



2023 ANNUAL REPORT



OUR NEWEST ADDITION

Edmonton's Food Bank has been serving our community for over 42 years and because of increased need and long-term impacts, Edmonton's Food Bank has invested extensively in the resiliency of our services. Thanks to donors and our community, we welcomed a new addition – a third warehouse and programming facility.

On Wednesday, June 21, Indigenous People's Day, we officially opened the building, in between our Main and ANNEX facilities and will be home for our community depot and new pantry. As part of our commitment to Truth and Reconciliation, Edmonton's Food Bank has named this new facility "NISO", a Cree word meaning two as the facility sits nicely between our existing buildings. NISO is a fitting name and its addition will provide new programming options and assistance for community members who are struggling.

NISO is funded, in part, thanks to the generous donations from our community & grants from:



Funded by the
Government of Canada's
Community Services Recovery Fund



Representatives left to right:

- **Marjorie Bencz**, Executive Director, Edmonton's Food Bank
- **Don Langford**, Executive Director, Metis Child & Family Services
- Councillor **Jennifer Rice**, City of Edmonton
- **Katherine Huising**, Vice Chair, Edmonton's Food Bank
- Honourable **Searle Turton**, Minister of Children's Services, Alberta Government
- **Christopher Smith**, Associate Executive Director, Muttart Foundation
- **Aaron Robinson**, Realtors Community Foundation
- **Zelda Quinney**, Edmonton's Food Bank



Message from our Board Chair



Dear Food Bank Friends,

The need for food security in Edmonton remains urgent and pervasive. Behind every statistic is a story of a neighbor struggling to put food on the table, a child going to bed hungry, or a senior skipping meals to make ends meet.

Edmonton's Food Bank has continued to support the ongoing and growing demand for our programs and services. At a recent Board of Directors meeting we looked at how the organization has changed over the past four years (since 2019 and before the Pandemic started) and some of the changes were quite astounding:

- We increased our staffing complement by 50% to respond to increased requests for food from families and our partner organizations
- We gleaned an additional 1.2 million kilograms of food and spent \$2.4 million more on food purchases
- Our generous volunteers gave us 40,000 more hours of their time
- We served 63% more people, and saw on average 14,000 more people each month, and
- Our generous donors opened their wallets and gave us almost \$5M to increase our food purchases and expand our programs and services in the community.

On National Indigenous Peoples Day, we opened our new warehouse, called Niso (Cree for two), to help us meet the ever growing demands for our community and support people face-to-face. Niso is enabling us to serve hampers to 600 households per week as well as collecting and storing more food. We are thankful for

the generous support that was provided to help us make this expansion possible.

Also, in June, we hosted Food Banks Canada's national conference. It was an opportunity for us to showcase our work and it was the first time since 2019 that Food Banks from across Canada came together to share best practices.

In November, leaders from all three levels of government including our local School Boards and other partners joined us as we shared more about what we do and dispelled myths about food security, the people who utilize our services, and the amazing work that our staff and volunteers do every day. We also shared our most recent client survey with this group.

This sharing with decision-makers was an important step towards realizing our advocacy goals and working with all levels of government and our partners to find long-term solutions for food security.

We are already looking ahead to our next opportunity to share more with the community and share our deep knowledge and expertise on food security.

We are grateful for our donors, volunteers, and staff who are all driven by our mission to find solutions to end hunger in our community.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, thank you again. Because of you, we continue our work of serving our community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M Capus'.

Michael Capus, Board Chair

"The projects supported by the Government of Canada through the Community Services Recovery Fund demonstrate that we are a caring and compassionate society that values the well-being of all its members. It is heartening to see the compassion and empathy of our citizens as they give back to those in need. Projects like Edmonton's Food Bank 'The Pantry' are a testament to the power of our collective action and our ability to come together to make a positive difference in the world. I am confident that together we can make a meaningful impact on the lives of those in Edmonton."

Jenna Sudds
Minister of Families, Children and Social
Development

Thank You



SHAW FAMILY COMMITMENT

“It is with profound gratitude, we extend our heartfelt appreciation to the Hop Foundation and the Shaw Family for their remarkable and continuous commitment to Edmonton’s Food Bank since 2015. Your extraordinary generosity, exemplified by your outstanding donation of \$300,000, has been nothing short of transformative.

Your unwavering dedication to our mission has touched countless lives and made an indelible mark on our organization. As we reflect on the impact of your kindness, we are reminded of the profound difference that compassionate giving can make in the lives of others. Your generosity serves as an inspiration to us all, motivating us to strive for greater empathy, generosity, and kindness in our own lives. Thank you for helping us feed our community.

On behalf of Edmonton’s Food Bank and the countless individuals whose lives you have touched, we offer our deepest gratitude for your ongoing support. Your generosity has made a meaningful difference in our community, and we are truly blessed to have you as partners in our mission.”

-Marjorie Bencz, CM, Executive Director
Edmonton’s Food Bank

WILDFIRE SUPPORT

The Whitecourt Food Bank struggled with the additional demand of evacuees due to the devastating wildfires.

Edmonton’s Food Bank pulled together shelf stable milk, juice, and \$10,000 for the Whitecourt Food Bank to buy what they needed during this crisis.

Edmonton’s Food Bank also sent two shipments of food to the EXPO Centre where other evacuees were receiving services.



People reach out for help through our call centre. Our staff and volunteers answer the phone, email, and fax requests for an individual or family needing food help.

Each number and statistic shared throughout this report represents a person - a family member, a friend, a co-worker, or neighbour.

By The Numbers



Our fleet travelled 239,949 km in 2023. That's equivalent to travelling the entire Trans-Canada highway, west to east, 30 TIMES!



