

in areas where the need is greatest. We are stride to meet their basic needs for food, dignity, and respect, and respective to meet their basic needs for food, dignity, and respect.

# Providing a solution together

I am honored to share this 2023 Impact Report which illustrates another year of firsts, milestones, and a continuously growing impact. It is simply inspiring that our community and supporters like you keep fighting to reduce barriers to food access across Minnesota.

Over the past year, we have opened new community meal sites, expanded our programming into St. Cloud, and formed new partnerships with like-minded individuals and organizations who recognize the alarming rates of food insecurity that our community is facing. We brought the Loaves & Fishes community together in-person for events — the first time since 2019 — and raised critical funds to carry out our mission. We rescued one million pounds of wholesome food in a single month for the first time in our organization's history.

We set new records of providing 5.9+ million meals and rescuing 12.5+ million pounds of food throughout the year.

None of this would be possible without supporters like you. We cannot say thank you enough to our donors, volunteers, and partners who keep us moving forward. We know the work doesn't end here. Our commitment to providing free meals to our families, friends, and neighbors will continue as long as there is a need. We look forward to the year ahead and finding new, creative ways to ensure that nobody has to go without food in their day.



## 2023 Milestones & Memories

In 2023, numerous milestones were reached as we built strategic partnerships with local businesses and community organizations. Our community meal distribution program reached new heights and expanded across the state while nourishing more guests than ever before. Our Food Rescue program far surpassed previous monthly objectives, and the grand opening of a state-of-the-art commissary kitchen in St. Cloud increased our capacity to prepare nutritious meals. These milestones are a testament to the hard work and dedication of our staff, volunteers, and supporters like you.





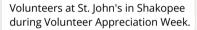
### **Volunteer Appreciation Week**

Our volunteers help us meet our vision of ensuring everyone has access to food, dignity, and respect. On behalf of our entire team, we thank you for your invaluable contributions to our work and for your ongoing support.

### Partnership: Feed My Starving Children

We had the privilege of partnering with Feed My Starving Children in Coon Rapids. Loaves & Fishes staff and board members came together to pack 19,224 meals!







#### Springtime Jamboree

It was a fantastic evening filled with great food, drinks, and conversation. We loved seeing so many members of our community come together to enjoy the beautiful spring weather and each other's company.

# Loaves & Fishes' new Executive Director: Kiley Benson



**New Executive Director** We're excited to welcome our new Executive Director Kiley Benson. His leadership and expertise will undoubtedly contribute to our continued success and growth.

## Internal Team-Building Thank you @WhirlyballTwinCities for hosting our team-building retreat! Our team had a blast playing whirlyball and laser tag!





Above our team is playing laser tag. To the left, our Director of Advocacy Debbie is playing whirlyball.



Thank you Riverwood healthcare center team for volunteering in Aitkin.

# **New Commissary Kitchen** We

opened a second commissary kitchen in St. Cloud! This expansion allows us to produce up to 700+ additional meals to combat hunger in Minnesota per day.



### **Waite Park Elementary Partnership**

This team of students made kits for individuals experiencing homelessness! We have partnered up to deliver the kits through our Street Outreach program.

Our Executive Director Kiley had a blast chatting with the children about the importance of Loaves & Fishes' work in our community.



Photo of our Executive Director Kiley Benson with students from Waite Park Elementary.

#### **Summer Internship Starts**

Our Summer Interns joined us as part of the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) to grow their leadership skills, earn a Food Manager Certification, and get hands-on organizational knowledge.

Our summer interns serve meals to our guests.





Kevin Doran on 5 Eyewitness News reports on the story of a million sandwiches



#### **New Record!**

#### 1 Million Sandwiches Served A

decade after the initial ripple caused by a single sandwich, Executive Director Kiley Benson is now crafting his onemillionth. Kevin Doran reports Kiley's journey in a special segment. This is a remarkable milestone.

#### **Thanksgiving Dinner**

With your generosity this season, we made Thanksgiving dinner possible for over: 1,000 families through our HUB program, 2,000 people through our Community Meal Sites, and 4,000 people experiencing homelessness through our Street Outreach program

Murphy family and their incredible donation for our Street Outreach Thanksgiving dinner.







