ANNUAL REPORT

Fiscal Year 2022
7/1/2021 – 6/30/2022

GOD’S PANTRY FOOD BANK
A nourished life for every Kentuckian.
Far too often hunger isn’t visible. Sometimes the context comes in the form of someone seeking to understand what the “face of hunger” looks like. The reality is that there is no one face, no typical person, no singular demographic that faces food insecurity. Neighbors all around us experience hunger across the Commonwealth and the Nation.

Feeding America’s 2022 Map the Meal Gap research (2020 data) identified nearly 240,000 people in Central and Eastern Kentucky who face food insecurity. But what does that mean? Food insecurity is defined by the United States Department of Agriculture as the lack of access to enough food at times for an active, healthy life. Simply put, when your neighbor lacks access to food they begin to experience hunger.

Thank you for your tremendous support! God’s Pantry Food Bank, working together with more than 475 food pantries and meal programs, gathered and distributed enough food to create 33.8 million meals in fiscal year 2022. Food to reduce hunger, to help kids and teens thrive, and to improve the success rates in health care. Imagine a nourished life for every Kentuckian.

We must continue to prioritize neighbors facing hunger and seek to enhance services centered on the individuals we serve. Too many people live one unexpected circumstance away from food insecurity. Coming out of the pandemic, Claire Babineaux-Fontenot, CEO for Feeding America stated, “the lines of people needing support are still there—they have just gone inside buildings.” Hunger is complex and complicated. We know many of the best ideas for solving hunger come from working together with communities experiencing it.

Thank you to the multitude of individuals, families, foundations, government agencies and businesses who have donated their time, talent, and treasure to God’s Pantry Food Bank over the past year. Your unwavering support significantly helps us to advocate for health, wellness, and food security as we work to build healthier communities. Together, we are able to foster hope and reduce hunger by working together to feed Kentucky communities.

Michael J Halligan
CEO

Amanda Goldman
President
MAKING HUNGER VISIBLE
Hunger and food insecurity to me is the lack of consistent accessibility, affordability, and ability to source adequate food needs for individuals caused by poverty and injustice. The sad part is we have the means to ensure everyone is food secure. It should be a basic human right. That’s why we all should fight it. When I think of fighting this, I view it in two ways. From a broader perspective, we need to tackle issues like poverty, economic & social injustice, and climate change, among others. From the more immediate standpoint, we need to find ways to improve access for individuals in a respectful and dignified manner and support organizations that tackle this tall order. It’s why I support God’s Pantry.

Salvador Sanchez
Founder/Owner of A Cup of Common Wealth, Chocolate Holler, and Magic Beans Coffee Roasters
As I grew up in Eastern Kentucky we had a large family with 8 girls, 3 boys. My dad was a coal miner and I remember being hungry till dad got his payday. I can remember going to the end of the holler and meeting a school bus that was the way they distributed USDA back then (1954). We had free school lunch, but my grandfather had a farm. He brought us apples, strawberries, and garden food. I can still feel the hunger back in those days, but not like today. If your neighbor had it, you had it. That's why I feel so strongly today about anybody going hungry!

Debbie Amburgey
Warehouse Team Leader - Prestonsburg
Dr. Jon Henry Avery
Monthly donor

What do hunger and food insecurity mean to you?
Hunger and food insecurity mean that people don’t have enough food nor the money to buy it. In 2020, my late friend Dave told me about the work that God’s Pantry Food Bank does. My gifts to the Food Bank are, in part, a tribute to Dave and his concern about others who need a helping hand within our community.

What does hunger look like to you?
It must be awful for people not to have enough food to eat. Children crying when they are hungry; parents feeling bad when they can’t feed their families. I don’t want that for anyone.

Why do you fight it?
People are struggling and suffering. I try to help however I can, especially locally. I was raised to help others and share the bounty I have. It only makes sense that people who have more than they need should help those who don’t have enough. God’s Pantry Food Bank is worthy of my support and makes it easy for me to donate on a recurring basis.
Hunger and food insecurity to me are personal. I grew up with 3 other siblings and a single mother who worked and didn’t receive alimony or any other assistance (there was the occasional food basket at Thanksgiving from our church). Mom always managed to leave oatmeal in a double burner on the stove before she left for work and stopped at the corner grocery on the way home to shop for food for supper but we were on our own for lunch. Many times I ate stale crackers, cereal, or a mustard sandwich for lunch; and every once in a while I was invited to eat with a neighbor. So, yes, we had food but it was not in the abundance that most of us enjoy now, including me. I feel like I understand the need for food. Yes, maybe there is something in that cabinet but not enough for the week or maybe even the day.

