits by age, 2020



Minnesota Food Shelf Program (MSFP)

Hunger Solutions, in partnership with the Minnesota Department of Human Services, distributes state MSFP grants to food shelves.

In 2020, \$1.5 million was distributed to 261 food shelves throughout Minnesota. Including an additional \$3.6 million in COVID-19 relief MSFP.

COVID-19 Relief Funding

At the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, Hunger Solutions partnered with the Minnesota Department of Human Services and various foundations to distribute \$21 million in emergency relief funds to food shelves and other hunger relief partners.



674 Grants Awarded



\$21 Million in Grant Funding Distributed



\$4.4 Million in Distributed for Transportation Services



Average Grant Award was \$264,150

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 2020 (October 1, 2019-September 30, 2020), we distributed TEFAP to 7 food banks serving 325 food shelves:



123 products



21,269,566 pounds of food



\$23.8 million value



**MINNESOTA FOOD
HELPLINE**

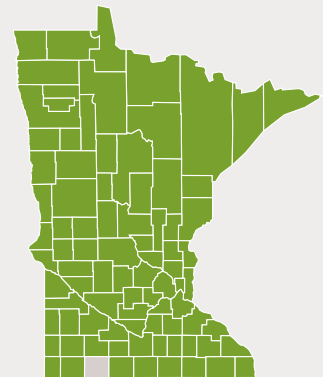
A program of Hunger Solutions Minnesota

Calls to the HelpLine increased by over 300% in 2020.

In 2020, the HelpLine received a record number of calls, approximately 3.5 times more calls than an average year. During the heart of the pandemic, the HelpLine received calls from people infected with COVID-19 that could not leave their homes. Looking for delivery food resources became the new normal in 2020. Food shelf delivery and over-the-phone interviews for SNAP were just a few changes caused by the pandemic that allow people to access the resources they need easier and safer.

The Minnesota Food HelpLine answered 15,318 calls, emails, and live chats from people looking for help with food resources in 2020, connecting over 21,000 people with help putting food on their table.

2,115 households screened for SNAP.
1,482 households eligible for SNAP.
930 SNAP applications mailed to households.



Calls to the HelpLine came from 86 of Minnesota's 87 counties.

SNAP Rx

SNAP Rx is a program of Hunger Solutions Minnesota that strengthens the connection between health care and hunger relief organizations. Clinics use the Hunger Vital Sign screening tool to screen their patients for food insecurity during routine care. Patients who screen positive for food insecurity are referred to the Minnesota Food HelpLine and connected with food resources in their local community. The HelpLine connects people with places like their local food shelf and programs like Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).

SNAP Rx helps clinics to leverage the food access expertise of the Minnesota Food HelpLine to address their patients' social determinants of health. In 2020, we received 1,782 referrals from clinics. Of those, we connected with 51% of patients.



82 clinic partners



1,782 referrals received



25% already on SNAP
24.7% screened & likely eligible for SNAP

Market Bucks

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 99 market locations during the regular farmers market season from May 1 to October 31, 2020. The COVID-19 pandemic increased Market Bucks participation at farmers markets throughout the state as a safe, open-air alternative to grocery store shopping.

Market Bucks By-the-Numbers

12,978

first time SNAP customers using Market Bucks at farmers markets

2x

Market Bucks double the amount of money SNAP customers have to spend at farmers markets

\$461,285

Market Bucks & EBT were spent by customers at farmers markets

\$691,927

the amount of economic activity created by Market Bucks

Partners to End Hunger

Hunger Solutions convenes and chairs the Partners to End Hunger Coalition, a group of over 30 organizations working together on a common legislative agenda with four priority bills aimed at reducing hunger across the state of Minnesota:

- 1.) End School Lunch Shaming,
- 2.) Continue Mobile Funding,
- 2.) Hunger Free Campuses,
- 3.) Build a new food shelf in St. Paul.



The Partners to End Hunger Coalition was successful in achieving a portion of the Hunger Free Campus Act, allowing 16 technical and community colleges support to reduce food insecurity on their campuses. In addition, the Partners to End Hunger Coalition secured \$9 million in state funding for the emergency food system as part of a larger COVID-19 response package. This funding addressed the needs of food shelves, food banks and transportation across the state.

