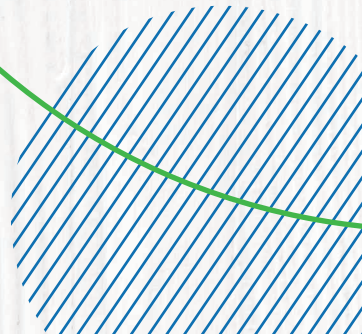




**Community
Food Bank**

IMPACT REPORT

2021 / 2022



LEADERSHIP LETTER

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR & BOARD PRESIDENT



As our valley continues to grow and evolve, so does the Community Food Bank. With the support of our amazing donors, volunteers, and advocates, we have increased our impact over 450% since 2019. This growth comes from high needs over the COVID-19 recovery period, and current inflation pains – but also reflects dedicated outreach our team conducted throughout the community to reach folks in need who were previously unaware of our program.

In 2021, with the help of partners like Western Colorado Community Foundation and the Colorado Health Foundation, we have added important staff positions to offer on-site resource navigation and SNAP/WIC application assistance. Adding this additional capacity is helping us to better understand and address the root causes of food insecurity in our community, and connect our neighbors to the many additional resources available.

With your help, we are proud to have transitioned to a choice pantry model and expanded our nutrition exploration program this past year! All while distributing more nutritious foods than ever before! We believe no one should go hungry in Mesa County, and yet it remains a pressing issue. As we continue to work hard to provide nutritious food for *all* our Grand Valley neighbors in need, we look to innovate further and help foster local food systems that can serve all corners of our community for generations to come.

Many thanks to all of you who support and believe in the work we are doing here at the Community Food Bank. Our gratitude for your generosity and community spirit knows no bounds.

Thank you,

Alisha Wenger, Executive Director
Karen McLean-Wilson, Board President (2021)



1978

SERVING MESA COUNTY SINCE

VISION STATEMENT

CFB's vision is that every person in need has access to the nutritious foods and resources they need for their families to thrive while preventing any unnecessary food waste in the Grand Valley.

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Community Food Bank (CFB) is to provide a short-term supply of nutritious food and access to available hunger-relief resources to any Mesa County community member experiencing need.

EQUITY.
acceptance.
SERVICE.
abundance.
INTEGRITY.
collaboration.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- President**
Cole Sjoholm
- Vice President & Treasurer**
Dirk Hogue
- Secretary**
Shaheen Sheikh
- Travis Mullenix
- Karen McLean-Wilson
- Peter Kunisch
- Sara Warzecka
- Monique Serra
- Kara Rachal
- Marcel Mavangulu
- Annie Rucker

CFB STAFF

- Executive Director**
Alisha Wenger
- Program & Operations Director**
Chelsea Craine
- Operations Coordinator**
Michelle Ellington
- Volunteer Coordinator**
Katellynn Demskie
- Bilingual Resource Navigator**
Carly Luebber
- Outreach & Operations Assistant**
Jesus Loera

CURRENT PROGRAMS

We believe no one should go hungry in our community. Anyone in Mesa County can receive assistance if they are experiencing need.

Choice Pantry

- In-person choice pantry based on USDA MyPlate guidelines.
- M/T/TH 12:30 - 5:30pm.
- Foods include shelf-stable pantry staples, fresh produce, meat, and dairy products.



Delivery Program

- Home deliveries by appointment every TH/F to Grand Valley folks with transportation barriers.
- Volunteer drivers helping distribute average of 250 - 300 deliveries per month.

Food Rescue

- 25 food rescue routes every week from local grocery stores and restaurants!
- Every morning volunteer drivers run 3-5 routes to rescue thousands of pounds of perfectly good food.



Bilingual Resource Navigation

- Bilingual English/Spanish Resource Navigation during all public pantry hours.
- Also supports fellow Mesa County Hunger Alliance partners.
- Includes on-site SNAP application assistance to link more qualifying residents up with long-term hunger relief.

Nutrition Exploration

- Partnership with CSU Community Alliance for Education & Hunger Relief.
- AmeriCorps service 2 year pilot program.
- Tastings, demonstrations, and development of hundreds of nutritious recipes using food pantry ingredients to increase usage of fresh ingredients.