### Fight For Food 5K

We are truly honored to to have been selected as the beneficiary for this year's Annual Fight For Food 5K in Eagan.

#### **New Record!**

# **1 Million Pounds Of Food Rescued in a Single Month** In July, we rescued 1 million pounds of wholesome food in a single month for the first time! Together, we are fostering a future where every pound saved is a step towards a more environmentallyconscious tomorrow.





#### **Brews, Eats, & Beats**

Our partnership with Mount Olivet Lutheran Church of Plymouth continued and we were selected as one of the recipients for the 12th annual Brews, Eats, & Beats fundraiser.



Volunteers at Brews, Eats, & Beats







### Our In-Person Fall Jubilee Fundraiser

We are grateful to all of you who attended, contributed to, and supported the Fall Jubilee. You were instrumental in making this event a resounding success! It was a incredible to reunite with familiar faces and embrace new ones after an extended separation. Together, we raised over \$150,000 to support our programming!







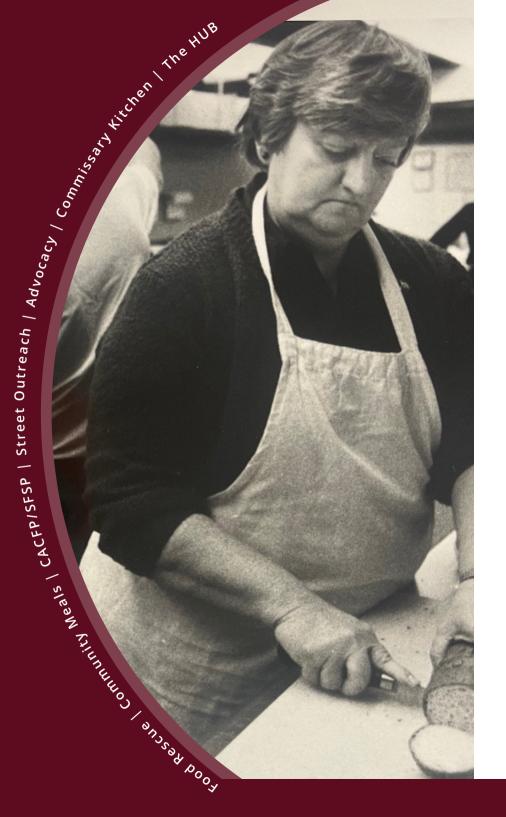


## **Holiday Party at Pinstripes**

Thank you to Pinstripes in Edina for hosting our holiday party! It turns out we've got some serious bowling talent in the office.



A group photo of some of our office staff and site coordinators at Pinstripes.



# The Story of Loaves & Fishes

Loaves & Fishes was established in 1982

For over 40 years, we have been providing meals, comfort, and kindness to our neighbors facing barriers to food access. While our programming continues to evolve, our mission remains the same: "To provide healthy meals to Minnesotans in areas where the need is greatest." Expanding from Dorothy Day House in St. Paul and St. Stephen's in Minneapolis, we now partner with local churches, community centers, and schools to reduce barriers to hunger for Minnesotans. We reduce hunger while also combatting our guests' need for a break from isolation. In 2008, we began providing meals and snacks to students in after-school and youth programs through the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP). We also joined the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) to reduce the gap in school-programmed lunches and snacks while children are out of school during the summer months.

In 2014, our dedication to sustainability and the necessity to cover the expenses of our community meals gave life to the Food Rescue program. Starting with local cafeterias, it has grown into partnerships with businesses, restaurants, schools, and more. The Food Rescue program presents a chance to minimize food waste and carbon emissions and addresses many challenges faced by local organizations. This led to the development of **The HUB program** through which we provide nonprofits with discounted access to our warehouse. This not only lowers costs but also enhances community partnerships and support. As we continued to grow and find hunger where it is, we developed a Street Outreach program. Through this program, our team delivers meals and groceries to people experiencing homelessness weekly to provide reliable sustenance and support to our community, regardless of the weather.

