

RECLAIMING FOOD. ADDRESSING FOOD INSECURITY.



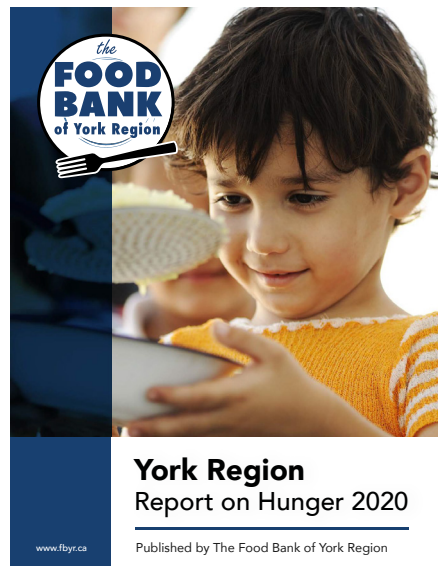
ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT
2021

ABOUT THE FOOD BANK OF YORK REGION

The Food Bank of York Region (FBYR) is a registered Canadian charity committed to providing hunger-relief to people experiencing severe food insecurity. We serve as a regional food collection and distribution centre to a network of 60+ non-profit agencies, including municipal food banks and pantries, shelters, and non-profit housing cooperatives, as well as providing mobile food bank services.

Why We Do It

In spite of the perceived affluence and wealth of York Region, according to the 2016 census, 157,690 York Region residents lived in low-income households –14% of all households in York Region. Approximately 24,700 York Region households experienced various levels of food insecurity. Of these, 28.5% were children (2016 Census York, Regional Municipality). For more information on Food Insecurity in York Region, please read our 2020 York Region Report on Hunger or visit [fbyr.ca/annual-reports](https://www.fbyr.ca/annual-reports).



Why Food Insecurity in our Region

Food insecurity affects a vulnerable segment of York Region's population. Growing levels of food insecurity have been traced to:

- Precarious employment or self-employment without benefits, as well as unemployment and underemployment;
- Seniors and persons with disabilities, dependent on Old Age Security or disability support, struggling with rising costs of living;
- Cost of housing and effects of skyrocketing rental markets and rising cost of food;
- The impact of COVID-19, which has exacerbated existing trends of food insecurity.

A Message from our CEO and Board Chair

First and foremost, we would like to thank every individual, organization, and business that joined forces with us in 2021 to address food insecurity in York Region. Our work would not be possible without the food retailers that donate surplus food, the organizations that provide funding to keep our trucks running and our warehouses in operation, and volunteers who give of their time. Thank you for making it all possible!

The past year has been a challenging one, as the increased food insecurity prompted by the Covid pandemic continued in 2021. Our Food Bank responded by meeting the need through our expanded food collection and distribution programs. We also expanded our Covid-19 Home Delivery program to reach a heightened number of people requesting food aid. In 2021, we conducted research and published the first York Region Report on Hunger to raise awareness of food insecurity and poverty in our region.

We are proud of our team at the Food Bank of York Region for their tireless efforts to provide food assistance to members of our community facing food insecurity. Thanks to their efforts and that of our network of community partners, generous donors, and committed volunteers, together we continue to advance in our mission of ending hunger in York Region.

Thank you for partnering with us to make a difference!



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

Our Impact in 2021

Thanks to the generosity of our donors, food retailers, local businesses, and partner organizations, in 2021 the Food Bank of York Region distributed food for 2,786,380 meals to our non-profit network and our home delivery program for our region's most vulnerable residents.