CFB BY THE NUMBERS

IMPACT

SINCE 2019...

4x

INCREASE IN MONTHLY SERVICE VOLUME



40 TONS

OF NUTRITIOUS FOOD DISTRIBUTED EVERY MONTH

SO FAR IN 2022...

800,000+ MEALS



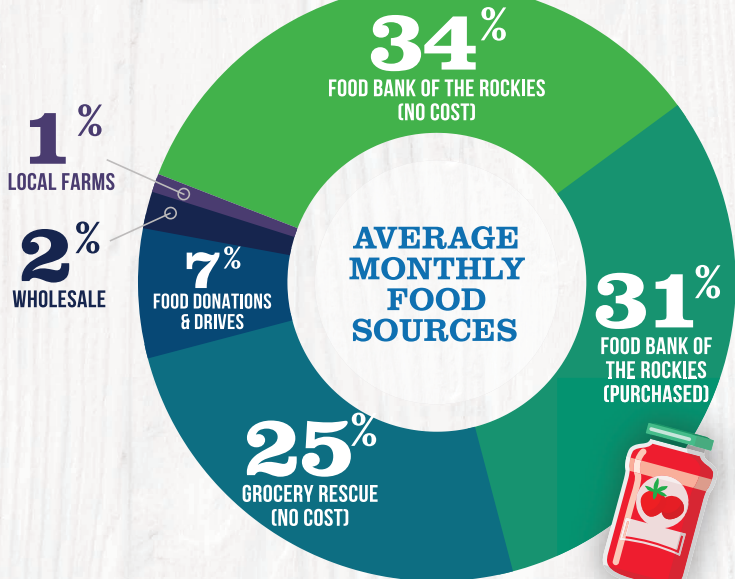
400 TONS

OF FOOD DISTRIBUTED



50,000+*

INDIVIDUALS SERVED



*Duplicated - clients utilize CFB programs an average of 1-2x/month

**We purchase our food from the Food Bank of the Rockies (FBR) and a variety of wholesalers. This number also includes free/donated food rescued and donated free of cost from FBR.

CLIENT IMPACT STORIES

Hunger in Mesa County has many faces. While data and metrics are important, we are beginning to better understand the people behind the data points. Here are a couple of testimonials to highlight the impact of our work.



A single mom, who is a veteran originally from Guam, moved here in the summer and began using our program as she settled into the area. She recently got a job at the VA and while she no longer needs food assistance, she now serves on our community advisory board to help inform our efforts! She recalls how normal and dignified it felt to come to the pantry and hopes to encourage others to utilize our services when they are in need.



A former delivery client came in for pantry hours the other day. She had a stroke in January and was receiving deliveries from us while in recovery at home, but she is now walking and driving confidently and able to come into the pantry and choose her own food when she is in need!



Our Resource Navigator checked in with a client who had been waiting for her Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) application to be approved. In the interim, CFB had been providing her with nutritious food for her and her three young children. She was so grateful for the assistance and now no longer needs us because SNAP has allocated her sufficient funds to help cover their monthly groceries.

THE IMPORTANCE OF CHOICE!

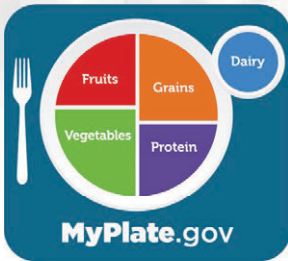


Protein Proteína

Consider beans as an affordable and highly nutritious protein option.

Considere los frijoles como una opción de proteína asequible y altamente nutritiva.

Recommended number of choices
Número recomendado de opciones



CFB transitioned to a client choice pantry program in June of 2021. Our pantry is like a guided grocery store with volunteer greeters and shopping assistants.

We are a USDA MyPlate Choice pantry – with shelves organized by macronutrients “Fruits” “Veggies” “Grains” “Protein” and “Dairy” with suggested allocations based on household size. Our goal is to make nutritious whole foods the most “Convenient, Attractive, and Normal” option.

This approach is proven to combat social stigma through offering a client centric and dignified model. It also helps prevent food waste and high costs on items that may not work for all individuals and families needs.

During most recent annual client input survey these were the most resounding comments:

- 94% of respondents said they strongly liked or “loved” the choice pantry model.
- 98% of respondents felt that CFB had created a warm and welcoming environment.