Federally, we successfully advocated for Pandemic EBT (Electronic Benefit Transfer) and an additional boost in SNAP benefits for families struggling due to the pandemic.

Voice of Hunger Network

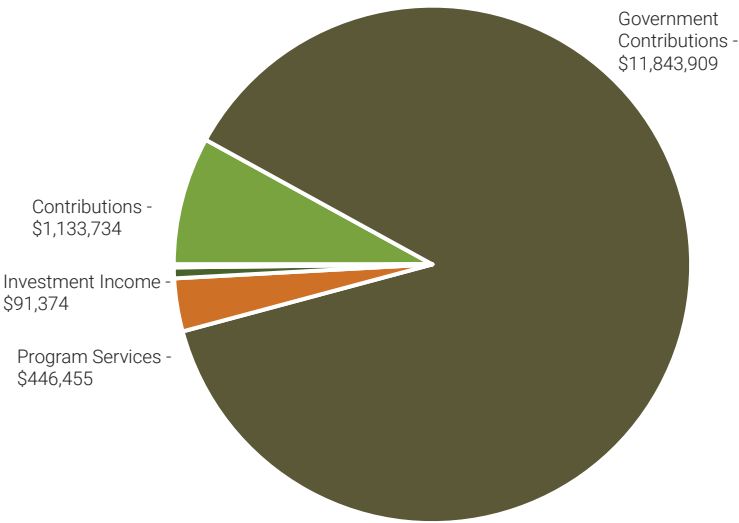
The Voice of Hunger Network connects anti-hunger advocates to lawmakers through 2,500+ action alerts, emails, phone calls, and Hunger Day on the Hill.



Hunger Day on the Hill

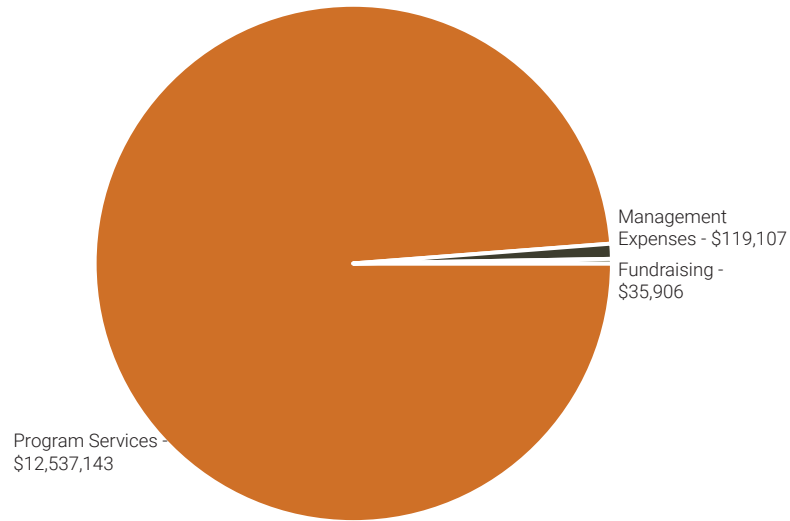
The 6th annual Hunger Day on the Hill brought nearly 150 advocates together virtually to learn about legislative bills and meet with their legislators via Zoom.

Revenue



Total Revenue: \$13,515,472

Expenses



Total Expenses: \$ 12,692,156

99% of Hunger Solutions Minnesota's funding goes to program services.

Corporate, Business, Foundation, and Individual Donors

\$50,000+

Food Research Action Center (FRAC)
Otto Bremer Foundation

\$15,000-\$50,000

Allina Health
Essentia Health
Hunt Electric
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\$1,000-\$4,999

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For additional financial information, including our audited financial statements, Form 990, and list of contributors visit <http://hungersolutions.org/annualreport>.

Our apologies for any omissions or errors in presenting our 2020 donor listing. Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact our Development Coordinator, Abbie Joseph, at 651-789-9848 or ajoseph@hungersolutions.org.



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, building grassroots advocacy, and informing and educating critical stakeholders about the status of hunger in Minnesota.

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