FOOD DISTRIBUTED

\$7.24 Million Worth of Food Distributed, or food for **2.79 Million meals**

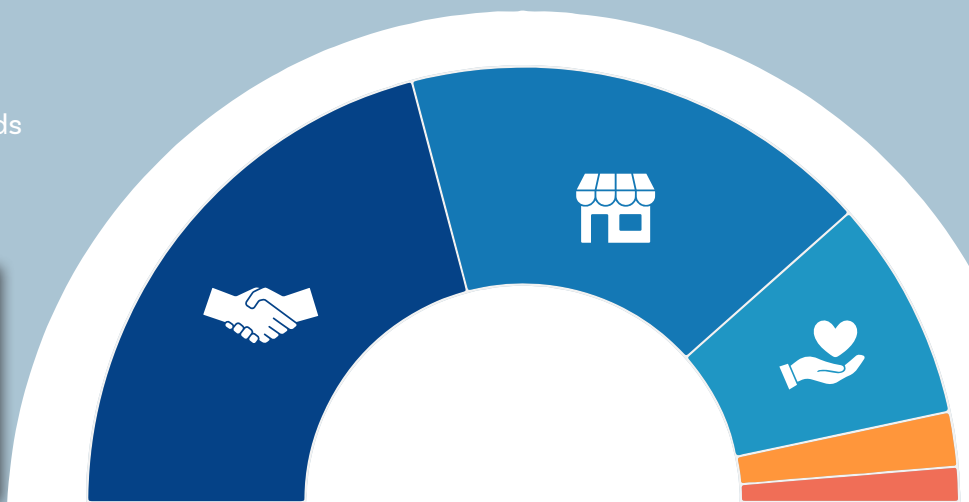
45.7% of the food distributed in 2021 was fresh or frozen food.



Food Sources

Thanks to the support of all our generous donors who contributed **2,564,136** pounds of donated food in 2021!

41.9% Food Brokers
35.2% Food Retailers
16.5% Private Donations
4.1% Food Purchases
2.6% Community Food Drives



PEOPLE SERVED: 22,793 PEOPLE IN 7,124 HOUSEHOLDS:





Our COVID-19 Response

The Food Bank of York Region launched our Covid-19 Home Delivery program in May 2020, to assist people in need of food who were unable to access food programs, including seniors, persons with disabilities, and single-parent households. Since initiating the program, we have delivered over \$3.4 million worth of emergency hampers to 5,221 food-insecure households.

Covid-19 Home Delivery Program Impact

The struggles of these past two years have brought us together as a community, and we have seen an outpouring of generosity to meet the need! Thanks to funding received from United Way, Food Banks Canada and the Regional Municipality of York, FBRY was able to provide emergency COVID-19 response in our region, bringing food to people's doors who would otherwise not be able to access food assistance programs.



40,874 EMERGENCY HOME DELIVERIES

8,270 INDIVIDUALS SERVED



33% CHILDREN SERVED

1,308,290 MEALS DELIVERED



"I'm really grateful for the program because it's saved not only my household but also that of relatives and friends. A lot of us were already going through hard times before the pandemic and things became more hopeless during the pandemic. Having a home delivery program with fresh food and more frequency has literally saved our lives. I always call our delivery driver 'our hero' because that's what you are to us."

—Wanda B.

"The service has been a godsend. I'm on ODSP and I can't get around to buy groceries and with the cost increasing on what seems like a monthly basis, it's been very hard. Your help has gotten me through this time and I appreciate the company of the drivers. I want to thank you all for helping me! What you did for the community saved lives!"

— Home Delivery Recipient



Volunteers Highlight

The Food Bank of York Region counts on our amazing volunteers to carry out our hunger relief efforts. A special thank you to the 1,337 amazing volunteers who donated 7,186 hours of their time to join efforts with us to end hunger in York Region and deliver food to our neighbours facing food insecurity!



After reading an article in a local paper about the increase in food insecurity due to Covid, Emma Dagher determined to initiate and run food drives in collaboration with ten York Region businesses. Emma collects and delivers donations once a week to the Food Bank of York Region to help food insecure members of our community.