Collected, sorted and repackaged 5.6M kg of food valued at \$35.7M



34% of Food Bank hamper recipients are children under the age of 18



Average number of visits to the Food Bank per person: 5.5 times



Our volunteers donated an astounding 141,233 hours in 2023



Spent \$104,314 on fuel for Food Bank Vehicles

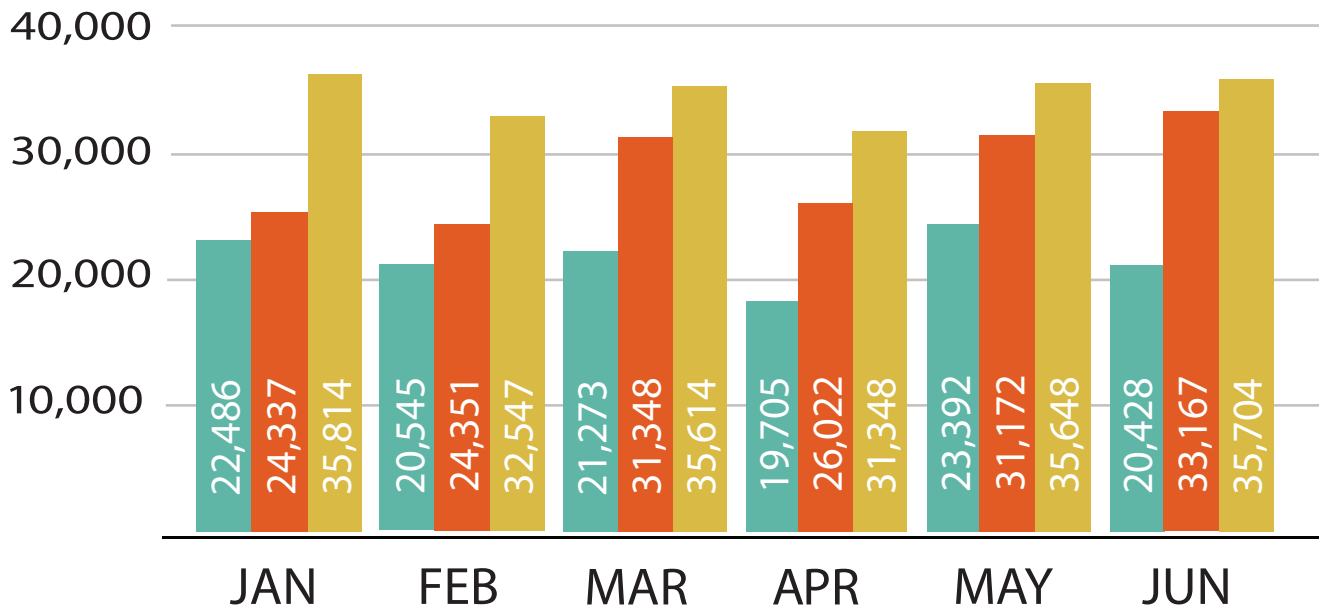


Over 34,000 people served monthly through hamper programs





HAMPER PROGRAMS - PEOPLE SERVED



2019 Average - 21,385 people monthly

2022 Average - 30,787 people monthly

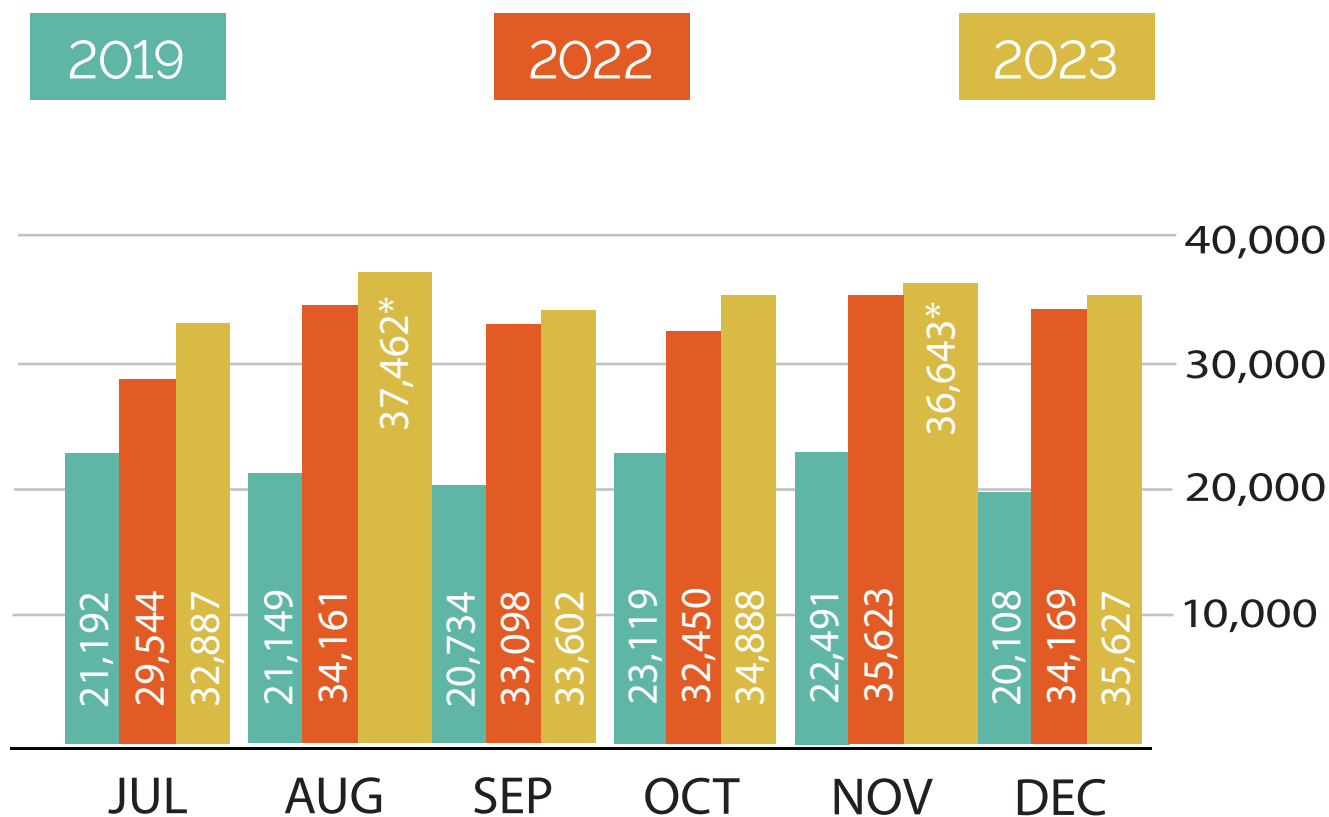
2023 Average - 34,826 people monthly

We experienced two all-time highs in 2023 for people accessing our hamper programs.



Both *August and *November were record months in Edmonton's Food Bank's 42-year history.

People Served



POPULATION COMPARABLES

Fort Saskatchewan	35,291
Leduc	41,992
Medicine Hat	68,839
St. Albert	72,769
Grande Prairie	77,348

With a client base population of 75,426 people, Edmonton's Food Bank is the 9th largest city in Alberta

Community



WALMART



These funds (\$176,677) helped us purchase a new refrigerated 3-ton truck.

This means we can now pick up and deliver more fresh food.

Community engagement is essential to the work of Edmonton's Food Bank. As an organization that receives no core government funding for food purchases, we rely on the generosity of our donors. We are honoured by the kindness and compassion we receive. Thank you.

On the following pages, we are proud to share just a few of the groups, businesses, and foundations that have made our work possible. We would like to express our deepest appreciation for all our Hunger Heroes, those who thought of Edmonton's Food Bank and the people in our community facing food insecurity.

SKIP THE DEPOT



Empty bottles raised
\$13,338!

EPCOR



Glass of the Sask sales
raised \$2,000!

FURNACE FAMILY



Furnace Family
customers raised
1,762 kg and \$10,465!

SEA CHANGE



Sonic 102.9 FM and Sea
Change Brewery raised
\$10,000!!

Community



PUROLATOR



The annual Purolator Tackle Hunger game saw the Edmonton Elks take on the Ottawa Roughriders and fans raised \$23,760 and 2,002 kilograms of food.

LEDCOR



Staff continue to fundraise through engaging team activities and raised more than \$56,000.

IMPERIAL OIL



Our local Strathcona Refinery fueling people through their donation of \$10,000.

About 95% of our support comes from third-party food and fundraisers.

LOBLAW
#FeedMoreFamilies
raised \$106,681
through spring and
winter campaigns



SUN OKA FRUIT



Donated 13,027 kg and raised \$5,055.

AMAZON YEG 1



Donated \$3,000 and 585 volunteer hours.

ANALOG BREWING



12 Beers of Christmas mixed pack raised \$1,355 and 62 kg.

MARTIN KERR



\$1 pre-orders raised \$1,000.

Community



SOBEYS



The annual festive campaign raised food as well as \$336,160 in the form of gift cards for our food purchases!