Mock shopping tour with Colorado Health Foundation board members



- 87% said it was very important that we offer produce from local farms!
- Meat, eggs, fresh fruits and vegetables, and dairy items were the most frequently mentioned top needs.
- Opening more hours was the top suggestions made.



I got to pick what I eat. Healthy, fresh with loving hearts and the sweetest folks there. Thank you for your help.”

FISCAL YEAR JUNE 2021–MAY 2022

FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT

\$3 Spent to Raise \$100
A+ RATING

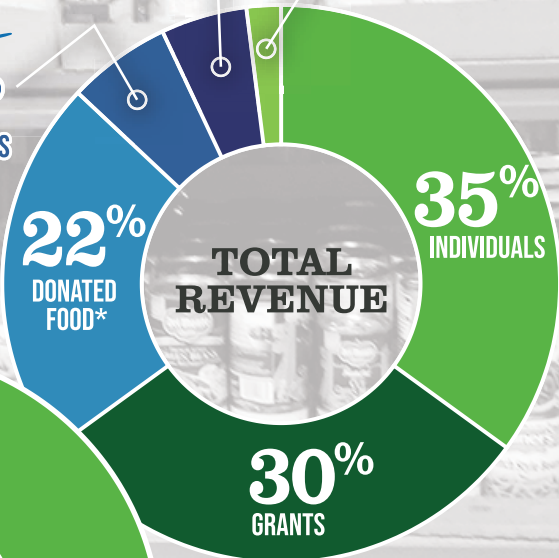
CharityWatch considers a charity to be highly efficient when our end calculations produce a Program Percentage of 75% or greater and a Cost to Raise \$100 of \$25 or less.

86% spent on direct program costs
A RATING

5%
IN-KIND SERVICES

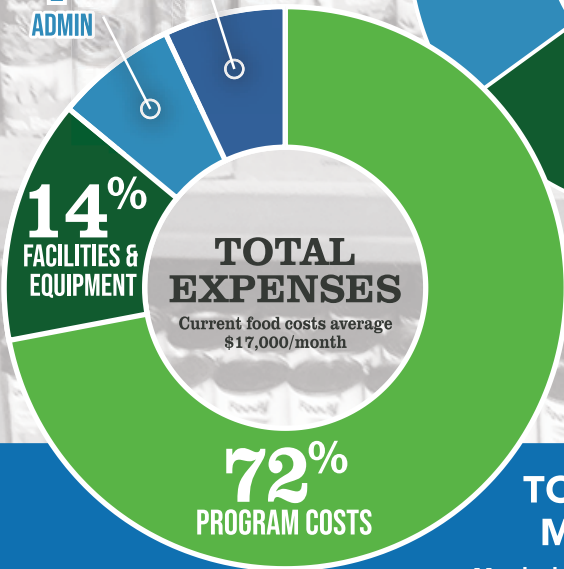
2%
CHURCHES & SERVICE GROUPS

6%
BUSINESSES



7%
FUNDRAISING

7%
ADMIN



Thank You!

TO OUR 2021-2022 MAJOR DONORS

- Rocky Mountain Health Foundation
- City of Grand Junction Nonprofit Grants
- Carvilles Auto Mart
- Western Colorado Community Foundation
- The Albertsons Companies Foundation
- Sessions Family Foundation
- Bacon Family Foundation
- The Women's Giving Club
- A. V. Hunter Trust
- Grand Junction Lions Club
- WCCF Donor Advised Funds

- Murdoch's Ranch & Home Supply
- Anschutz Family Foundation
- Laura May Bacon
- Stephen L. Bacon
- William Mitchell
- Judy Moss-Callison
- Linda L Jordan
- Phyllis K Little
- Craig Little
- Colorado Housing & Finance Authority
- Kurt & Jerri Glen
- National Christian Foundation Rcky. Mtn
- Renald Guillemette

**For more detailed financial information visit: www.foodbankgj.org/supporters

MAJOR PARTNERS & PROGRAMS THEY FUND

Thank You!



