

EDMONTON'S FOOD BANK UPDATE

MAY 2025

CREATING A FOOD SECURE EDMONTON

Emergency Short Term Responses

- Food Banks
- Soup Kitchens
- Community grass roots responses

Little to no government support
Community based

Literacy and Food Skills

- Community Gardens
- Community Kitchens
- Collective Buying Programs

Little to no government support
Community based

“Truly becoming a food-secure community requires more than just conversations about food. Food insecurity is a symptom of poverty and poverty is complex. To make a lasting impact, we need both food programs and other services that address the root causes.

While food hampers and community meals help people with immediate food needs, community kitchens and gardens are a part of the journey to create pathways to food security. Recent decisions, such as changes to AISH funding, the closure of City Farms, and cuts to organizations like Sustainable Food Edmonton, undermine these efforts.

At Edmonton's Food Bank, we continue to adapt in the face of these challenges and we're grateful to all who stand with us.”

-Marjorie Bencz,
Executive Director

Long Term Strategies

- Affordable Housing
- Income Supports
- Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program (SNAP)

Totally funded by governments
Government based

EDMONTON'S FOOD BANK PANTRY

Over the past five years, demand for food assistance in Edmonton has surged. In 2020, Edmonton's Food Bank served an average of 21,385 people per month with hampers. By 2024, that number jumped to 41,697, a reflection of growing economic strain.

While many use our services occasionally, we're seeing more individuals who rely on us regularly. For these clients, we schedule thoughtful conversations to better understand their circumstances and connect them with resources like government programs, tax help, discount food options, and our Beyond Food program.

These sessions help clients move toward greater food security. After these conversation, they shop in our Pantry, designed like a small grocery store, where they can choose the items that best suit their needs.



WE ARE SHARING THE SEEDS OF FOOD SECURITY



Edmonton's Food Bank shares food with over 380 partners including schools, soup kitchens, shelters, and other community agencies. Each month, our community partners & the Food Bank provide over 500,000 meals/snacks in Edmonton. As part of our vision to see a food secure Edmonton, we've launched our new Seed Bank. Tools designed to help low-income people grow their own produce and save money. For less than the cost of a bag of carrots, gardeners can grow fresh, healthy food stretching their budgets and increasing their food security.

Whether someone has a yard, a community garden plot, or just an indoor planter, our Seed Bank offers free seeds to help them get started. Thanks to generous donations from local stores, garden centres, and seed-saving gardeners, we offer a variety of seeds from herbs and greens for indoor boxes to carrots, peas, and squash for outdoor gardens.

Donation of seeds are accepted year-round! Seeds are available while supplies last. To learn more about the Seed Bank, please contact *Judy at foodhub@edmontonsfoodbank.com or 780.425.2133 ext. 231.*

Special thanks to the Edmonton Public Library for inspiring this initiative with their vision and example!



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 or at 780.425.2133.