Thanks to Jackson & James who continually ensure our loading docks are working efficiently!

DAWN UNTIL DUSK



Ramadan is a time for spiritual reflection. It is also a time of empathy and giving. The Edmonton Council of Muslim Communities donated a generous \$46,615 to help Edmonton's Food Bank.

DOMINO'S PIZZA EDMONTON



Our Edmonton franchises raised \$19,225 through a special Food Bank pizza and drink special!

NORTH CENTRAL CO-OP



Above and beyond their retail food donations, they raised an additional \$14,100 because they heard we needed help.



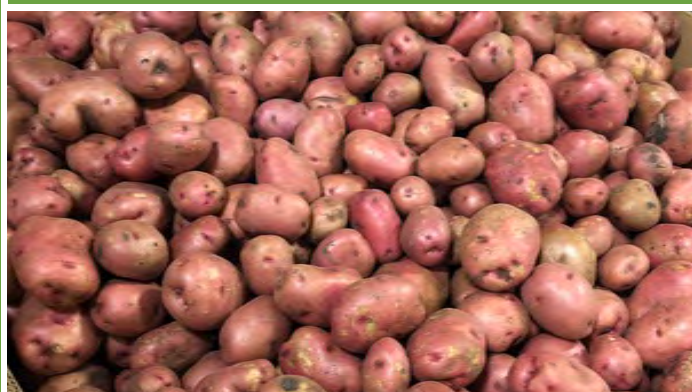
EDMONTON FOOD DRIVE



With over 6,000 volunteers from the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (and the community) raised an astounding 107,378 kilograms of food!

Thanks to our transportation experts including: Action Express, Bison Transport, Grimshaw Trucking, Matco Moving, and Purolator for providing the equipment needed to move so much food.

SPUDS GALORE AND MORE



Edmonton Potato Growers donated 25,153 kg!

The Little Potato Company donated 91,344 kg!

Pandemic Planting Project (P3 Farms) donated 49,232 kg!

City Farm donated 24,907 kg!

Throughout the year, 130 schools conducted food and/or fundraisers to support our work.

This is the next generation of donors and we commend them in helping create a kinder community.

TRAIL APPLIANCES



Donated a new fridge for our NISO building for our staff & volunteer lounge!

GURU NANAK DEV JI



The celebration of the birth of the first Sikh Guru raised \$13,000.13 and 2,882 kilograms of food.

REAL & CAROLYN'S NO FRILLS



Real & Carolyn's grand opening in Londonderry raised \$1,000 plus their yearly giving of 1,260 kg.

COCA-COLA BOTTLING



Fifth Anniversary celebration with staff donating \$4,000.



J. PERCY PAGE BIKE-A-THON



The Leadership Class selected us as their charity of choice and engaged the rest of the student body, teachers, alumni, friends, family, and community. In just 24 hours, they surpassed their goal and raised just over \$65,000!

TASTE OF EDMONTON



Augmenting our summer food and fundraisers, our volunteers collected food and monetary donations throughout the event raising food and \$17,686.

BURGER IT FORWARD



The inaugural Burger It Forward campaign raised \$2,500! Thanks to Alberta Beef and these local restaurants: Fox Burger, Wayback Burgers, Jack's Burger Shack, Delux Burger Bar and Three Vikings.

Special thanks to donors like the Edmonton Community Foundation, CIBC, Accenture, and TD who continue to grant funds for our Beyond Food Programming.

HINDU SOCIETY OF ALBERTA



Bhartiya Cultural Society of Alberta and Sai Mandir raised 606 kg.

HARVEST LUNCHEON



202 guests raised \$48,565 over the course of lunch!

THE FLOW PROJECT



The Flow Project collects menstrual products around the city to give to the Food Bank.

HOLIDAY SMILE COOKIE



Edmonton Tim Horton's raised an astronomical \$91,657! That's a LOT of cookies at \$0.75 each!



**make
the
season
kind**

CBC MAKE THE SEASON KIND

The event that is used as a catalyst to engage the broader community, CBC listeners attend events planned throughout the city at different venues that created excitement and opportunity for donors to give.



Donations from private donors, corporate donations, and collective group giving allowed us to meet and surpass our goal of \$1,000,000!

Some of our donors include:

- Court of Appeal and Court of King's Bench Judges: \$83,911
- Park Paving: \$65,392
- MNP: \$47,280



- Enbridge: \$25,000
- Epcor: \$25,000
- Telus: \$20,000
- Holyrood School*: \$27,175

*This initiative led by staff and students has now surpassed \$375,000 over its 17-year tradition!

The Alberta Government's \$10M announcement to food programs around the province allocated \$280,000 towards the \$3M worth of food we purchased.

AMA



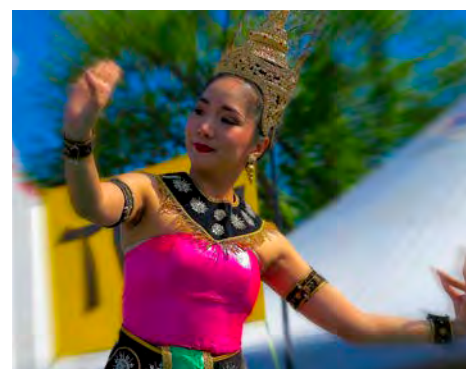
Multiple events and services are staples for AMA and their engagement while fundraising. Member events included Car Care, the AMA's School Patrol picnic, AMA Electronic Recycling, virtual food drive, and three AMA Shredding events raised 5,128 kg & \$43,951.

THEATRE YES



"The Play's the Thing" was Shakespeare's Hamlet spread over two nights with each scene created in secret and performed by a different theatre company raising \$10,560.

HERITAGE FESTIVAL



With a new site at Borden Park and the EXPO grounds it was a new adventure. Though we missed Hawrelak Park, the site was welcoming and attendees were generous. Donors flocked to the site on bike, car, LRT, ETS, and even walking in - raising 31,923 kg & \$46,605!



We food-raise and fundraise can-by-can and dollar-by-dollar and it is because of our dedicated and generous community, we can keep our doors open serving vulnerable people.

Our annual festive campaign raises food and funds that sets the tone for the following year.

Our Festive Brown Bag is thanks to:



Foundation

Thanks to our sponsors, guests attending, and our auctions, we raised \$68,762!

PRESENTING SPONSOR



GOLD SPONSORS

The Muttart
Foundation



OFFICIAL BEVERAGE SPONSOR



CANDY CANE LANE



Raised 16,244 kg of food and \$10,368 through online donations!

CITADEL THEATRE & CAPITAL POWER



Raised \$100,821!

CAN MAN DAN



During Can Man Dan's campouts, he raised 6,035 kg and \$34,098!



EDMONTON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA MUSICIANS & THE WESTIN EDMONTON



The Westin Edmonton baked and sold \$5,776 worth of Christmas Cakes! Taken one step further, the cakes were also available during the ESO Christmas Concert series.



Over the holidays, the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra (ESO) musicians forwent their breaks to collect donations and sell Christmas Cakes raising \$23,022!



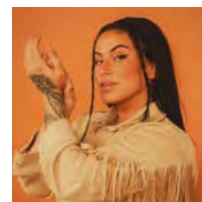
A MUSICAL HOLIDAY

brought to you by



Another successful feel-good television production raised an amazing \$129,300 while sharing music and stories of hope.