I also remember when we would visit family with many of us coming together and bringing dishes to share. The variety of foods was spectacular and it was always a happy time. Before we were quite ready to start eating, I would sneak a piece of the crispy edge of macaroni and cheese that my aunt made. I recall one of our shoppers took a lot of cans of corn and she told me she was making a corn casserole for a family gathering and was so glad to find corn at the pantry. I couldn’t help but remember my family gatherings.

I hear from some of our older shoppers that they get food stamps but less than $20 a month. I know that's not going to go far and I am glad that we are there to help them. We get a lot of comments of gratitude and I in turn make sure to say “we are glad to be here for you”.

What does hunger and food insecurity mean to you? All humans have a basic need for healthy, wholesome food. Unfortunately, not all have easy access to this basic need. God’s Pantry helps to change that and gives ALL hope.

What does hunger look like to you? It looks like all types of people struggling to provide food for themselves and for their families. It looks like all types of people regardless of race, ethnicity, color, gender, or religious affiliation. All of us need food, and yet not all have a ready source to receive it. God’s Pantry helps to fix that.

Why do you fight it? It is the right thing to do. If not me, who? If not now, when? I can help to make a difference which is why I volunteer.
PROGRESS AGAINST THE STRATEGIC PLAN

2025 Strategic Plan – Feed, Empower, Engage, Develop
Feed

40,535,661
Pounds distributed

33,779,718
Meals distributed

15,711,793
Pounds of fresh produce distributed
Empower

475+
Partner food pantries and meal programs consisting of soup kitchens, shelters, youth centers, churches, childcare facilities, and senior centers, located throughout our service area

12,783,923
Pounds of food rescued through our food rescue program

37,933
Pounds distributed through the School Pantry Program

35,323
Bags of easy-to-prepare food given to more than 1,700 children to take home each weekend and during holidays through our Backpack Program

149,139
Commodity Supplemental Food Program boxes distributed

22,487
Households served through God’s Pantry Food Bank Fayette County Pantry Program

*Due to COVID-19 some pantry operations moved to outside food box distribution.

17,513
Meals and snacks provided through Summer Feeding and Kid Cafe sites

2022 Milestones

Northside Pantry Ribbon Cutting & Grand Opening

817 Winchester Road unveil of future volunteer center and pantry with Governor Beshear and Mayor Gorton on Hunger Action Day

Service Insights rollout to provide real-time data across partner network

4 Regional Resource Engagement Specialists Hired
Engage

531
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program applications submitted

5,633
Households received a Thanksgiving basket

Develop

9,894
Volunteer hours spent packing emergency boxes, sorting food, distributing food, and creating cards for our senior commodity boxes

166,148
Pounds received through Food Drives for the Fayette County Pantry Program

$292,357
Local news media ad value

6,337,685
Local media views

Hunger Action Month
Flag Installation at the State Capital
Financials

Revenues and other support: $63,353,301.00
Expenses: 65,188,545.00
Change in net assets (1,835,244.00)
Net assets, beginning of year 29,571,460.00
Net assets, end of year $27,736,216.00
Logistics Strategy

Direct Delivery

Mobile Pantry Program

God’s Pantry Food Bank facilities
Board Members

**Officers**
- Steve Byars, President
- Amanda Goldman, First Vice President
- Melissa A. Wilson, Second Vice President
- Dr. Gregory W. Kasten, Treasurer
- Elizabeth A. Combs, Secretary

**Members at Large**
- Douglas Allen
- Nancy Barnett
- Debbie Beidleman
- Kelley Bozeman
- Alex Huber Cain
- Benjamin Caudill
- Colmon Elridge, III
- Dr. Andy Henderson
- Julia Johnson, MSW
- Cindy Logan
- Haley Trogdlen McCauley
- Paul B. Mulhollem
- Kevin Smith
- Dr. Ford Stanley
- Julie Stephens
- Marc Therrien

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