

FISCAL YEAR 2023 QUARTER 1 IMPACT REPORT

Communities served by GBFB

OCTOBER-DECEMBER 2022

Reflecting on the Successes—and Challenges—of 2022

Happy new year! As we kickstart 2023, we're looking back at some of the major accomplishments of late 2022. Our Hunger Free Holidays Campaign broke a fundraising record. Agency partners served an estimated 43,400 new households for the quarter based on an agency poll. And, GBFB was recently named one of the top 100 women-led organizations in Massachusetts. Of course, there have been challenges along the way—rising food costs, spiraling inflation—but despite these headwinds, we've continued to deliver nutritious food to those in need, and we're eternally thankful to our generous donors for making it possible. With their unwavering support, we'll continue to advance our mission of ending hunger here in Eastern Massachusetts into 2023 and beyond.

Holiday Meal Costs Soar Due to Inflation

A *Boston Globe* article confirmed what we've been feeling at the checkout: holiday feasts are getting more expensive. All holiday meal staples saw price hikes in 2022, ranging from 10% to 30%—and with ongoing inflation, the price jumps will continue to impact food purchasing in the year ahead. Thankfully, with your generous support, GBFB was able to meet the demand this past holiday season, providing nutritious meals to families in need. Together, we helped bring a little joy to vulnerable children, families, and seniors across Eastern Massachusetts. Read more <u>here</u>.

Feeding Your Communities Across Eastern Massachusetts

From Gloucester to Fall River to Danvers to Provincetown, the demand for food support has increased exponentially over the past three years. In our fiscal year 2022, we met the demand by distributing more than 108 million pounds of food, the equivalent of nearly 90 million nutritious meals. Based on our agency reporting, our food pantry partners received an average of 80% of their food from GBFB in 2022, and more than 600,000 people—a third of which are children—rely on our food support each month. In fact, families who have never needed our support before are turning to our partner agencies in their time of need.

Help Us Reach our FY23 Goals

Meals	86 Million Goal
22 Million (YTD)	
Pounds	103 Million Goal
26.6 Million (YTD)	
Fundraised	50 Million Goal
\$20.1 Million (YTD)	

Story of Hope



Beverly Bootstraps provides critical resources to families and individuals north of Boston. They open four days a week for clients to "shop" the pantry for fresh produce, proteins, staple items and extras.

For Zuri Dixon, Beverly Bootstraps is her go-to provider of food support, particularly during the holidays. A 40-year-old mother of four teenagers—all with special needs—her days are dedicated to managing school and doctor's appointments.

"They brought the food in the trucks directly to my house! What kind of people do that? They knew, and it was because I'm traveling back and forth, and my child is sick—things like that," Zuri explained.

Read her full story here.

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10 Years, \$5.5M Community Investment

This past holiday season marked the 10th anniversary of GBFB's Community Investment initiative, which helps our partner network better meet their local needs through capacity-building grants. Since 2013, more than **\$5.5 million** in local investments have enabled food pantries across Eastern Massachusetts to expand and improve services, prioritize diverse and high-need populations, and deliver healthier food throughout their communities. We also kicked off our decade of giving over the holidays by providing a special grant to all our partners to support their operating needs amid inflation and soaring food costs. Read more <u>here</u>.

Stronger Together: Women Fighting Hunger

For the first time since the onset of the pandemic, we held our annual <u>Women Fighting Hunger</u> event with the theme "Stronger Together." A major success, we raised enough to provide more than 1.2 million meals, honored our outgoing Board Chair Joanna Travis, and heard insights from Island Food Pantry Executive Director Sharon Brown. Thank you to all who attended and our donors and partners for their unwavering support—we're ending hunger across Eastern Massachusetts, together.

12th Annual Hunger Free Holidays Breaks Records

The spirit of giving was in full swing this holiday season. GBFB's Hunger Free Holidays campaign, sponsored by Biogen and Stop & Shop, surpassed its fundraising goal by more than \$1.5 million—making it our highest-grossing campaign ever! The campaign kicked off with the Chain of Giving event on November 10, which saw Boston Mayor Michelle Wu, MA Attorney General and newly elected Governor Maura Healey, and other local officials come together to pass 1,200 turkeys into our warehouse freezers. With the support of AMG, our generous event sponsor, we also presented our youth award to the Everett High Marching Band. Read more here.

GBFB ranks among Massachusetts Top 100 Women-led Businesses

A reflection of our unwavering commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion, we're excited to share that GBFB has been named one of the Top 100 Women-led Businesses in Massachusetts for 2022! Congratulations to our CEO Catherine D'Amato on this recognition—and thank you for making GBFB such a diverse, vibrant, and inclusive workplace. Read more <u>here</u>.

GBFB COO Receives Food Industry Awards



Cheryl Schondek, GBFB's Chief Operating Officer was honored with two food industry awards in October 2022: The Community Service Award at the <u>Massachusetts Food Association</u> meeting on October 26th and the New England Food Foundation's Outstanding Service Award. Cheryl was recognized for her decades of service to the food industry, her community, and other non-profit charities that she supports. Congratulations, Cheryl!

WORKING ACROSS EASTERN MASS TO REDUCE FOOD INSECURITY



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22.5% of FY23 goal of submitting 1100 SNAP applications³ **190** Towns & cities



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

"We'll make holiday lunches more special for our guests. We'll add more specialty food items, flowers on the tables and gifts on Christmas Day."

-Soup Kitchen of Provincetown

"Without your support, I wouldn't have a job. I wouldn't be able to help others who may not have jobs, and need the services that GBFB provides."

> -Sharon Brown, Island Food Pantry Executive Director

