On the following pages you will read the stories of those that FOOD For Lane County serves and how our efforts make a difference to so many in our community.

As we delve into the data, we see that the prevalence of food insecurity in Lane County is far-reaching, affecting a larger segment of our population than previously understood.

The reasons for food insecurity are as diverse as the people who experience it. Often, these individuals feel stigmatized when asking for help, dissuading them from reaching out and perpetuating misconceptions about food insecurity.

Without the support of donors, volunteers, local businesses and the dedicated staff at FFLC, many in our community would not have the help they need. Your commitment helps us to dismantle barriers and foster a supportive environment for those seeking assistance. This generosity provides nourishment to our neighbors, ensuring they have access to food without judgment.

This Annual Report offers a glimpse into some of the ways that FFLC and our community make a profound difference. Thank you for your partnership and dedication to our mission. Together, we can create a community where every individual has access to the nourishment they need to thrive.

Carolyn Stein, Executive Director

This report reflects January 1 through December 31, 2023.
COMMUNITY SURVEY

In 2023, FFLC surveyed visitors to food pantries around the county. More than 1,800 participants responded from 26 towns.*

The results capture the extent of the challenge we face alleviating hunger in Lane County.

• 48% of respondents with children sometimes or often cut the size of their children’s meals or had to skip meals because there was not enough money to buy food.

• 68% of respondents say they’ve been hungry and couldn’t eat because they didn’t have enough food.

While Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits and food pantries help close the gap, more than 56% of respondents still struggle to meet their household’s food needs.

Access to food assistance makes a difference. Respondents report that food provided by FFLC helps them prepare healthier meals, pay bills, look for work and more.

*Read the full survey results at foodforlane county.org/survey2023.

11.9% of Lane County residents are food-insecure compared with 10.5% in Oregon**

61% of school-age children in Lane County qualify for free and reduced price school meals***

** Map the Meal Gap 2021, Feeding America
*** Oregon Department of Education Free and Reduced Price School Data 2022
Older adults living on limited incomes can’t always get the healthy food they need. This makes them more likely to have chronic health conditions, such as high blood pressure and diabetes. They may also experience mental health problems, such as anxiety and depression. Chronic health conditions or a lack of transportation may make cooking, grocery shopping or getting to a food pantry difficult. A limited income makes it hard to afford good food on top of other expenses like rent and medicine.

At 79, Lon knows these challenges all too well. Mental health issues make leaving his home a challenge. He loves to cook, but standing for any length of time is painful. Lon receives Social Security Disability Insurance, Medicare and health coverage through the Oregon Health Plan, but those benefits do not pay all his bills. He receives a monthly Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefit of just under $200, but that rarely lasts the month.

“‘The challenge for many seniors is that their Social Security and other benefits are not enough to live on,’” FFLC Senior Grocery Program Coordinator Carly Petersen said. “‘Many seniors’ SNAP payments are less than $50 a month.”

So Lon turns to FFLC for help. He gets groceries delivered once a month through FFLC’s Senior Grocery Program and a hot meal five days a week through FFLC’s Meals on Wheels Program. He also receives kibble for his dog Daisy through FFLC’s Kibble on Wheels Program.

“‘The food I get from FOOD For Lane County means I don’t have to worry about how I’m going to eat,’” he said. “‘I’m grateful for the fresh produce. The fresher the better. My daughter or my niece will cook it for me. They’re always checking in on me.’

LON’S STORY
The food I get from FOOD For Lane County means I don’t have to worry about how I’m going to eat.

LON
FOOD FOR LANE COUNTY
2023 ANNUAL REPORT

FFLC BY THE NUMBERS

8.3 million
total pounds distributed, including
1.8 million pounds of fresh produce

151
partner agencies, including
34 pantries and more than 100
supplemental food programs
throughout Lane County

465,464
meals served through 18 partner meal
sites and shelters, including 42,769 meals
served at FFLC’s Dining Room

169,547
pounds of fresh produce harvested
at FFLC’s GrassRoots Garden
and the Youth Farm

20,140
volunteer shifts in support of
FFLC programs, for a total of
53,480 volunteer hours
“I am very grateful for this help. I used to donate to such programs when I was younger. I couldn’t get along without them now.

MEALS ON WHEELS RECIPIENT
FOOD BUSINESS DONORS

THANK YOU TO THESE FOOD BUSINESS DONORS FOR EACH DONATING 5,000 OR MORE POUNDS OF FOOD IN 2023. TOGETHER, THESE BUSINESSES DONATED 2,585,207 POUNDS IN 2023.

