

# EDMONTON'S FOOD BANK UPDATE

NOVEMBER 2024



## EDMONTON FOOD DRIVE: A COMMUNITY EFFORT

The Edmonton Food Drive, coordinated by the LDS Church, came at the perfect time, shining as a beacon of hope. With the support of our generous community and the dedication of countless volunteers from all around the city, who helped deliver the ATB Brown Bags and returned to pick up donations, we collected an astounding 125,132 kilograms of food and raised over \$73,000 in online contributions. This is a much-needed boost, allowing us to replenish our shelves — a sight we haven't seen in quite a while.

As we move into fall, this drive is essential in helping us continue to serve more than 40,000 people each month. We are deeply grateful to everyone who donated, volunteered, advocated, and stood with us in this effort. Your contributions truly make a difference.



## RISING TO MEET THE GROWING NEED

*"It took around 25 years before food bank visits surpassed 1 million in a month. We should all have responded to that sombre milestone. Incredibly, food banks recently registered another sombre milestone. They saw an additional 1 million visits per month - within the past five years."* - HungerCount 2024

Food Banks Canada **HungerCount 2024** Findings:

- ⦿ Food bank use soared to over 2 million visits in March 2024, shattering Canada's 2023 historic peak – and representing a 90% increase compared to March 2019.
- ⦿ The one-two punch of housing and food inflation is hitting those with low incomes hardest.
- ⦿ One-third of food bank clients are children – representing nearly 700,000 monthly visits in 2024.
- ⦿ 18% are employed, compared to 12% in 2019.
- ⦿ Nearly 70% of food bank clients live in market rent housing.
- ⦿ 40% of food bank clients rely on inadequate, outdated provincial social supports that provide incomes far below the official poverty line.
- ⦿ Governments are failing to support newcomers (people who have lived in Canada for 10 years or less) as they now represent 32% of food bank clients, up from 27% in 2023.

## EDMONTON'S FOOD BANK: LOCAL NUMBERS

Jasper evacuee support for 90 people with the Jasper Employment Centre for international workers (July 31, 2024).

### Thanksgiving Distribution

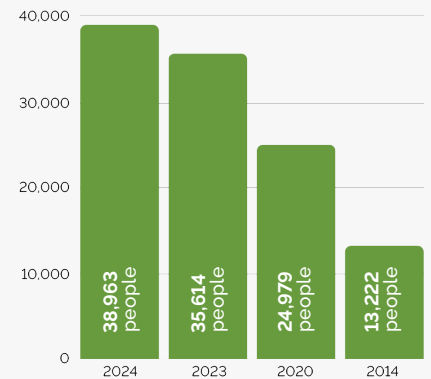
1,632 TURKEYS

1,253 HAMS

541 HALAL CHICKENS

Served 10,748 people with festive trimmings too! Also helped 33 agencies hosting Thanksgiving meals, feeding 7,874 people.

### March Hamper Program Recipients



Because of you, we are able to continue to do what we do best - serving those in need, since 1981. If you have any questions please contact us: [info@edmontonsfoodbank.com](mailto:info@edmontonsfoodbank.com) or at 780.425.2133.