

FISCAL YEAR 2022 QUARTER 3 IMPACT REPORT

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APRIL-JUNE 2022

Perfect Hunger Storm

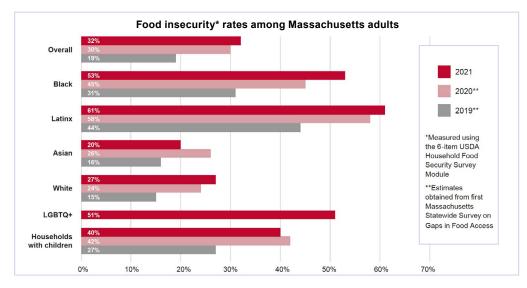
As GBFB continues to feed Eastern Massachusetts, the demand for food assistance persists at the highest level in our 40-year history. Many of our neighbors are still struggling from the aftershocks of the pandemic amid skyrocketing food, fuel and housing costs. Our 600 food distribution partners are counting on Team GBFB to support their work across 190 communities from Cape Ann to Cape Cod, but we need your generosity more than ever so we can help others.

Data Driven Impact



In June 2022, GBFB released our second annual statewide food insecurity report called, <u>Opportunities to Improve Food Equity and Access in Massachusetts</u>. The study revealed staggering new data on the barriers to food equity and access as the increase in food insecurity, pantry use, and enrollment in federal nutrition programs have reached historic levels. Team GBFB is using this data to inform its strategy on how to advance its mission to end hunger here in Eastern Massachusetts.

The study estimates as many as 1 in 3 adults in Massachusetts experienced food insecurity at some point during 2021. Our most vulnerable neighbors with the highest rates of food insecurity in the state include Latinx (61%), Black (53%), LGBTQ+ (51%), and Households with Children (40%).



Food pantry use among those experiencing food insecurity increased from 27% in 2019 to 46% in 2021, indicating that more of those in need were receiving assistance. 54% of food pantry users attributed the high cost of groceries as to why they sought help.

"I paid \$14.98 for a pack of 2 small chicken breasts and \$24 for a pack of assorted pork chops (4 pack). Everything has gone up a lot. \$241.00 in SNAP benefits is not enough for 30 days' worth of groceries."

-Food pantry client





Photo courtesy of Mark Alan Lovewell and the Vineyard Gazette

"There are so many people here who are one step away from being homeless or hungry," she says. "I know because I was one of them. When the pandemic hit, I lost my job as a head chef in a big restaurant. Suddenly, I was out of a job for two months with no income and children to feed. If it wasn't for the food pantry, we wouldn't have been able to eat."

—Sharon Brown, Manager Martha's Vineyard Pantry

Read the full story under Stories of Hope at <u>gbfb.org</u>.

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Bridging the Meal Gap Thanks to Your Donations in FY22

66.3 Million Meals

91,000,000 Goal

112,000,000 Goal

55,000,000 Goal

90 Million Pounds

\$45 Million Fundraised

Your Donation Impacts Our Community

Thanks to your support, GBFB awarded \$400,000 in Community Investment Grants to 22 hunger relief organizations in 19 communities across Eastern Massachusetts. As food need and costs continue to rise, this annual grantmaking initiative is more critical than ever to help strengthen GBFB's partner network and fund investments made by GBFB partner agencies to expand their services, increase capacity, and deliver healthy food to those in need. Learn more about our Community Investments Grants here.

"In its eighth year, GBFB aims to invest more than \$800,000 in our partners and this first installment focuses on infrastructure and capacity across the network. By investing in our essential partner agencies through grantmaking, we aim to sustain, empower and equip them to dream bigger about the impact they can have in driving out hunger across Eastern Massachusetts."

-Jonathan Tetrault, VP of Community Impact

A Place to Turn, Natick 2022 Bedford Community Table Pantry, Bedford Grant Billerica Food Pantry, Billerica Awardees Boston Missionary Baptist Community Center, Inc., Boston Centre Street Food Pantry, Newton Charity Guild Food Pantry, Brockton Franklin Food Pantry, Franklin Hockomock Area YMCA, North Attleboro MGH Revere HealthCare Center, Revere NIC/Nantucket Emergency Food Pantry, Nantucket Old Colony YMCA, Stoughton Our Daily Bread, Taunton P.A.C.E. Inc./Emergency Food Pantry, New Bedford Project Just Because, Hopkinton Rose's Bounty, West Roxbury Rosie's Place/Pantry, Boston Selah Day Resource Center, Chelsea USCC/Christ the King, Mashpee Veteran's Assoc. of Bristol County, Inc., Fall River Voice of Tabernacle Multiservice Center, Mattapan Wellspring Multi-Service Pantry, Hull YMCA of Greater Boston, Boston

Feeding Communities Across Eastern Massachusetts

Historic inflation and consequences of the pandemic have resulted in skyrocketing food prices. Families facing hunger are finding it harder than ever before to access enough to eat. GBFB purchases 70% of the food it distributes and is currently seeing an overall 15% increase in average food pricing compared to last year. With costs higher for high demand products like meat, dairy, fruits and vegetables, we need your help to make our impact go further.



GBFB Receives National Award from Feeding America for Outstanding Collaboration



In April, at Feeding America's annual conference, GBFB was recognized during the "Network Celebration Awards" for its outstanding collaborative work alongside its national peer network food banks. The honor was given to GBFB for our leadership, collaboration and support of the State's Food Security Task Force, a cross-sector group led by Massachusetts Governor Charlie Baker throughout the pandemic, which has resulted in the stewardship of more hunger-relief state funds, and more statewide collaboration between food banks, school meal programs, local community partners and state agencies.



¹Average based on partner agency reporting

²Based on GBFB inventory that can be ranked ³Our annual SNAP application goal is assigned by the state based on our SNAP outreach budget for the year

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WORKING ACROSS EASTERN MASS