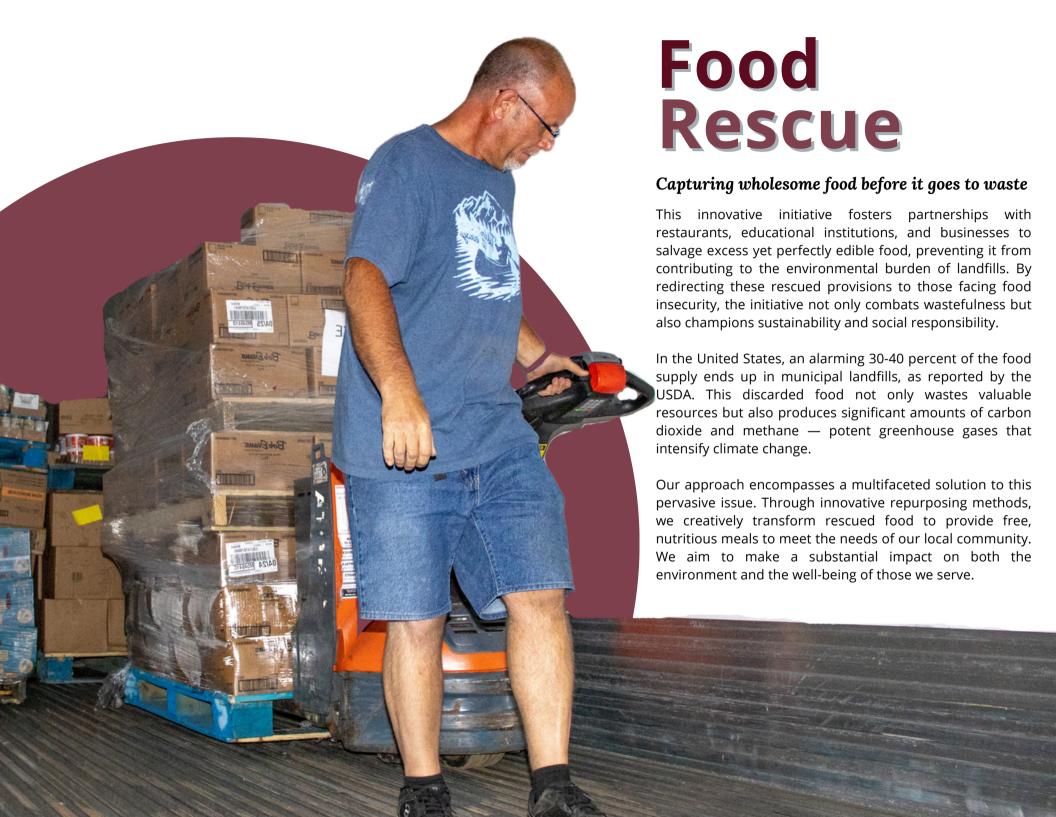
**Our Advocacy program**, launched in 2019, provides valuable guidance and connects individuals with essential social services to ensure a comprehensive support system that accompanies our meals. In 2020, our journey led us to open a **commissary kitchen** to help produce to-go meals in bulk. Through the **Cooking For All curriculum**, introduced the next year, our team teaches low-waste cooking techniques to empower staff, volunteers, and community members to cook efficiently. Cooking For All demonstrates yet another angle Loaves & Fishes takes to combat food waste in our community. In 2023, we made a significant stride with initiating operations in **St. Cloud.** 

We transformed a former Coborn's grocery store into a new Loaves & Fishes warehouse and commissary kitchen. Since opening, we've supplied bulk ingredients to our St. Cloud partners, helping them to serve 500 nutritious meals daily. The four-year legacy of our Street Outreach program in St. Cloud gains even greater momentum with a local food commissary kitchen and warehouse. Our St. Cloud programming is now more efficient and the impact is greater where it's needed most.

