

May 2020
COVID-19 RESPONSE

PARTNERING TO END HUNGER



Good Shepherd

FOOD BANK OF MAINE

PROGRESS REPORT

Your support has fueled our COVID-19 response

At a moment like this, generous support like yours makes a critical impact in the lives of Mainers facing hunger. In mid-March of 2020, Good Shepherd Food Bank reinvented how we deliver food to hunger-relief partners and neighbors in need. We were able to do so because of the financial support of donors like you.

With gratitude for your generosity, we have prepared this update on the impact donations received so far in 2020 have made in the lives of our neighbors facing hunger. Regardless of whether you gave prior to the start of our COVID-19 relief efforts, your support enabled a rapid and flexible response to ensure families, seniors, and children in need do not go hungry during this crisis and its aftermath.

This progress report illustrates how your donations are making a difference in the lives of hungry Mainers today. We're far from finished with our coronavirus response. In fact, we're just beginning to understand the depth and breadth of its impact.

Feeding America estimates that food banks across the country will see a total of \$1.4 billion in expenses related to the COVID-19 response over a six-month period.

While it will take time to see new patterns of food insecurity emerge, we know that hunger rates in Maine are increasing, and we have many months of hard, innovative work ahead of us. The Food Bank is planning for a worst-case scenario of growth in rates of unemployment and poverty that could increase food insecurity rates across the state by 40%, with child food insecurity increasing by as much as 50%.

No Mainer should go hungry, ever. With your generous support, we will continue to meet the rising need. From everyone at Good Shepherd Food Bank, thank you.



Your Kindness in **ACTION**

As pantries were seeing increased need and food donations from local retailers declined, the Food Bank was faced with purchasing shelf-stable food on the open market, competing with everyone else in the country for a limited supply. Sourcing was a challenge, but in May we purchased 370% more food than in a typical month. Because of your generosity, food kept flowing to food pantries across the state at no cost.



Community Redistribution Grants

In mid-May, Good Shepherd Food Bank granted \$150,000 to 18 organizations doing incredible work to ensure immigrant and indigenous communities throughout our state can access culturally relevant food. This funding is a first step in what we hope will be a bright future of supportive partnership.

Cooking Matters at Home

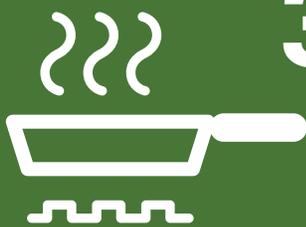
Since January, 3,778 people have benefitted from nutrition education through Cooking Matters. These hands-on cooking and nutrition classes offer people at-risk of hunger tools to create healthy meals and stretch their food budget. Recently, more than two dozen individuals completed the first Cooking Matters Maine online curriculum. This virtual programming will continue to grow in the coming months as we adjust this critical part of our mission to the current moment.

Emergency Food Boxes

L.L.Bean came forward early in our response with an offer to help package emergency food boxes at their facility in Freeport. They helped pack over a million pounds of food into 35,767 emergency food boxes, and lent a hand with the meal boxes we provide to Maine senior citizens. Each box contained forty pounds of pantry staples, including potatoes and apples, and was intended to help households stretch their food budgets for about a month.

Reducing the strain on partner agencies

During our COVID-19 response, food has been provided to pantries for free and we have issued nearly \$1M in grants to partner agencies to help secure cleaning supplies, personal protective equipment, and additional food to supplement what we are able to provide.



3,778

**Cooking
Matters**

Maine
participants

35,767

**emergency
food boxes**

distributed





Feeding Families

Last school year, school pantries partnering with Good Shepherd Food bank helped approximately 7,000 families. Now, school pantries are working with 19,300 families, a 176% increase. This growth is due to new schools, Head Start programs, and community colleges starting school pantries, and drastically increased need caused by the pandemic.