10 Stars Farm
Albertsons
Albertsons Hilyard
Attune Foods
Bi-Mart
Church of Jesus Christ Latter-day Saints
Central Utah Storehouse
Church of Jesus Christ Latter-day Saints
Springfield Storehouse
Columbia Gorge Organic
Cosmic Bliss
Costco
Darigold
Dominguez Family Enterprise
Food For All
Franz Family Bakery
Fred Meyer
Fred Meyer W 11th
GloryBee
GoPuff Eugene
Groundwork Organics
Hammer & Tuffy’s Granola
Johnson Vegetable Farms
Lochmead Dairy
Market of Choice
McDonald Wholesale Co
Natural Grocers
Oroweat
Safeway
Safeway 40th
Safeway Pioneer Pkwy
Springfield Creamery
Target
Target Eugene
Thistledown Farm
University of Oregon
US ChefStore
US ChefStore Eugene
Wal-Mart
WinCo
Yogi Tea

SCAN-A-Coupon

The SCAN program raised $79,140 in 2023. Thank you for giving where you live, and thank you to these Scan-A-Coupon partners for continuing to support hunger relief in Lane County.

C&K Market - Ray’s Food Place
Capella Market
Fred Meyer
Friendly Street Market
Kiva
Main Street Market
Market of Choice
Natural Grocers
Sundance Natural Foods

I greatly appreciate this assistance. It has allowed me to get caught up and remain current with other bills.

PANTRY SHOPPER
2023 FOOD SOURCES

- **Purchased Food** 16.5%
- **Local Food Donations** 37.2%
  (including food recovery programs and food drives)
- **USDA Food** 18.8%
- **Oregon Food Bank Donated Food** 27.5%
Funds and Foundations
Thank you to these funds and foundations for their generous support in 2023.

$25,000+
Anonymous Fund of Oregon Community Foundation
Anonymous Fund of The Vanguard Charitable Endowment Program
Rosaria P. Haugland Foundation
Hayes Family Foundation
Helmstetter Family Foundation
Juan Young Trust - Western Division
McKay Family Foundation
Oregon Community Credit Union Foundation
Oregon Food Bank
United Way of Lane County

$10,000-$24,999
Albertsons Companies Foundation
Harry R. Anderson Fund of Fidelity Charitable
Anonymous Fund of Wells Fargo Advisors, LLC
Florence and Philip Barnhart Fund of Oregon Community Foundation
Chambers Family Foundation
Ann & David Fidanque Family Fund of Oregon Community Foundation
David & Patricia Giuliani Family Foundation
Douglas L. Hintzman Charitable Fund at Schwab Charitable
Elizabeth S. Holden Fund of Oregon Community Foundation
International Paper Foundation
Joyce and David’s Charitable Account of Morgan Stanley
LTM Family Foundation
McPherson Family Charitable Fund at Schwab Charitable
Paulus Foundation
Redtail Fund of Oregon Community Foundation
Willard E. Smucker Foundation
Suwinski Family Foundation
Dennis and Phyllis Washington Foundation
John and Pem Winquist Fund at Schwab Charitable
Donna P. Woolley Fund of Oregon Community Foundation

If it wasn’t for FOOD For Lane County, I wouldn’t be able to eat.

Mobile Pantry Shopper
$5,000-$9,999

Bank of America Foundation
Bluestone Foundation
R&M Clark Family Foundation
Clement Family Charitable Fund at Schwab Charitable
Crow Farm Foundation
Ford Family Foundation
Drs. David Fryefield and Catherine Kordesch
   Charitable Fund of Fidelity Charitable
A.J. & Roslyn Gaines Foundation in memory of Carolyn Spector
Meals on Wheels - Case and Velma Hamlin
   Designated Fund of Oregon Community Foundation
Kroger Foundation
MDU Resources Foundation
Mehlum Family Foundation
The Marsden Querns Family Fund of Goldman Sachs
Kelly Ragan Richardson Fund of Fidelity Charitable
S Foundation
Spark Fund of Oregon Community Foundation
Umpqua Bank Charitable Foundation
Weyerhaeuser Community Fund
W.L.S. Spencer Foundation
COSME’S STORY

For 18-year-old Cosme, working and volunteering at FFLC’s Youth Farm has been equal parts fun and hard work.

“The Youth Farm has been so great,” Cosme said. “It’s helped me grow as a person. It’s taught me more responsibility. It helped me get my current job working as an educational assistant for the 4J School District. It’s just been a really good experience.”

FFLC’s Youth Farm is a five-acre educational farm and a work experience site for youth. More than 2,000 children and youth visit the Youth Farm and FFLC’s GrassRoots Garden each year. The gardens grow fresh, nutritious food for distribution through our network of partner agencies while providing opportunities for youth and adults to grow, learn and contribute to their community.

Cosme worked as a member of the Youth Farm Crew in 2022. After his seasonal job on the farm ended that fall he continued to volunteer, and he plans to volunteer into the foreseeable future. He graduated from North Eugene High School in December 2023.

“Cosme is a very dedicated and outgoing person who really cares about the Youth Farm and its participants,” FFLC Youth Farm Supervisor Ted Purdy said. “He is a great advocate for the work we do and gives one of the best farm tours!”