WESTERN COLORADO
**COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION**



The Colorado
Health Foundation™

- Funding from these amazing partners has helped create two new bilingual staff positions at CFB to conduct resource navigation and outreach efforts across our community.
- These positions support CFB operations and outreach, but supports fellow Mesa County Hunger Alliance agencies as well!

- Albertsons & Safeway have provided important funding to support the CFB SNAP application assistance program.
- SNAP is underutilized by qualifying families across Colorado. Helping our neighbors get linked up to these programs not only reduces long-term food insecurity, but also puts dollars back into the local grocery economy.

SAFeway 

 **Albertsons**

nourishing
neighbors 

FOOD PANTRY ASSISTANCE GRANT

Thanks to the Food Pantry Assistance Grant funds allocated from the State of Colorado, the Community Food Bank has been able to purchase additional local fruits, vegetables, meats, tortillas, and value-added products like jam from Mesa County farmers and ranchers!

Being able to bring nutritious local bounty to our neighbors, while also supporting our local agricultural economy, is something we hope to do more of in the future!

Thank you to FPAG funding and to our local farm partners for helping make this happen.

COLLABORATIONS

MESA COUNTY HUNGER ALLIANCE COLLABORATIONS

Weekly/monthly resource navigation and SNAP application booths at **Clifton Christian Church Food Bank & Mutual Aid Partners**

Direct community canvassing with **Migrant Education Partners**

Pop-up pantries and resource booths at **Child & Migrant Services**

Food support for satellite pantry operations at partner locations



Community Partners

- Mesa County Meals on Wheels
- Colorado Mesa University
- Mesa County Public Health
- The Joseph Center
- Solidarity Not Charity
- Project Protect
- Marillac Health

AND MANY MORE!



Farm Partners

- CSU TriRiver Research
- Two Fishes Farm
- Early Morning Orchard
- CSU Community Alliance for Education & Hunger Relief
- VanWinkle Ranch
- Colorado Mountain Meats

AND MANY MORE!

THANK YOU 2021

VOLUNTEERS!

"The changes that have happened over the last year are amazing.
Very proud of our CFB. A great bunch of people make it all possible."



200

ACTIVE VOLUNTEERS



5+

FULL-TIME EMPLOYEE
EQUIVALENT



11,000+

VOLUNTEER HOURS

\$330K

VALUE TO THE ORGANIZATION

2021 Volunteer Of The Year

Mary is an absolute gem - she keeps our evening shifts running smoothly, holding down EVERY evening intake interview shift EVERY week. Mary often drives home delivery routes on Fridays in addition to her three weekly intake shifts, and frequently has the top # of volunteer hours every month! She is also the first one to help out at food drive events and always brings her grand kiddos along for a helping hand. Mary is a kind face and constant comfort for so many. Thank you for everything you do for our community Mary! We love you! ❤️



MARY STROHM

2021 VOLUNTEER
OF THE YEAR



"My weekly shift at
the Community Food
Bank is my favorite
day of the week."

- CFB Volunteer



JOIN THE CFB FAMILY TODAY!

VOLUNTEER@FOODBANKGJ.ORG

LEARN MORE
& Get Involved!



**Community
Food Bank**



**NO ONE SHOULD
GO HUNGRY**

Public Food Pantry

Mon, Tue, Thu: 12:30 - 5:30pm*

Home Deliveries

Thu, Fri: By Appointment

Delivery@foodbankgj.org

(970) 640 - 0336 ext. 2

*Closed on federal holidays,
check our website for updates.

CONTACT INFO

 (970) 640-0336

 www.foodbankgj.org

 P.O. Box 3614
Grand Junction, CO 81502

 476 28 1/2 Road
Grand Junction, CO 81501

 @foodbankgj  CFBGJ



Harvest
Fight Hunger, Join The Harvest!

For every \$1 raised we can provide
over **4 nutritious meals** to our
neighbors in need!

**Become a monthly Harvest donor
today to make a BIG impact, a
little at a time.**

**CFB ENDOWMENT
AT WCCF**

Community Food Bank now has
an endowment fund!

**Contact us for more information
if you are interested in
contributing at
info@foodbankgj.org.**

LAST CALL!! 2022 is the FINAL year for Enterprise Zone Credits

All qualifying donations made through December 31st, 2022 will qualify for this additional tax credit.

PROUD PARTNER