Mainers Feeding Mainers

We're investing an additional \$500,000 in local crops from Maine producers during the upcoming harvest season. When combined with our planned purchase of food from Maine farms, this will result in a \$1.5M investment Maine's agricultural sector and over 4 million pounds of nutritious vegetables, fruit, dairy products and fish.



2 Million more pounds

of food distributed this spring than last

176% increase

in families using school food pantries



HUNGER IN MAINE TODAY

The food pantries and other agencies we work with have reported the following:

92%

of the Food Bank's hunger-relief partners remain open

81%

report a reduction in volunteers

80%

report that need continues to increase in their community

32%

report an initial surge in need that has leveled off

72%

of respondents reported that new clients required assistance primarily due to loss of work

47%

reported an increase in the need for meals for children due to loss of childcare or school



More than **50 individual supporters** made gifts of **\$1,200** as federal COVID-19 relief checks were disbursed



4,800 viewers raised over **\$700,000** during **NEWS CENTER Maine's 2020 Feed Maine Telethon**. The event was an even greater success thanks to the matching support of **Machias Savings Bank, UNUM, Patrons Oxford Insurance, New England Cancer Specialists, and Hannaford**.



On **#GivingTuesdayNow**, **Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield** matched **\$50,000** in gifts to celebrate the global day of giving. Food Bank supporters rallied for the occasion, donating over **\$75,000** for a combined **\$125,000** campaign total.



Over **40 supporters** have hosted **Virtual Food Drives** to benefit the Food Bank, raising a combined **nearly \$210,000** since mid-March.



The **Harold Alfond Foundation** made a gift of **\$1M**—its first ever gift to the Food Bank.

Great need, great generosity

Good Shepherd Food Bank anticipates spending more than \$6.3M between March and the end of August on COVID-19 related expenses. It's a significant increase in our annual operating expenses, but donors at all levels have helped us get a strong start on meeting it.

A tremendous swell of grassroots giving has gained momentum alongside generous investments from Maine's philanthropic leaders. We are humbled by the trust so many of you have placed in our work, and honored to put the investment of every supporter to work helping our communities recover from the challenges presented by COVID-19.

Special thanks to the following donors for their significant support of our COVID-19 response as of June 1, 2020:

\$1,000,000+
Harold Alfond Foundation

\$500,000+
Feeding America

\$100,000+
Anonymous (2)
The Bingham Trust
Hannaford Charitable Foundation

Harvard Pilgrim Health Care
John T. Gorman Foundation

Maine Credit Unions' Campaign for Ending Hunger

New Balance Foundation
Stephen and Tabitha King Foundation

\$50,000+
Anonymous (3)

Albertsons Companies Foundation

Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield
Atlantic Federal Credit Union
Bank of America Charitable Foundation

Brooks Family Foundation
Paul and Giselaire Coulombe
The David Rockefeller Fund
Joe and Jill Doyle
Elmina B. Sewall Foundation

Hannaford Supermarkets
Heron Foundation

The Lunder Foundation
Roger N. Heald Fund of the Maine Community Foundation

Versant Power
Bennett and Jennifer Wilson

Spring Appeal for Emergency Funding

We wrote to our loyal community of donors in early April 2020 asking for support for our emergency response, and hundreds of you came through to help! 487 donors contributed almost \$450,000. Your impact was generously doubled by these donors:

Harvard Pilgrim Health Care
Hannaford Supermarkets
The Hudson Foundation
New Balance Foundation
Atlantic Federal Credit Union
Maine Credit Unions' Campaign to End Hunger

Thank you to each of you who participated in this important campaign!

STAY CONNECTED!

For regular updates on our coronavirus response, join our email list at www.feedingmaine.org

AUBURN: 3121 Hotel Road • Auburn, ME • (207) 782-3554

HAMPDEN: 11 Penobscot Meadow Drive • Hampden, ME • (207) 989-4672



Good Shepherd
FOOD BANK OF MAINE

MEMBER OF
FEEDING AMERICA