“I really enjoy meeting new people,” Cosme said. “I enjoy the work. I like being outside. It’s fun. It’s hard work, but it’s also relaxing.”
ORGANIZATIONS
THANK YOU TO THESE ORGANIZATIONS FOR THEIR GENEROUS FINANCIAL SUPPORT IN 2023.

$25,000+
Jersey Mike’s
Lane Community Health Council
Market of Choice
Murphy Company
PeaceHealth Medical Group

$10,000-$24,999
Kendall Auto Group, Inc.
King Estate Winery
Lane County Board of Commissioners
Octave Labs
Oregon Pacific Bank
QSL Print Communications, Inc.
Summit Bank
Sunrise Asian Food Market
University of Oregon

$5,000-$9,999
Café Yumm!
Dutch Bros
Essex General Construction
Eugene Area Chamber of Commerce
Eugene Disc Golf Club
Good Clean Love, Inc.
Jerry’s Home Improvement
Lazar’s Bazar & Shoe-A-Holic
Meals on Wheels America
Morgan Stanley
Natural Grocers
Oregon Department of Administrative Services
Organically Grown Company
PacificSource Health Plans
PakTech
Pentagon Federal Credit Union
US Foods CHEF’S STORE

“The Youth Farm has been so great. It’s helped me grow as a person. It’s taught me more responsibility.”

COSME
Once a week, Leslie puts on an apron to volunteer for FFLC’s Food Rescue Express (FREX) Program — a food recovery program that provides meals for local families in need.

FFLC recovers prepared and perishable food donations from a variety of sources including University of Oregon dining facilities, Meals on Wheels and grocery stores. We also receive and purchase bulk product. Volunteers portion, package and label all this food for distribution through our partner agencies.

“Volunteers are absolutely crucial to the FREX program and to FFLC as a whole,” FFLC Evening Kitchen Supervisor Graham Kroese said. “Depending on the product, volunteers can repack or process anywhere from a few hundred pounds to as many as 10,000 pounds during a two-and-a-half-hour shift. I am more than grateful that people are willing to give up their evenings to help their community.”

Leslie likes knowing that the food is not going to waste. In addition to providing thousands of meals for Lane County families in need, FREX keeps

*It's important that nobody goes hungry. It's some of the most important work that a nonprofit can do.*

**Leslie**
food out of the landfill. According to Lane County Waste Management, almost 46 million tons of food waste gets sent to landfills every year.

When she’s not volunteering, Leslie works full time as a data scientist. She likes that the FREX program allows her the flexibility to work and also volunteer. She also likes knowing that the food she packs on a Wednesday will soon be on someone’s table.

“I like knowing that I am helping so many people,” Leslie said. “I was fortunate enough to grow up in a household where we always had food on the table. I have two grown kids. I just think how awful it would be as a mom if I didn’t have food to put on the table.”

“There are so many misconceptions around food insecurity, that everyone who’s food insecure doesn’t have a job or is homeless or something. But that’s so untrue, because the cost of living has so far outstripped wages,” she added. “There are many people who work and they just don’t have enough to pay their bills and feed their families. They have to choose. Do I pay my electricity bill or do I buy food?”

“I just think FOOD For Lane County is the greatest organization,” Leslie said. “It’s important that nobody goes hungry. It’s some of the most important work that a nonprofit can do.”

VOLUNTEER GROUPS
THANK YOU TO THESE GROUPS FOR VOLUNTEERING FOR ONE OR MORE PROGRAMS MONTHLY IN 2023.

Central Lutheran Church
Citizens Bank
East West Tea
Emerald Empire Kiwanis
Emerald Valley Rotary Club of Eugene
Eugene Downtown Lions Club
Eugene Metro Rotary
Heritage Bank
Kiwanis Club of Eugene
Little Hands Can
Northwest Community Credit Union
Oregon Community Credit Union
Oregon State Hospital
Pentagon Federal Credit Union
Rotary Club of Eugene
Springfield Twin Rivers Rotary
Unitarian Universalist Church in Eugene
United Lutheran Church
FINANCIALS
JANUARY 1 – DECEMBER 31, 2023 FINANCIALS

REVENUES
$10,216,000

EXPENSES
$10,179,000

Distributed 8,328,000 pounds of food valued at $13,510,000.

Expenses and revenues do not include donated food, capital campaign, investments or in-kind donations. Complete financial statements available at www.foodforlanecounty.org.
OUR MISSION
To reduce hunger by engaging our community to create access to food

OUR VISION
To end hunger in Lane County

OUR VALUES
Compassion • Inclusion • Collaboration

FOOD For Lane County is a nonprofit food bank serving all of Lane County, Oregon. We are a 501(c)3 organization and an equal opportunity provider. We are a partner of United Way of Lane County and the Oregon Food Bank Statewide Network and an affiliate food bank of Feeding America.

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