Musical guests included Gord Bamford, Hailey Benedict, Shawnee Kish and The Melisizwe Brothers.



ETS STUFF-A-BUS



Volunteers and ETS were out in full force at every Save-On-Foods location across the city. Thanks to generous shoppers, this event raised \$13,867 and 23,639 kilograms of food.

GEEKY GIFT MARKET



The holidays saw volunteers collecting donations at two Geeky Gift Markets in November raising \$13,115 and 958 kilograms of food.

Because of YOU



RACHEL'S STORY

Rachel is a single mother of three young school aged children. She is only able to work part-time because child care is too expensive. She juggles work, school pick-up and drop-off, and the money coming in is just not enough to make it the whole month. Rachel is thankful to the Food Bank and our donors for supporting her saying through tears "Thank you for answering the phone and helping me and my family. It's not just about answering my call, you see me and make me feel like a person. Thank you for all that you do."

A PAST DONOR NEEDING HELP

Fara called in desperate need of help for her and her family. Fara and her husband have full-time jobs and are making decent money. With the cost of everything increasing, they are struggling to feed themselves and their children (three biological children and four adopted). Additionally, their mortgage has gone up and they are maxing out credit cards.

"It is ironic that we used to be donors to the Food Bank. We were making it before all of this. I am so grateful that the Food Bank is available to all. Thank you."

BELLA'S STORY

"Four years ago, I was an international student and my husband was a foreign worker. At that time, we did not have enough money for food. We lived on watered down ground pork and rice with curry powder for flavour. We stretched our meals out even after I knew that it had gone bad. I cried while eating it - it tasted bad, but I was hungry.

I saw the Food Bank for the first time on a brochure pinned to a board. The volunteer welcomed us without judgment. They provided us with various foods over several months.

We used to discuss how we'd give back and now we are volunteering at the Food Bank to help others. Without the Food Bank's support, we might not have survived. We now have jobs and received permanent resident cards. They gave us energy to study, get a job, and the boost we needed. Thank you."

- 86% of clients indicate they do not have any savings
- 75% pay market price for rent
- one-third of clients do not have a family doctor

from our 2023 Beyond Food Client Survey

Because of YOU



OLENA'S STORY

"As a newcomer to Canada, the Beyond Food program helped me so much! The English classes helped me overcome the language barrier and the other classes I took helped me practice my English.

I volunteered with Beyond Food to further develop my understanding of the day-to-day experiences in Canadian culture.

This experience helped me gain command of the English language and helped update my resume to a level that meets Canadian standards.

Thanks to the Beyond Food program I gained invaluable experience! You really make newcomers feel welcome in Canada and I am truly thankful for your help!"

MALIK'S STORY

"I recently arrived in Canada from Senegal. My neighbour told me about Beyond Food and I called for information about safety tickets.

I was successful in receiving forklift training and Beyond Food even paid for my ticket! I now have a fulltime job as a forklift driver and I just wanted to thank Beyond Food for helping me get a job in my new country."

ALONA'S STORY

"I have been volunteering with Beyond Food for seven months. This program helps a lot of people build their resumes and improve their job skills by offering safety tickets.

Everyone who works here is kind and friendly and I'm happy to be part of this community."

BEYOND FOOD!

- 1,763 participants
- 2,402 total safety tickets earned

27% were paid tickets
72% were free tickets

- 70% of participants became employed





Edmonton's Food Bank works collaboratively with more than 350 community organizations including shelters, soup kitchens and schools. These agency partners receive food from our warehouse to assist their clients.



COUNSELLING & BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT

- Alberta Health Services: Forensic Assessment & Community Services; Home Care; Mental Health; Community Geriatric Psychiatry Program
- Autism Edmonton (Autism Society of Edmonton Area)
- Canadian Mental Health Association Edmonton: Prosper's Place
- Catholic Social Services: FASD Program
- HIV Edmonton (HIV Network of Edmonton)
- Inner City Health and Wellness at Royal Alexandra Hospital
- Jewish Family Services
- Networks Activity Centre
- Pilgrims Hospice Society
- Queer & Trans Health Collective
- Schizophrenia Society of Alberta Edmonton Branch
- Spinal Cord Injury Alberta
- The Family Centre
- The Salvation Army

ADDICTION & RECOVERY

- Adeara Recovery Centre
- Alberta Health Services: Addiction and Mental Health; Access 24/7
- Boyle Street Community Services: Managed Alcohol Program (MAP)
- George Spady Society: George's House; Permanent Supportive Housing Scattered Site (SSPSH); Supervised Consumption Site
- Henwood Treatment Centre
- Homes 4 Hope Canada
- Jellinek Society
- The McDougall House Association
- Our House Addiction Recovery Centre
- Recovery Acres Society: Housing Program

EMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE

- Accès Emploi
- Bissell Employment Centre
- Boyle Street Community Services Co-Op
- Canadian Mental Health Association
- Catholic Social Services
- City of Edmonton
- EmployAbilities
- Gateway Association
- Goodwill Industries of Alberta
- Habitat for Humanity
- Jasper Place Wellness Centre
- LEAP (Learn, Empower, Assist and Prepare)
- Lifemark (Empower Program)
- Metro Continuing Education
- NPower Canada
- On-Site Placement (OSP)
- The Learning Centre
- The Salvation Army
- Trade Winds to Success Training Society
- Women Building Futures
- E4C



EMERGENCY SHELTERS AND HOUSING SUPPORTS

- Bissell Centre: Home Visitation Program; Housing Services
- Boyle Street Community Services: Housing First; Interdisciplinary Team
- Civida
- E4C: Intensive Case Management; Youth Housing First; Rapid Rehousing
- Edmonton John Howard Society
- George Spady Society: George's House; Shelter and Detox; Balwin Place; Housing First; Clinical Access Team
- Hope Mission: Herb Jamieson Centre
- Mustard Seed: Britannia Crossing; Prairie Manor; Housing First; Community Assistance Team
- Native Counselling Services: Cunningham Place
- Nisa Homes
- Radius Community Health and Healing: HARRT House; Kindred House; Supervised Consumption Site; Pregnancy Pathways
- Salvation Army - Edmonton Centre of Hope: Stabilization Housing Program
- Urban Manor Housing Society
- Women's Emergency Accommodation Centre (WEAC)
- YMCA: Homeward Bound
- Youth Empowerment & Support Services (YESS)



INDIGENOUS ORGANIZATIONS

- amiskwaciy Cultural Society: Aboriginal Head Start
- Ben Calf Robe Society
- Bent Arrow Traditional Healing Society: Community Outreach Transit Team
- Buffalo Keeper Nehiyaw Centre
- Canadian Native Friendship Centre
- Creating Hope Society
- Edmonton Aboriginal Seniors Centre
- Edmonton Heyoka Healing Society
- Edmonton Native Healing Centre
- Edmonton Urban Native Ministry
- Métis Child and Family Services Society
- Native Counselling Services of Alberta: Adult Housing First Program; Cunningham Place; Youth Housing First; Tâpwêhtamowin Wâskahikan; Wâhkômiwêw Program
- Niginan Housing Ventures: Ambrose Place; Sands Hotel; Belvedere; McArthur Permanent Supportive Housing
- Sacred Heart Church of the First Peoples
- Samson Cree Nation Urban Resource Office
- The Red Road Healing Society
- Trade Winds to Success Training Society



