

GBFB's Fiscal Year 2021 Impact Report

This was a historic year for The Greater Boston Food Bank. The pandemic continued to negatively affect Eastern Massachusetts families and communities, and GBFB heeded the call to feed more people this year than ever in our 40-year history. At the height of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, GBFB experienced a 45% increase in demand. In 2021, GBFB's distribution of healthy food surged an additional 20%.

As GBFB commemorates 40 years of providing nutritious food, there is no year like 2021 to demonstrate and underscore our critical role in the community. Thanks to dedicated partners like you, GBFB achieved our most significant year of impact to date.

2021 IMPACT BY THE NUMBERS

117M

pounds of healthy food acquired and delivered



96M

healthy meals provided

\$62.7M

contributed to support our efforts



640,500

people served on average monthly

190

towns and cities across Eastern Massachusetts served

600

partners received food from GBFB

\$500K

granted to our network for capacity building



286,119

grocery cards distributed

963

SNAP applications submitted

92%

of food inventory meets GBFB's high nutrition standards

274,700

households served on average monthly

122,600

seniors reached on average monthly

199,700

children reached on average monthly

Feeding the Next Generation of Leaders

When Mariela moved to Massachusetts from Arizona to begin her master's degree in Public Policy at Brandeis University, the cold weather wasn't the only thing that shocked her – the high cost of living did, too. Fortunately, thanks to your commitment, The Greater Boston Food Bank was there to help. Mariela shares, "Being isolated during the pandemic with new expenses—like books, rent, and high-speed internet—made the winter very rough for me. I'm so grateful that I could count on receiving food."

"I get cans of tuna and chicken, beans, fresh carrots, and cucumbers..." Mariela pauses, and then exclaims, "They even gave students turkey for the holidays! It's very thoughtful."

"They're very intentional about providing healthy meals, it's appreciated."



—Mariela
a graduate student who
gets food delivered
through Healthy Waltham

Read more about Mariela's story in the Fall edition of Harvest
available online at: GBFB.org/harvest-digital



GBFB Recognized in Top 100 List



The Greater Boston Food Bank was recently recognized in the Globe's 2021 Top 100 Women-Led Businesses in Massachusetts. The Commonwealth Institute and the Globe Magazine partnered to name the most noteworthy companies and nonprofits helmed by women. We are proud to share that GBFB and Catherine D'Amato were recognized as 28th on the list!



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YMCA SOUTHCOAST & GBFB'S FULL PLATE PROJECT

NOVEMBER 2020



The Full Plate Project is a joint effort between GBFB and the YMCA Southcoast to meet the historic rise in demand for food assistance and bridge the gap in food insecurity in the region. In FY21, The Full Plate Project distributed enough food for approximately 612,000 meals with 737,812 pounds of healthy food. Each month, an average of 3,716 individuals and 1,335 households were served. The partnership operates at five Y branches including Dartmouth, Fall River, New Bedford, Swansea, and Wareham. Take a few minutes to [see our partnership in action!](#)

HUNGER FREE HOLIDAYS IMPACT

DECEMBER 2020



As the needs of families increased during the pandemic's first winter holiday season, GBFB's 10th annual Hunger Free Holidays campaign garnered enough support to supply 33,028 turkeys, 38,310 grocery cards, and 227,369 center-of-plate alternatives. Through these means, GBFB ensured enough food for a total of 1,622,358 holiday meals!

LEGISLATION FILED FOR HUNGER-FREE CAMPUSES

FEBRUARY 2021



GBFB's Government Relations team co-leads the state's Hunger-Free Campus Coalition, advocating for legislation to create "hunger-free" campuses, eliminating food insecurity for students as well as the stigma around seeking assistance. GBFB played a key role alongside our bill sponsors in drafting and filing the proposed legislation. The bill, titled "An Act Establishing the Massachusetts Hunger-Free Campus Initiative" reimagines how college campuses are tackling food insecurity.

STATE-WIDE GAPS IN FOOD ACCESS REPORT RELEASED

MAY 2021



GBFB released a report identifying the prevalence of food insecurity in Massachusetts during COVID-19, as well as gaps and disparities in food assistance use, and data-driven recommendations to increase access. GBFB's Business and Data Analytics team conducted the research through a survey of 3,000 residents between October 2020 and January 2021. Results estimated that 30 percent – or 1.6 million adults in the state – were experiencing food

insecurity at the time of the survey. Latinx and Black residents were disproportionately impacted, perpetuating disparities from before the pandemic. Among the barriers to food access, self-reliance and stigma were found to be top reasons for gaps in food assistance utilization.

GROWING HEALTHY FUTURES – SPONSORED BY MATHWORKS

SEPTEMBER 2021



A \$1 million matching gift from MathWorks provided incredible momentum for the Growing Healthy Futures Campaign, which ultimately raised \$2.8 million to secure food for over 25 million meals – more than 30 million pounds – between July 1 and September 30, 2021. This was an increase of 73% from pre-pandemic summer food distributions. The successful campaign brought significant support to GBFB's childhood, family, and college hunger initiatives. GBFB partner

agencies reported serving an average of 249,683 households with 190,469 children. Additionally, GBFB's School-based Pantries ensured 64,469 meals to families, while GBFB's Mobile Markets at community colleges provided 33,020 meals. Finally, we are proud to share that our Family Meal Boxes delivered a total of 625,894 pounds of healthy food through the summer months!



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FORTY YEARS OF FOOD



Since 1981, The Greater Boston Food Bank has worked passionately to end hunger across Eastern Massachusetts by providing our neighbors in need the healthy food and resources they need to thrive.

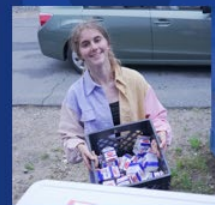
Commemorating 40 years of food with the voices of our community:

“DCU believes in the principle of people helping people. The volunteers and staff at the Greater Boston Food Bank (GBFB) have embodied that principle in every way for 40 years with their selfless efforts of supplying nutritious meals to children, families, and senior citizens in our communities who face food insecurity. We are honored to align with GBFB in working towards ending hunger for those individuals and families in need.”

- Digital Federal Credit Union, Foundation Partner of GBFB

"When I think of GBFB, my thoughts always go to the Chain of Giving annual event where we hand frozen turkeys off down the line. It could be someone from your own company or your direct competitor—everyone in the industry with the same goal on the same day—when does that ever happen? Serving the nutritional needs through our partnership with GBFB right here in the communities we serve directly—nothing could be impactful or more important.”

- John Scuccimarra, Shaws and Star Market



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