



# ALLEVIATING HUNGER AND ADDRESSING FOOD INSECURITY

ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT  
2020



# ABOUT THE FOOD BANK OF YORK REGION

The Food Bank of York Region is committed to alleviating extreme food insecurity for York Region's most vulnerable residents in collaboration with our network of community organizations that provide food in their programs.



## What We Do

The Food Bank of York Region serves as the food distribution hub for the collection, warehousing and delivery of surplus food to food access programs in all nine municipalities of York Region. Our mandate is to address extreme food insecurity for people in York Region by providing a nexus between the abundance of surplus food in Ontario and the organizations that provide food services to at-risk residents.

## Our Strategy

Our strategy for reducing food insecurity is to provide food to homeless and women's shelters, social housing, local food pantries and other community organizations that provide meals and food to at-risk residents in York Region. This partnership strategy enables community organizations to focus on their primary services without having to divert scarce resources to sourcing food.



## The Face of Hunger in our Region

- Hundreds of thousands of people in the province have experienced extensive job losses and business closures since the onset of COVID-19.
- Food Banks and meal providers in Ontario have experienced a surge of demand for food since the onset of COVID-19.
- The numbers of new people accessing food banks and other agencies increased 26.5% in 2020. 33% of visitors were children.

# A Message from our CEO and Board Chair

Dear friends, colleagues and neighbours,

It goes without saying that 2020 has been a challenging year for everyone in our community due to the COVID pandemic and consequent lockdowns. It has been particularly difficult for low-income households, isolated seniors, the unemployed, and those struggling to make ends meet, making it more difficult than ever for them to acquire nutritious food.

We are proud of our team at the Food Bank of York Region for responding to the need since this pandemic began, which resulted in doubling the amount of food collected and distributed in 2020. And we are still working to increase our food provision services as the pandemic continues. Our network of dedicated staff, generous donors, and committed volunteers have responded to the need to step up our efforts to collect and distribute food to our neighbours in need.

We want to extend our heartfelt thanks to our community partners, donors, volunteers, corporate sponsors, and everyone who made it possible for the Food Bank of York Region to help meet the need under challenging circumstances. Your dedication has shown how much can be achieved when caring people work together toward a common goal, including rescuing food and distributing it to those in need.

Thank you for making a difference and impacting lives!



**ALEX BILOTTA**  
Founder and CEO



**DEREK EDWARDS**  
Board Chair

## Our Affiliations



Supported by Regional  
Municipality of York



Member of  
Feed Ontario



Affiliate Member of  
Food Banks Canada



An agency of the Government of Ontario  
Un organisme du gouvernement de l'Ontario

Ontario Trillium  
Foundation

# Our Impact in 2020

Thanks to the support of our donors, foundations, local businesses, and partner organizations, we were able to increase our food distribution this year by 100%.

Because of **your generosity and support**, food for **3,250,384 meals** was redistributed in our community to our most vulnerable residents.

## FOOD DISTRIBUTED

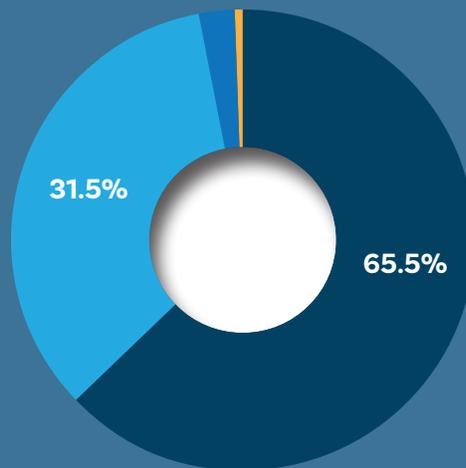
**\$8.45 Million** Worth of Food Distributed, or food for **3.25 Million meals**

A 100% increase in value of food delivered from 2019.



## Food Sources

A heartfelt thanks to all our generous donors who contributed **\$8,453,534** worth of donated food in 2020!



- 65.5% Food Retailers
- 31.5% Food Brokers
- 2.5% Private Donations
- .5% Food Purchases



## OUR VOLUNTEERS

The Food Bank of York Region counts on our dynamic volunteers to carry out our hunger relief efforts. We have the food our communities need, but it takes hands-on help to package and deliver it to our neighbours experiencing food insecurity. A special thank you to the 572 amazing volunteers who donated 4,392 hours of their time to make our food program possible throughout 2020!



**“ I truly love volunteering with The York Region Food Bank, especially during these unprecedented times with COVID-19. I am happy and proud to help support my community with such a great organization. ”**

**-Whitney D., General Volunteer.**



## Our COVID-19 Impact

When the COVID-19 pandemic resulted in emergency measures, the demand for food by our community partners immediately began to increase. Our response was to reach out to food retailers, farmers, and food brokers to increase the amounts of food for distribution among our growing network of food banks, food pantries, and community organizations that provide meals and food. We also increased the number of partner organizations served from 68 to 83 organizations.

The Food Bank of York Region also launched a home delivery program in May 2020, to assist those in need of food who were unable to access food programs, including seniors, persons with disabilities, and single-parent households. FBYP delivered over \$1.2 million worth of emergency hampers through our COVID-19 Home Delivery program.



**13,997**

Emergency  
Home Deliveries



**4,766**

Individuals  
Served



**32%**

Children  
Served



**477,886**

Meals  
Delivered

FBYP was uniquely situated to provide emergency COVID-19 response in our region, serving as a pipeline from government subsidies received by Food Banks Canada and funding from York Region to agencies in our region that directly support low-income households. Thanks to these subsidies and the generous support of businesses and donors, our food distribution increased by 100% in 2020 to meet the need.