34% of Food Bank hamper recipients are children under the age of 18

FAMILY VIOLENCE

- Catholic Social Services: LaSalle Shelter; Lurana Shelter
- Edmonton John Howard Society
- Elizabeth Fry Society
- Jessica Martel Memorial Foundation - Jessie's House
- Living Hope Christian Fellowship
- Nisa Homes
- Strathcona Shelter Society: A Safe Place
- Today Family Violence Centre
- WIN House: Edmonton's Women Shelter



CHILDREN & YOUTH SERVICES

- ABC Head Start
- Aboriginal Head Start
- Action for Healthy Communities: Afghan Community Outreach Team; HACK - Healthy Active Community Kids; Sinkunia Development
- Adaptabilities
- Alberta Health Services: Health for Two; Enhanced Services for Individuals and Families
- Beverly Day Care Society and Family Resource Centre
- Beverly Towne Community Development Society
- Boys & Girls Clubs Big Brothers Big Sisters of Edmonton & Area
- C5 Earthwalk FRN
- CHEW Project
- Crystal Kids Youth Centre
- Elves Special Needs Society
- Family Futures Resource Network
- Hope Mission: Tegler Youth Centre; Brightwood Ranch
- Inner City Youth Development Association
- Institut Guy-Lacombe de la famille (IGLF)
- Intercultural Child and Family Centre
- Jasper Place Child and Family Resource Centre
- Jasper Place Wellness Centre
- KARA Family Resource Centre
- Kids Kottage
- Kids on Track
- McMan Youth Family and Community Services Association
- Metis Child and Family Services Society
- Multicultural Health Brokers Cooperative
- Norwood Child & Family Resource Centre
- Old Strathcona Youth Society
- Parkdale After School Care Society
- Rhema Chapel
- Red Road Healing Society: Family Resource Network
- Safe Families Canada
- Shiloh Youth Ranch
- Side Door Youth Centre: Evangel Assembly
- Sihle Sizwe Vineyard Foundation
- Somali Canadian Cultural Society of Edmonton
- Terra Centre
- The Family Centre
- Transitions Rehabilitation Association of St. Albert
- Unlimited Potential Community Services
- YMCA of Northern Alberta: Youth Transitions Program
- YOUCAN
- Youth Empowerment & Support Services (YESS)
- Youth Rise
- Youth Unlimited





SCHOOLS AND EDUCATION PROGRAMS

- Abbott School
- Aldergrove School
- amiskwaciy Academy
- Anne Fitzgerald School
- Annunciation School
- Austin O'Brien Catholic High School
- Avonmore School
- Balwin School
- Boyle Street Education Centre
- Indigenous Learning Services-Braided Journey's Programs: Oscar Romero Junior High School; Cardinal Collins Clareview; Louis St. Laurent; Archbishop O'Leary; Ben Calf Robe/ St. Clare; St. Joseph High; Our Lady of Peace; Cardinal Collins Westmount; H.E. Beriault; St. Thomas More; St. Francis Xavier; Holy Trinity; Austin O'Brien; St. Cecelia; St. Nicholas
- Callingwood School
- Cardinal Collins High School Academic Centre: Westmount; Claireview
- Centre High Campus
- Dunluce School
- E4C: Early Head Start; Sorensen Place
- E4C: School Lunch and Summer Snack Program: Abbott School; Aleda Patterson School; Alex Janvier School; Athlone School; Balwin School; Bannerman School; Belmead School; Belvedere School; Brightview School; Calder School; Callingwood School; Clareview Headstart; Delton School; East Glen School; Gold Bar School; Highlands School; Homesteader School; Inglewood School; Ivor Dent School; John A McDougall School; John Barnett; Lee Ridge School; Lorelei School; Mayfield School; McArthur School; Mee-Yah-Noh School; Norwood School; Overlanders School; Prince Charles School; Princeton School; St Alphonsus School; St Bernadette School; St Francis of Assisi School; St Teresa School; Sifton School; Spruce Avenue School; Thorncliffe School; Tipaskan School; Youngstown School
- Eastglen School
- Ecole Publique Gabrielle-Roy
- Edmonton Catholic Schools: Alternative Education
- Edmonton Public Schools
- Elves Special Needs Society
- Harry Ainlay High School
- H.E. Beriault Catholic Junior High School
- Highlands School
- Jasper Place High School
- John Barnett School
- John Paul I School

- Lauderdale School
- Lee Ridge School
- McArthur School
- Mee-Yah-Noh School
- ME Lazerte High School
- Norquest College: Indigenous Student Services
- Oscar Romero Junior High School
- Our Lady of Peace School
- Our Lady of the Prairies School
- Our Lady of Victories Catholic School
- Parkview School
- Prince Charles School
- Queen Elizabeth High School
- Richard Secord School
- S. Bruce Smith School
- Sakaw School
- St. Alphonsus School
- St Anne Catholic School
- St. Catherine School
- St. Clement School
- St Francis School
- St. Francis of Assisi
- St. Francis Xavier Catholic High School
- St Joseph High School: Breakfast Club
- St. Kateri School
- St. Leo School
- St Maria Goretti School
- St Nicholas Junior High School
- St Philip Catholic School
- St Pius Elementary School
- St Teresa of Calcutta School
- St Thomas More Junior High School
- St Vladimir School
- Weinlos School
- Westmount School



Our Partners



PARTNERED HAMPER PROGRAMS

- Alberta Avenue Community League
- Alberta Immigrant Women & Children Centre
- Alexis Nakota Sioux Nation Resource Centre (ANSN Resource Centre)*
- Anawim Place*
- Art's on the Ave: Bethel Pantry
- Bethel Community Church*
- Beulah Alliance Church: West Campus; Chapelle**
- Boyle Street Community Services Co-op; Bridge Housing; Sandy's Place
- Boys & Girls Clubs Big Brother Big Sisters Edmonton & Area: Kinsmen*; Tweddle*; Westend*
- Bread Run: Garneau (at The Spirit of Hope Church); Mill Woods
- C5 Northeast Community Hub
- Calvary Community Church
- CANAVUA – Canadian Volunteers United in Action*
- The Candora Society of Edmonton*
- Centre to End All Sexual Exploitation (CEASE)
- City of Edmonton
- Community of Christ Church*
- Community Options: A Society for Children and Families
- Creating Hope Society
- Crystal Kids Youth Centre*
- Dayspring Presbyterian Church*
- Edmonton Meals on Wheels
- Edmonton Native Healing Centre*
- Edmonton Police Services: Crime and Trauma-Informed Support Services
- Edmonton's Food Bank: NISO*
- Edmonton's Food Bank Mobile Depot: Chapelle*; Blue Quill*; Rogers Place*; Beulah West*; Clareview*
- Elizabeth Fry Society
- Emmaus Lutheran Church*
- First Presbyterian Church*
- Foundation for Oromian Culture, Education, and Art Services (FOCAS)
- Fort Road Victory Church: Pantry n' More
- Freedom Centre Church (Clareview)*
- Guru Nanak Foundation for Humanity (Sikhs for Humanity Edmonton)
- habitAction
- Hillview Baptist Church*
- Holy Spirit Lutheran Church*
- Hope City Church*: Kingsway Campus