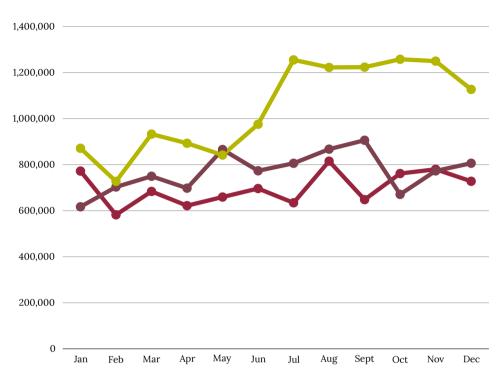
This expansion embodies our unwavering commitment to fostering healthier and more resilient communities throughout Minnesota. As we continue this transformative journey, we recognize the long road ahead. Since 1982, we've strategically cultivated new initiatives to meet community needs as they have arisen. With the unwavering support of individuals like you, we are confident in our ability to expand access to free, nutritious meals across Minnesota.

Together, we can reduce barriers to hunger.



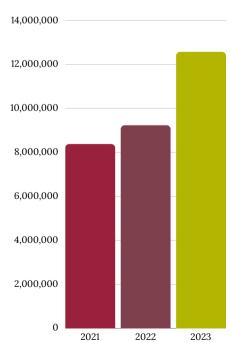


# **FOOD RESCUED**



12.5 + MILLION POUNDS

**36%**GROWTH
SINCE 2022







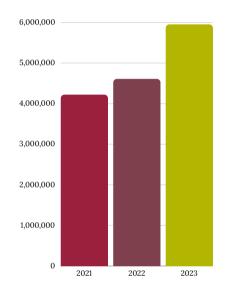
# **MEALS SERVED**



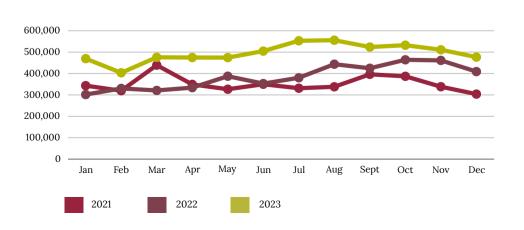
Minnesota Counties served in 2023: Aitkin, Anoka, Carlton, Carver, Cass, Dakota, Hennepin, Lake, Lyon, Mille Lacs, Ramsey, Scott, Sherburne, Stearns, St. Louis, and Washington

5.9 + MILLION MEALS

# 29% GROWTH SINCE 2022



## Community Meals | CACFP | SFSP | Street Outreach | The HUB



# Community Meals

Free, healthy meals with no questions asked

We go beyond sustenance by providing nutritious meals to our guests at our community meal locations hosted in churches, schools, and community centers. Here, individuals and families are not only offered the food they need but are encouraged to take meals for their loved ones, friends, and neighbors who may also be facing hardship. Each meal we serve is thoughtfully curated with a balanced blend of protein, fruits, and vegetables, ensuring that we're not just feeding our guests but nurturing them.

Furthermore, our commitment to serving free, healthy meals expands beyond traditional meal sites. We extend our reach into the community through initiatives like our Street Outreach program, The HUB, and participation in CACFP and SFSP.



# Hub Partner Spotlight

# Meet a HUB partner: Augsburg University

At Augsburg University, a group of dedicated individuals at the Campus Kitchen tackle a pervasive issue faced by college students nationwide: food insecurity.

This initiative not only supports the students on campus but extends its reach to the Cedar-Riverside neighborhood. However, their noble efforts faced a challenge — a small budget that threatened to limit their impact.

The Loaves & Fishes HUB partnership is a vital ally in the fight against hunger. With The HUB's support, the Campus Kitchen gains access to nutritious food at a significantly reduced cost.

With every pound of food they pick up, they make a tangible difference in the lives of those struggling with food insecurity, bringing nourishment, hope, and a sense of community to Augsburg University and beyond.





# Partnering with local nonprofits

Our acclaimed HUB program empowers collaborating nonprofits to access affordable food resources by tapping into our robust infrastructure and wellstocked food inventory. Through an intuitive online inventory system, they can choose the precise quantity of wholesome food they need while enjoying significant (50-80%) cost savings in their food budget, the convenience of food pick-up, and enhanced selection of fresh produce that includes farm-to-table ingredients.