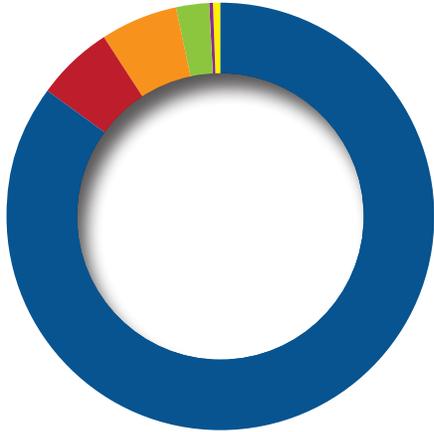


“With these hard times, this organization has been with my family every step of the way. After being laid off since April due to Covid, it’s been extremely rough for my family. I was in tears after today’s delivery and know I will be able to feed my family for a while. I promise when we are back on our feet, we will pay it forward 1000%. Thank you so much.” –Kimberly F.

# Financials

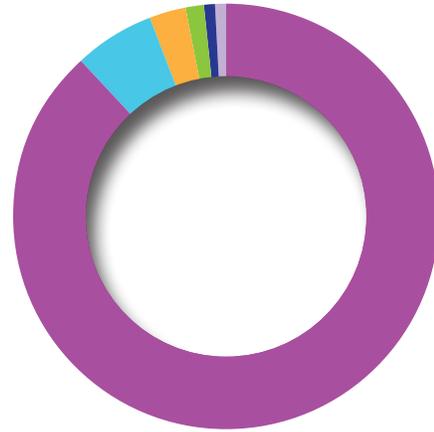
## REVENUE AND DONATED GOODS

**\$10,385,686**



## EXPENSES AND OUTFLOW OF DONATED GOODS

**\$10,037,135**



- Donations of Food and Supplies ..... **\$8,853,534**
- Designated Funds for Redistribution ..... **\$602,593**
- Donations ..... **\$587,650**
- Government & Foundation Grants ..... **\$254,481**
- Service Charges from Agencies..... **\$42,167**
- Other Revenue & Amortization..... **\$45,261**

- Food & Supplies Distributed ..... **\$8,853,534**
- Designated Fund Disbursement ..... **\$602,593**
- Administration & Fund Development ..... **\$304,462**
- Food Acquisition & Distribution Costs ..... **\$142,553**
- Allocations to Community Partners..... **\$76,818**
- Amortization of capital assets ..... **\$57,175**

To view the complete financial statement and our auditor's report, visit: <https://fbyr.ca/annual-reports/>

In 2020, our donors provided monetary donations totalling \$587,650 to ensure members our community in need would have enough to eat.

Your generous donations were invested directly into sourcing, managing and distributing food to those in need, serviced by 83 meal-providing agencies throughout York Region

## Partners and friends

Corporations, foundations, organizations and individuals generously give of their resources, finances, and time to the Food Bank of York Region. Thank you for partnering with us to make a difference in the quality of life of families, children, and seniors in York Region!



The Dunin Foundation



The Mika Charitable Foundation



# Our Community Partners

The Food Bank of York Region provides food and household products to our network of 83 community partners that service 23,400+ people through local food banks, homeless and women's shelters, social housing and other agencies that provide meals and food to their clients. Providing safe and reliable delivery of healthy foods to our community partners allows them to direct their scarce resources to their programs to assist people that are hungry, rather than sourcing and procuring food for their programs.



## Community Food Banks, Pantries & Meal Providers (32)

- Community Food Pantries (18)
- Community Food closets (9)
- Community Meals (5)



## Shelters (15)

- Homeless Shelters (3)
- Women's Shelters and Services (12)



## Housing & Seniors Programs (30)

- Youth and Transitional Housing (3)
- Social Housing (25)
- Seniors Programs (2)



## Emergency Programs (6)

- Outreach Services (2)
- Substance Abuse [2]
- Hospice (1)
- Animal Shelters [1]

To see the full list of our network of food providers, please see <https://fbyr.ca/corporate-sponsors/>

## From our Community Partners



“Because of the Food Bank of York Region, over 80 families, representing close to 200 people, benefit from the assurance that there will be food on the table for another week. COVID-19 has resulted in food insecurity for many people, and we are tremendously grateful that, with your help, we have been able to relieve a great deal of that anxiety.” – Irene Alexander, Foodshare Committee, William Lyon Mackenzie Housing Co-operative.

“In our social housing community, we serve many seniors with food deliveries to their doorstep, families with many kids and single parent households. We are forever grateful that we receive the food deliveries from FBYR and can help our community while also saving so much food from going to waste.” – Lana Nwaokoro, Springbrook Gardens.





# HOW YOU CAN HELP

Help us turn our vision to eradicate food insecurity in York Region into reality. You can help by:

## Donating

Make a one-time or monthly financial contribution at [www.fbyr.org/donate](http://www.fbyr.org/donate).

## Sponsoring

Host a corporate event, food drive, or matching program.

## Volunteering

Our work would not be possible without the hundreds of volunteers who give of their time.



8201 Keele Street, Unit 5 & 6

Concord, Ontario L4K 1Z4

[www.fbyr.ca](http://www.fbyr.ca)

Email: [admin@lifecorps.org](mailto:admin@lifecorps.org)

Tel: 437-317-3710

The Food Bank of York Region is a program of Life Corps International