- Hosanna Lutheran Church*
- iHuman Youth Society
- Inglewood Christian Reformed Church*
- Islamic Family and Social Services Association (IFSSA)*
- Jasper Place Wellness Centre
- Kali United
- MacEwan University
- Maranatha Christian Reformed Church*
- Markazul Iman for Tomorrow's Shade Association (MITSA Centre)*
- McClure United Church*
- Mill Woods United Church*
- Norquest College
- Northwest Central FASD Network
- Pride Centre of Edmonton
- Project Adult Literacy (PALS)
- Radius Community Health and Healing
- Redeemer Lutheran Church
- Rhema Chapel: The Redeemed Christian Church of God*
- Robertson Wesley United Church*
- Rock Lutheran Inner-City Society
- Sacred Heart Church of the First Peoples
- Southminster-Steinhauer United Church*
- Steele Heights Baptist Church*
- St Herman's of Alaska Orthodox Sabor*
- St John the Evangelist Catholic Parish*
- St Joseph High School
- St Luke's Anglican Church*
- St Mary's Anglican Church*
- St Matthias Anglican Church*
- St Michael's and All Angels*
- St Teresa's Roman Catholic Parish*
- The McDougall House Association
- The Mustard Seed*: Mosaic Centre*
- The Red Road Healing Society
- The Salvation Army: Canon Ridge*; Castledowns*
- Trinity Lutheran Church*
- Uncles & Aunts at Large Society
- Unitarian Church of Edmonton (UCOE)*
- WECAN Co-Operative
- West Edmonton Baptist Church*
- West Meadows Baptist Church*
- YMCA: Bill Rees; Castledowns*; Boyle Street Plaza*

* Our food hampers are distributed at various locations throughout the city. These depot locations are marked with a single asterisk

Our Partners



NEWCOMER/IMMIGRANTS

- Action for Healthy Communities: Sinkunia Community Development Organization
- C5 Northeast Community Hub: Earthwalk FRN
- Catholic Social Services: Immigration Services
- Edmonton Emergency Response and Newcomer Services (EERNS)
- Edmonton Immigrant Services Association (EISA)
- Edmonton Mennonite Centre for Newcomers (EMCN)
- Francophonie Albertaine Plurielle (FRAP)
- Islamic Family and Social Services Association (IFSSA)
- Multicultural Family Resource Society
- Multicultural Health Brokers Cooperative (MCHB)
- Sihle Sizwe Vineyard Foundation

SENIORS

- Alberta Health Services: Home Care; Community Geriatric Program
- Bernadette N Swan Social Care Foundation (BNSSCF)
- Greater Edmonton Foundation Housing for Seniors
- Edmonton Aboriginal Seniors Centre
- North Edmonton Seniors Association
- Operation Friendship Seniors Society (OFSS)
- Seniors Association of Greater Edmonton (SAGE)
- Senior Citizen Opportunity Neighbourhood Association (SCONA Seniors)
- Seniors Outreach Network Society



PET/ANIMAL

- Ardrossan Bird Farm
- Boyle Street Community Services Co-Op: Inner City Recreation Pet Food Bank
- Edmonton Humane Society
- Edmonton Valley Zoo
- Farm Animal Rescue
- HART (Humane Animal Rescue Team)
- Infinite Woofs
- John Janzen Centre
- Little Cats Lost
- Parachutes for Pets
- Parkland County Pet Food Bank
- Pet Pantry
- SCARS: Second Chance Animal Rescue
- Wild North Rehabilitation Society
- Zoe's Animal Rescue

Our Partners



Courtesy: Bissell Centre Facebook page

MEAL PROGRAMS

- Alberta Health Services: Collective Kitchens
- Bissell Centre: Moonlight Bay Summer Camp; Community Meals; Child Care; Community Centre; Jockey Dorms; Hope Terrace; Nursing Program
- Bernadette N Swan Social Care Foundation (BNSSCF)
- Boyle Street Community Services Co-op: Youth Unit; Street Outreach; Streetworks Team; HELP Team; Health for Two; Inter D Program; Street Outreach; Youth Services; Mental Health Unit; HER Program; Streetworks; Encampment Housing Outreach Team
- Building Hope
- The Candora Society of Edmonton
- Crystal Kids Youth Centre
- Dickensfield Amity House
- Edmonton Father's House
- Edmonton Native Healing Centre
- Fort Road Victory Church
- Hope Mission
- House of Refuge Mission
- Jasper Place Wellness Centre
- KARA Family Support Centre
- Living Hope Christian Fellowship
- Marian Centre
- Mustard Seed Church: Christian Care Centre; Mosaic Centre; Neighbour Centre
- Neighbourhood Table Program
- The Red Road Healing Society
- The Rock Outreach
- Refuge Mission House

- Rhema Chapel
- St Faith's Anglican Church
- The Salvation Army: Community Resource Centre (ARC); Addiction and Residential Centre (CRC); Keystone Program; Cornerstone Program
- Thrive Outreach
- Westend End Outreach: Fusion Program



On average, we
provide food for
400,000 meals
and snacks
monthly

ALBERTA FOOD BANK PARTNERS

- University of Alberta Campus Food Bank
- Lamont Food Bank
- Leduc Food Bank
- Parkland Food Bank
- St. Albert Food Bank
- Strathcona Food Bank
- Tofield-Ryley & Area Food Bank
- Veteran's Association Food Bank

Edmonton's Food Bank Team



Executive Director

Marjorie Bencz, CM

Director of Operations

Mark Doram

Office Manager

Nicole Carruthers

Support Services Coordinator

Jennifer Lee

Support Services Team

Suedelle Baudais

Melanie Brule

Christine Kennedy

Olena Konovalova

Tyler Mudrey

Debbie So

Mindy Tang

Warehouse Manager

Vince Sinatynski

Hamper Line Coordinator

Kayla Green

Transportation Specialist

Michelle Haro Pena

Logistics Team & Drivers

Tufa Abraham

Olena Antipova

John Aweit

Vuyo Betshwana

Marsan Bobasa Soboka

April Chalifoux

Nicole Chomlak

Michael Cooknell

Jim Crocker

Jose Daniel

Deng Deng

Terry Denis

Daniel Fung

Angelica Gardner

Olena Gorshova

Jaime Guerrero

Wendy Iwaskow

Nicolas Jacklin

Conrad Keddie

Mathew Lagace

Nanati Mussa

Eddy Piche

Dan Quist

Javier Ravelo

Paul Rondeau

Abegale Sarmiento

Marno Sekora

Ivan Shershniev

Anatolli Shevchenko

Serhii Shevchenko

Kyle Stuart

Tracey Treidler

Feysal Umar

Jose Velasquez

Tracey Waller-Heft

Chelsea White

Desiree White

Ty Woodbury Busse

Oksana Yevstropieva

Agency/Depot Engagement

Manager

Hailey Helset

Volunteer Engagement Manager

Virginia Pegg

Volunteer Engagement Specialist

Cindy Washbrook

Beyond Food Manager

James Taylor

Beyond Food Coordinator

Wisam Abu Rajab

Beyond Food Team

Yagut Albers

Kayla Bishop

Program Enhancement Manager

Carrie-Anne Cyre

Food Hub Coordinator

Judy Yawney

Manager of Strategic Relationships & Partnerships

Tamisan Bencz-Knight

Events & Community Engagement Coordinator

Debbie Theuss

Media & Communications Coordinator

Doug Thomson

Resource Development Team

Siegfried Bressmer

Bonnie Gover

Doug Hunter

Gregory McCosham

Susan Padgett

Client Services Coordinator

Dan Lefebvre

Client Services Team

Brittany Coxe

Suzanne Delos Santos

Jo-Ann Dewald

Barbara Koetze

Teresa Rossmann

Daria Timokhova

Noah Underwood

Jim Bro

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Michael Capus, Chair

Katherine Huising, Vice Chair

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Ryan Lowe

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Tracy Wyrstiuk

David Benjestorf, Director Emeritus

As of December 31, 2023

Volunteers



2,585 individual and
635 groups of volunteers
contributed 141,233 hours
of service in 2023.



