



2017 DONOR IMPACT REPORT

**With generous support from donors and volunteers, the Greater Cleveland Food Bank is feeding more children, families, and seniors than ever before.**

Your contributions this past year helped provide more nutritious meals to meet the need today, while connecting those in need with vital resources and benefits to reduce the need tomorrow. Thank you for your commitment to fighting hunger in Northeast Ohio. We are proud to share more details on the impact you made in the community in 2017 and our plans to close the meal gap in 2018.



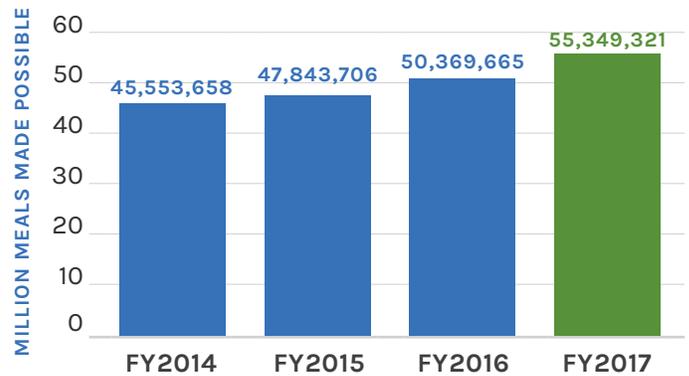
PICTURED: A client, Patricia, receiving fresh produce at St. Noel's, a Greater Cleveland Food Bank partner agency

2017 ACCOMPLISHMENT

**Provided 55.3 million meals to our community, increasing meal distribution by 10%**

Thanks to support from you and other community members, corporations, foundations, and government partners, the Greater Cleveland Food Bank grew our food distribution efforts and increased the amount of nutritious, fresh produce provided to local families in need. More than 45.5 million pounds of food were distributed to the community through critical programs such as Mobile Pantries, Children's Nutrition Initiative, Senior Markets and Food as Medicine Initiative. Over 29 million pounds of this food was nutritious perishable products, such as fresh produce, dairy items, and meat.

Growth of Food Distribution and SNAP Application Assistance



Our Help Center also provided access to 17.5 million meals by connecting clients to community resources and public benefits. Our Benefits Outreach team completed 22,000 SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) applications on behalf of clients.

## 2017 ACCOMPLISHMENT

**Served an additional 12,500+ vulnerable community members, including children, senior citizens, and clients with health challenges**



### CHILDREN

In 2017, the Food Bank served over 20,000 low income and food insecure children, including 4,466 new children. Our Children's Nutrition Initiative, featuring programs like Kids' Cafes, BackPacks for Kids, School Markets, and Summer Feeding, provides food directly to children when they lack access to free or reduced-priced school meals.

**"The food is REALLY GOOD. I drink the milk to make me strong!"**

*- Child from Metro Catholic School*



### SENIORS

The Food Bank served over 10,000 new seniors through innovative programs that meet the needs of this growing and aging population. The Greater Cleveland Food Bank Kitchen developed new frozen meals and piloted a client choice model for home-delivered meals in partnership with the Benjamin Rose Institute on Aging. As part of this program, we have the capacity to provide kosher, pureed, and other meals to meet seniors' unique dietary needs.



### CLIENTS WITH HEALTH CHALLENGES

One-third of the households we serve include a member with diabetes, and two-thirds have a member with high blood pressure. As part of our Food as Medicine Initiative, the Food Bank forged new partnerships with healthcare providers, including University Hospitals, Metro Health and NEON Health Services, to distribute more than 324,000 pounds of fresh produce to clients with food-related health challenges.

## 2017 ACCOMPLISHMENT

**Connected nearly 28,000 clients to community partners with vital resources on healthcare, housing, and employment—the main drivers of hunger.**

The Food Bank developed partnerships across the community to connect clients with healthcare, housing and employment resources. These efforts are helping to combat the key drivers of food insecurity while giving clients the opportunity to become self-sufficient. Some of these new partnerships include Ohio Means Jobs, Towards Employment, Cuyahoga Health Access partnership, Care Alliance, Cleveland Housing Network, and Neighborhood Housing Services.



**"My husband just passed and my income dropped. Thank you, thank you, thank you. I really appreciate this."**

*- Loretta, client and mother (pictured above left)*

**"The only thing in my cupboards is air. I'm honored. Thank you for this food."**

*- Barbara, client and retired Navy Veteran (pictured above right)*

# Looking Ahead to 2018

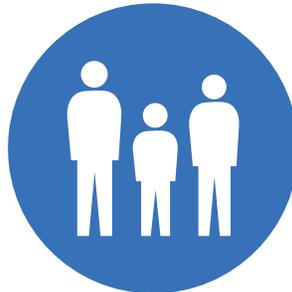
In the final year of our Strategic Plan, the Food Bank is striving to close the meal gap in our six-county service area and build a strong network of community partners to address the key contributors of food insecurity—housing, healthcare, and employment.

## 2018 GOALS

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**58 million meals made possible for our community**



**12,000 new clients served via Greater Cleveland Food Bank programs**



**36,700 clients enrolled in SNAP and 18,900 clients connected to other services and benefits**

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PICTURED: A child from Global Ambassador Language Academy, a Greater Cleveland Food Bank partner agency

## Together, we are fighting hunger and helping to keep our communities healthy and strong.

Thanks to you, people like Renee, who's helping raise her three active grandkids while their mother works long hours at a senior citizen facility, is able to stock up on items she can use to make meals for the children. Renee is grateful that when their mom comes home from work, the family can sit down together for a healthy meal.