

# FISCAL YEAR 2023 QUARTER 2 IMPACT REPORT

JANUARY–MARCH 2023

## 2023 Offers Glimmers Of Hope

As Spring unfolds, we remain heartened by the support from the community yet deeply concerned by the ongoing challenges that impact our communities. **With 1 in 3 people facing food insecurity, the need remains persistent.** That is why GBFB continues to lead the conversation around ending hunger and restoring hope. Building off the national strategy outlined at the White House Conference on Hunger, Nutrition, and Health last fall, we've hosted legislators and Lobby Days—and engaged advocates to create alignment around our efforts. Now, more than ever, we need your continued generosity and shared commitment to help end hunger here.

## Your Generosity Feeds Eastern Massachusetts

It takes a team to feed Eastern Massachusetts, which is why we're so grateful for the support that we receive from the community. We rely upon you, our individual and corporate donors, and those who volunteer their time. The National Grid US (New England) team volunteered in our warehouse and made a generous donation, enabling GBFB to provide 800,000 healthy meals to our neighbors struggling with food insecurity.



## Ending Hunger in Massachusetts

On January 25, GBFB, in partnership with State House News Service/MASsterList, hosted a forum on hunger in Massachusetts. Anti-hunger leaders and advocates from across the state convened for a dynamic discussion on how Massachusetts can end hunger by advancing the national strategy outlined at the White House Conference on Hunger, Nutrition, and Health. The event kicked off with remarks from Congressman Jim McGovern. Read more [here](#).



### Meals

**86 Million Goal**

**36.5 Million (YTD)**

### Pounds

**103 Million Goal**

**43.9 Million (YTD)**

### Funds raised

**\$50 Million Goal**

**\$27.3 Million (YTD)**

## Story of Hope



It has been 35 years since Nicolas Tejada left behind his house and life in Chalatenango, El Salvador.

But now, at 69 and living alone, Nicolas struggles in retirement. His sole income is the \$800 he receives each month in social security, which must cover all his expenses. In the face of daunting inflation, food has become a luxury.

"God put a light in the heart of whoever started this pantry," Nicolas says, adding—"a light in the heart of anyone who even thinks of helping us in Chelsea."

Read his full story [here](#).

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### Extra SNAP Benefit Cuts Impact GBFB

On March 2, 2023, SNAP clients received their last extra COVID SNAP benefits, also known as SNAP Emergency Allotments. This loss of federal benefits will significantly impact a million SNAP clients in the Commonwealth—many of whom have turned to emergency food assistance programs, putting further pressure on GBFB and our network of 600 partner agencies across Eastern Massachusetts. [Read more](#) to understand the steps GBFB has taken to help our neighbors in need and learn how you can help.

### U.S. Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley Visits GBFB

GBFB recently hosted U.S. Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley for a special tour. During the visit, Rep. Pressley shared deep respect and gratitude for our mission and our essential work to feed Eastern Massachusetts. She spoke with Team GBFB members, listening carefully to the challenges we face and the solutions we are working toward. We look forward to continue working with Congresswoman Pressley on GBFB's policy priorities.

### Food is Health: Medical Community Supports GBFB

In early March, two hundred Healthcare, nutrition and business professionals joined GBFB for its Food is Health event at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center's new inpatient facility. We are grateful to our event sponsors Bristol Myers Squibb and Joel & Randi Cutler and other sponsors who joined us for a successful evening. Spearheaded by GBFB Board members Dr. Allan Hamden, Carol Anderson and a dedicated committee, the event highlighted the importance of nutrition as a preventative health measure and efforts to reduce hunger. This year's event eclipsed previous fundraising records helping GBFB to provide more than 600,000 healthy meals for our neighbors in need. Watch the short speaking program [here](#).

### Unleashing the Power of Fresh Produce!

GBFB kicked off March, National Nutrition Month, with our **Spring for Meals** campaign to raise funds to purchase fresh fruits and vegetables—critical for nutrition and good health. The campaign, supported by Delta Airlines and Boston Scientific, raised enough for GBFB to purchase nearly one million pounds of nutritious fresh fruits and vegetables for those in need across Eastern Massachusetts.

### Governor Looks to GBFB on Food Insecurity

Massachusetts Governor Maura Healey recently visited GBFB partner, Dwelling House of Hope, in Lowell, to learn about the food pantry's operations and the community's food insecurity needs. While discussing GBFB's work, Healey said, "This is so important to so many families who are struggling with high costs, including putting food on the table." [Read more](#) about the visit.

"I think it's worse now — because the prices have gone up tremendously — than where things were three years ago. It is a little heavy to handle sometimes, when you hear the stories of what people are going through."

—GBFB SNAP Outreach Associate



"I wish I could give you all a hug for everything you do for us. Thank you for your support. It means so much."

—Billie Jo,  
Food is Health Event  
Patient speaker



#### WORKING ACROSS EASTERN MASS TO REDUCE FOOD INSECURITY



**600,000**  
People served monthly<sup>1</sup>



**600**  
Network partners



**96%**  
of food meets  
nutrition standards<sup>2</sup>



**50%**  
of FY23 goal of  
submitting 1100  
SNAP applications<sup>3</sup>



**190**  
Towns &  
cities



**33**  
Mobile  
Markets

<sup>1</sup> Average based on partner agency reporting | <sup>2</sup> Based on GBFB inventory that can be ranked | <sup>3</sup> Our annual SNAP application goal is assigned by the state based on our SNAP outreach budget for the year