2,080 hours is a full-timer
at 40 hours a week.



Volunteers



"Our volunteers are the heart and soul of our community's compassion. With every hour given, they nourish not just bodies, but the spirit of kindness that unites us all. Their dedication lights the way, illuminating paths of hope and solidarity for those in need. Together, we are not just filling stomachs; we are feeding futures and fostering a brighter tomorrow."

To our volunteers: your generosity knows no bounds, and your impact is immeasurable. Thank you for being the difference-makers, the silent heroes, part of our extended family, and the embodiment of action."

- Marjorie Bencz, CM, Executive Director
Edmonton's Food Bank





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Charitable Number 129185310 RR0001

780.425.2133
edmontonsfoodbank.com
@yegfoodbank



About Edmonton's Food Bank



The Edmonton Gleaners Association, more commonly known as Edmonton's Food Bank, was incorporated in 1981 and was the first food bank in Canada.

Edmonton's Food Bank primarily operates as a central warehouse redistributing food to over 350 partner agencies including, shelters, churches, schools, and food depots throughout the city to support their programs. Thanks to this consolidated effort, we ensure that food donations go directly to those who need it the most while reducing duplication of community efforts.

In conjunction with our partner agency program, we directly provide food hampers to tens of thousands of individuals and families monthly.

MISSION & VISION

To be stewards in the collection of surplus and donated food for the effective distribution, free of charge, to people in need in our community, while seeking solutions to the causes of hunger. We envision a community where hunger does not exist, where all citizens have access to an adequate and nutritious supply of food.

As an affiliated member of Food Banks Canada, we are committed to the mantra: Relieving hunger today. Preventing hunger tomorrow.

VALUES



Where We Serve



MAIN WAREHOUSE

Since 2004, our main warehouse has been the heart of food distribution and includes: sorting, repackaging, hamper-making, and our agency sharing system. This warehouse also hosts our industrial walk-in coolers and freezers.

11508-120 ST

NISO

To help us better accommodate our clients and ever-growing services, we acquired a new addition in 2023! This building is primarily used to store more non-perishable food and serve as a depot location, along with a pantry for clients.

“NISO” is the root of many Cree terms that relate to the Food Bank’s mission, including:

- Nisohkamakewin meaning “assistance” or “help”
- Nisohkamakew meaning “help someone”
- Nisoiskeyiw meaning “reaches with both arms”

11448-120 ST



THE ANNEX

Since 2016 The Annex, houses:

- Client Services (Call Centre)
- Resource Development
- Beyond Food Programming
- Warehouse Storage
- The Community Centre

11434-120 ST

Our Programs & Services



FOOD HAMPERS

A food hamper is a box of food, consisting of fresh and non-perishable food items. Hampers are assembled based on the size of the household and any dietary requirements*. Upon request, additional items may be added such as pet food, school snack items, and toiletries.

As a charity, Edmonton's Food Bank cannot provide all the nutritional and food needs for all people at all times. We rely on donated food and encourage people to make purchasing food a priority when they receive their paycheques, salary, or government financial support. Beyond hampers, we refer people to other helping organizations to help with housing, budgeting, and more support.

* celiac, pork-free, diabetic, etc.

MOBILE FOOD DEPOTS



Where there are limited hamper distribution opportunities (i.e. no physical building to work from), hampers are delivered and distributed to specific communities using our Mobile Hamper truck.

FOOD DEPOTS



We want people to get their food in their neighbourhood close to home. To do this, we collaborate with over 80 community food depots. Volunteers at these sites are instrumental for food access around Edmonton.

EMERGENCY BAGS



These bags of food are for specific service providers for distribution to individuals in crisis. The bags are prepared with non-perishable items, some key staples, along with information to access more food in the future. We work with the Edmonton Police Service and others to give these bags to high-risk individuals and families.

Our Programs & Services



AGENCY MEAL & SNACK PROGRAMS

Our work cannot be done in isolation. We work collaboratively with over 350 community partners and agencies to distribute about 400,000 meals and snacks per month. Food access for our partner agencies depends on the program requirements and the focus of their mission, and is provided free of charge.



S.N.A.C.K. PROGRAM

(SUPPORTING NUTRITION FOR ALL CLASSES AND KIDS)

We provide healthy snacks to children and we are currently working with 100 schools plus numerous child-focused programming throughout Edmonton. In addition to donated snacks from the public, the Food Bank purchases key items to ensure availability and nutrition. These purchased snacks have no added sugar, low sodium, and include items like granola bars, unsweetened apple sauce, shelf stable milk, and more.

AFTER THE BELL

Thanks to Food Banks Canada and amazing donors, we share healthy food packs through various agencies directly to children.

After the Bell reduces child hunger by providing a lifeline over the summer for many low-income families with children. These child-friendly, nutritious packs contain non-perishable food along with a variety of fresh fruit and vegetables like carrots, apples, oranges, and snap peas depending on the weeks' fresh purchases.

After the Bell is possible thanks to dedicated national donors who support the program across the country.



Food Sources



THE RETAIL FOOD PROGRAM

Edmonton's Food Bank started as a food gleaning organization in 1981. This salvaged and rescued food is the basis of our food sources and makes up about two-thirds of the food we give out to people. We collect surplus food from retailers, distributors, and food industry partners across the city. This salvaged food may be considered surplus based on a number of factors including seasonal changes, overstock, or damaged exterior packaging.

We are proud to partner with our local grocery stores, retail food providers, local producers, and distributors who contribute surplus food to help our work. Additionally, our local gardeners, producers and distributors contribute surplus food to help our work.



