



## 2018 DONOR IMPACT REPORT

**With generous support from donors, volunteers and community partners, the Greater Cleveland Food Bank and our 940 partner programs and agencies are helping more children, seniors, and families than ever.**

This year, with your help and support, we overcame challenges—the rising cost of food, increased freight expenses and attacks on federal hunger relief programs—to help meet the basic needs of our neighbors struggling with hunger. We are proud to share with you the impact you made possible in 2018.

### 2018 ACCOMPLISHMENT

**We provided more than 57.3 million meals in our community!**

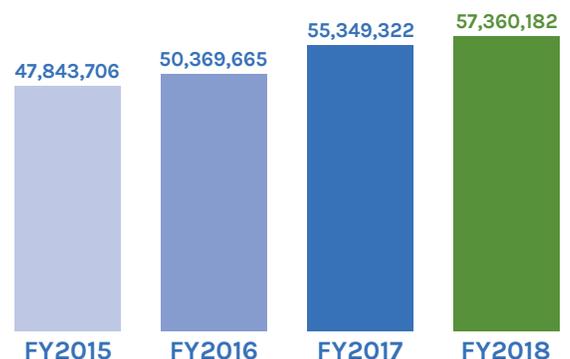
Thanks to support from the community and generous donors like you, more than 45.6 million pounds of food was distributed through local pantries, hot meal sites and programs such as *Senior Markets*, *Kids Cafe* and our *Food as Medicine Initiative*.

**Two thirds of the food provided was perishable product, including fresh, nutritious produce—a key ingredient to a healthy life.**

The Greater Cleveland Food Bank's Help Center and Outreach Team also provided access to millions of meals by submitting over 25,000 SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) applications on behalf of clients.



### Growth of Food Distribution and SNAP Application Assistance (Meals Made Possible)



Unfortunately, 1 in 6 people still struggle with hunger in Northeast Ohio. With your support, the Food Bank is committed to reaching more people and providing the nutritious meals they need every day.

## 2018 ACCOMPLISHMENT

**We served 25,700 new community members who are most vulnerable to hunger, including children, seniors and those with health challenges.**



### CHILDREN

The Food Bank served more than 27,200 children, including 7,760 new low-income and food insecure children through our *Kids Cafe*, *BackPacks for Kids*, *School Markets* and *Summer Feeding* programs, all of which provide food directly to children when they lack access to free or reduced-priced school meals.



### SENIORS

The Food Bank served more than 12,420 new seniors through creative programs that meet the needs of this growing and aging population. The Greater Cleveland Food Bank Community Kitchen partnered with the Western Reserve Area Agency on Aging and began providing 1,800 additional meals daily for seniors in need.



### CLIENTS WITH HEALTH CHALLENGES

One third of the households we serve include a member with diabetes and two thirds have a member with hypertension. As part of our *Food as Medicine Initiative*, the Food Bank distributed nearly 400,000 pounds of produce to clients with diet-related health challenges through our growing network of healthcare partners. As part of our partnerships with MetroHealth System and University Hospitals, new food pantries were opened to help increase access to healthy food and improve food security for patients.

**"We're not only reducing health care costs, we're relieving the anxiety and stress that contribute to dozens of other illnesses. Thank you...for helping us turn food into good medicine."**

*~ Akram Boutros, MD, MetroHealth President and CEO*

## 2018 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- **Connected over 22,500 clients to vital resources for housing, healthcare and employment**
- **Helped more than 8,000 clients submit applications for public benefits beyond SNAP**
- **Advocated for the Farm Bill and federal budget to protect and strengthen hunger relief programs that are lifelines for those struggling with hunger**



### LOOKING AHEAD TO 2019

We've included a snapshot of our a new strategic plan that will guide us through 2021 and enable us to better reach and serve those in need. Thank you for your commitment to fight hunger in Northeast Ohio. Your generous support is critical to our mission to ensure everyone in our communities has the nutritious food they need every day.



## LOOKING AHEAD TO 2019

**Together with supporters like you—donors, volunteers, advocates, community partners—we want to build upon our past achievements and better understand the impact of the vital programs you help make possible. This effort will allow us to provide the most effective programs to meet the needs of our communities, as well as to continuously improve our services and access to them. What does that mean moving forward? With your support in 2019:**



We will address hunger today by providing targeted programming and nutritious food to reach more people who experience food insecurity; reaching more families, children, seniors, and people with health challenges and providing them with the healthiest, highest quality food possible through our 940 partner agencies and programs.



We will address hunger tomorrow by connecting people to supportive services to help them become more food secure, including benefits and local resources on employment, housing and healthcare that provide a pathway out of poverty and food insecurity.



We will improve access and outcomes for the people we serve by better tracking success; reducing access gaps for underserved populations by identifying barriers to service and developing plans to address them; and measuring the impact of our work based on improved food security, health and well-being for the people we serve.



We will assess and create capacity to meet our mission related goals, as well as the dynamic needs of our community, through innovation, capacity building, continuous improvement, capital investments, and more.

*Help us celebrate*



**Greater Cleveland  
Food Bank**

**MORE INFO COMING SOON!**



**Greater Cleveland  
Food Bank**

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