“For someone like me who is relatively comfortable, I am seeing a hike in food prices. I can’t imagine what it is like for someone in a less fortunate or stressful

situation. It is the small differences that make the biggest impact, and that is what I feel like I’m doing at the Food Bank of York Region.”

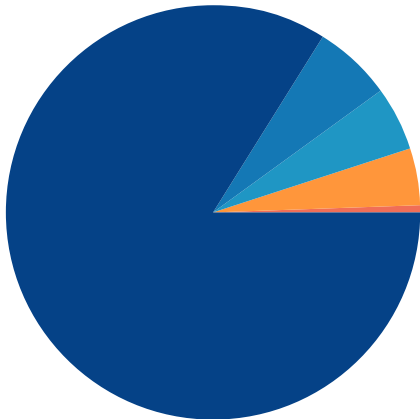
Thanks to Emma, and all our volunteers, for their faithful community service that helps the Food Bank of York Region and our community partners to feed more people facing food insecurity!



Financials

REVENUE AND DONATED GOODS

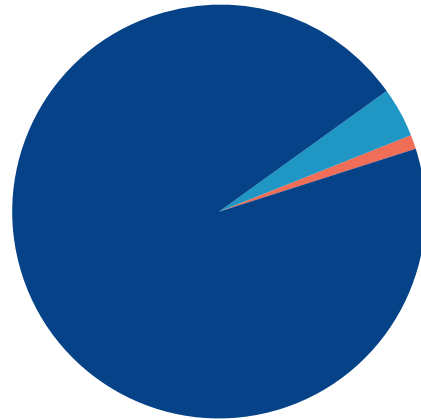
\$8,650,118



Donated Goods: **84%**
 Redistribution Funds: **6%**
 Grants: **5%**
 Donations: **4.5%**
 Other: **0.5%**

EXPENSES AND OUTFLOW OF DONATED GOODS

\$8,694,467



Food Program Costs: **95%**
 Administration: **6%**
 Fund Development: **4.5%**

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

Partners and Friends

Corporations, foundations, and organizations 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



F. K. Morrow Foundation



The Hodgson Family Foundation.



Our Community Partners

We proudly support our network of 60+ community partners that provide food services to vulnerable and at-risk residents of York Region:

Food Pantries & Meal Providers (28)

- Food Pantries (16)
- Food Closets (10)
- Community Meals (2)

Shelters (6)

- Homeless Shelters (3)
- Women’s Shelters and Services (3)

Emergency Programs (6)

- Outreach Services (1)
- Substance Abuse (2)
- Animal Shelters (3)

Housing Programs (21)

- Youth and Transitional Housing (3)
- Social Housing (18)

To see the full list of our network of food providers, please visit fbyr.ca/community-partners

Highlighting our Amazing Community Partners!



We serve about 50 families with the food we receive, and the families are so thankful! We can’t thank FBYP enough for starting this program. Most of the families we serve are very low-income or they are recipients of welfare programs and when they get these items it is like a week’s worth of groceries. This program is phenomenal and has done a lot for needy families in the Co-op!

—Hamida Merchant, Property Manager, Crescent Village Housing Co-op.

We’re so thankful to have the FBYP program, especially with so many young families here struggling even before Covid, and to know that we are able help put food on their tables and children aren’t going to bed hungry. People are so appreciative of all the fresh produce and meat. We’re so fortunate and blessed to have this program and all the donors who give the food.

—Sonia Graham, Food Pantry Program Volunteer, Charles Darrow Social Housing Co-op.



Thank you for partnering with the Food Bank of York Region to end Hunger in York Region



HOW YOU CAN HELP

Help us eradicate food insecurity in York Region and rescue surplus food. You can help by:

Donating

Make a one-time or monthly financial contribution at fbyr.ca/donate

Sponsoring

Host a corporate event, food drive, or matching program. fbyr.ca/get-involved

Volunteering

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



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The Food Bank of York Region is a registered charity
(Charitable Registration B/N: 849539473RR0001)