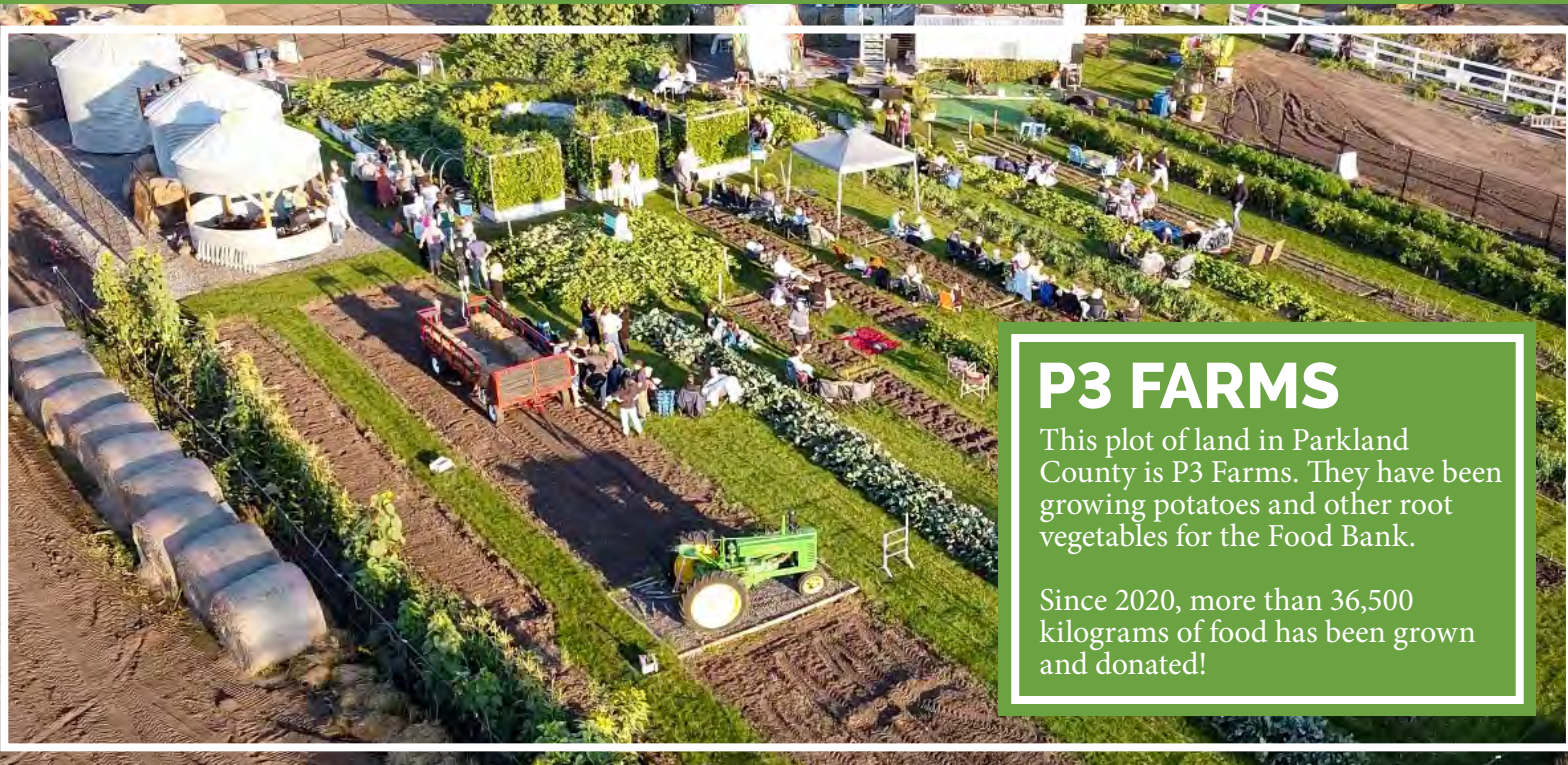
About 60% of food is rescued/salvaged



Each year, Edmonton's Food Bank rescues or recovers millions of kilograms of food from the food industry. This food includes fresh vegetables and fruit, baked goods, dairy, non-perishables, and frozen meats. Rescued food is used in our hamper programs for individuals and families and is available to our agency partners.

Edmonton's Food Bank adheres to the food safety guidelines of Alberta Health Services when collecting and distributing food. Our trucks are refrigerated to keep food at the proper temperature during transport - very important on hot summer days! Once at the Food Bank food is placed into industrial coolers and freezers until it is needed.

Food Sources



P3 FARMS

This plot of land in Parkland County is P3 Farms. They have been growing potatoes and other root vegetables for the Food Bank.

Since 2020, more than 36,500 kilograms of food has been grown and donated!

PLANT, GROW, SHARE A ROW

This program encourages people to earmark and donate their homegrown fruit and vegetables to Edmonton's Food Bank. Some businesses such as Greenland Garden Centre and the Royal Mayfair Golf Club took this philosophy a step further by donating free seedlings to be grown and donated to Edmonton's Food Bank. Other amazing donors like the Little Potato Company provided seed potatoes to many gardens.

Unfortunately, due to space limitations we are unable to list all our "green-thumb" donors who collectively raise annually more than 40,000 kilograms of fresh produce for our programs.



SECOND HELPING

In cooperation with conference centres and large banquet facilities, Second Helping gleans prepared yet not plated food from major kitchens. Donations are frozen, picked up, and made available to agency partners for use in their meal and snack programs. Donors adhere to Alberta Health Services protocols for food safety and packaging needs. The Edmonton Convention Centre and others are part of this program.



Edmonton's Food Bank is an approved teaching facility for Concordia University's Environmental Health Program to show future health inspectors proper food warehouse management.

Beyond Food



To book an appointment,
call 780.425.2133 ext. 228

BEYOND FOOD

Beyond Food is a proactive endeavor, designed to uplift individuals from poverty by providing access to essential services. These services are free and open to all, regardless of their association with Edmonton's Food Bank.

Our ultimate goal is to foster self-reliance and stability among our community members, thereby reducing reliance on food aid. Whether it's assisting with job applications, skill development, or connecting individuals with non-food resources, Beyond Food is our solution to hunger's underlying causes.

Annually, we empower thousands through resume assistance, job search support, and even funding for vital certifications like first aid and forklift operation.

As our Executive Director, Marjorie Bencz, aptly states: "Providing food aid is commendable; however, it will NOT reduce poverty or solve food insecurity. By extending our support beyond food, we are fostering resilience and self-reliance. Our goal is to empower individuals with better opportunities, from stable employment to career progression. These investments in our community's future are made possible through the generosity of volunteers and donors, including the Edmonton Community Foundation."

Need help finding a job, accessing community resources, or in need of a safety ticket? We can help!

- ✓ **Employment Coaching**
Resumes, job search skills, and interview training
- ✓ **Information and referrals**
Assistance with application processing

- ✓ **Financial empowerment workshops and coaching**
Tax service referrals

- ✓ **English language lessons**
Beginner and conversational lessons

- ✓ **One-on-one support and referrals**
Newcomer settlement, affordable housing, landlord-tenant questions, mental health and addictions, family violence support, etc.

Ways to Give



DONATE FOOD



Food is the foundation of our work. Though we glean/salvage food from the food industry, our success depends on donations from the community. Non-perishable food can be donated at any major grocery store or fire hall. Even fresh food can be donated, please contact us to learn how.

DONATE MONEY



Donate conveniently online, in person, or over the phone. To leave a legacy to your community, feel free to add Edmonton Gleaners Association (129185310 RR0001) in your Will. A donation of stocks, securities, or mutual fund shares are also an efficient way to give charitably and receive a tax credit.

DONATE TIME



Volunteers double our workforce. More than 100,000 hours are donated annually by amazing people who've connected their passion to our mission. Opportunities are available seven days a week and four evenings a week. Volunteers act as ambassadors at external events or help manage all processes in our warehouse from sorting food donations, to building food hampers, and even delivering them to community food depots.

Contact Us



Need Help?

Please call 780.425.4190 Monday to Friday from 8:30 am to 4:00 pm to speak with Client Services volunteers and staff to arrange a food hamper as well as connect you with other relevant services in the community.

Edmonton's Food Bank

PO Box 62061
11508 - 120 Street
Edmonton, AB
T5M 4B5

Charitable Number: 129185310 RR0001

Email: info@edmontonsfoodbank.com

www.edmontonsfoodbank.com



Call 780.425.2133 and ask for our Volunteer Team to join!