INFORMED CITES
THOUGHTFUL STERM
CRITICAL THIRE

RESPONSIBLE LEAD

# 2023 Guest Demographics

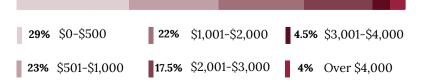
Guests self-report in an optional and anonymous survey each year

What sets us apart is our commitment both to serving guests with no questions asked and also to nutrition as evidenced in the meals we provide. Access to healthy food is a basic need. Therefore, we offer our services to anyone who is food insecure and vulnerable. This includes all Minnesotans in need regardless of age, gender identity, race and ethnicity, immigrant status, family structure, or religious perspective. Some are experiencing generational poverty, are precariously housed, live paycheck to paycheck, and are disabled, unemployed, or under-employed. Many are veterans, retired on a fixed income, and have underlying health conditions.

In addition to serving meals through our community meal sites, our Street Outreach program brings healthy meals to Minnesotans who are in recovery, struggling with reliable transportation, or are experiencing homelessness. We travel to our regular Street Outreach distribution locations weekly. We also respond to the evolving needs of those experiencing homelessness and visit tent communities as they form.

We developed our HUB program to better serve the whole person and provide additional support to people experiencing challenges outside of food insecurity. Our HUB partners serve a wide range of people groups including men coming out of incarceration, youth and adults experiencing homelessness, women experiencing domestic violence, individuals recovering from addiction, and more. We partner with emergency shelters and organizations focused on serving BIPOC communities, and we continue to seek out partnerships that will allow us to reach even more Minnesotans.

## Current Monthly Income



## Current Employment

**14.5%** Retired

18.5% Employed

**52%** Looking for work

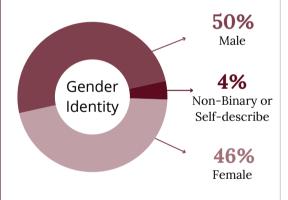
11%

Unable to work

4%

Student





4% Preschool 0-4

**6%** Child 5-12

**3%** Teen 13-19

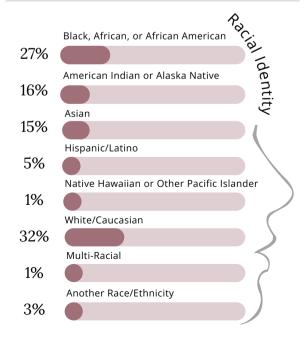
**17%** Young Adults 20-25

46% Adults 25-54

**13%** Older Adults 55-64

🚇 🚣 **11%** Senior Adults 65 and older

# **19%** of our guests are veterans



# Meet our Guests

# Finding Nourishment and Hope with Loaves & Fishes

At our new lunch site, Serenity Village North, our Director of Advocacy Debbie had the privilege of meeting Clark. Like other guests, Clark and his girlfriend find themselves in the retired phase of life, grappling with substantial health challenges.

While living on a limited income, it's not easy for them to access healthy ingredients and prepare nutritious meals. But now, thanks to our new lunch program, Clark can pick up hearty, healthy lunches to nourish them throughout the day.

We believe that nobody should have to choose between food and life's other necessities. With supporters like you, we can make life a little easier for guests like Clark.

Together, we're making a positive impact in our community.





# Volunteer Spotlight

# 20 Years of Volunteering with Loaves & Fishes

After raising three children, Jim and his wife Judy embarked on a new journey of service two decades ago.

Their involvement with Loaves & Fishes traces back to their friend Al who initiated their church's volunteer partnership. Eventually, Jim stepped into the coordinator role when Al's health declined.

Jim retired from a successful career as an independent insurance agent, then he and Judy found a new purpose in volunteering. The act of giving back became a shared passion that strengthened their relationship.

Jim fondly reflects on times spent sharing meals at a picnic table outside the community meal site with our guests and fostering personal connections.

Motivated by a personal history of overcoming economic challenges, Jim remembers the kindness shown to his family during difficult times. He was raised on a small farm where he experienced the transformative impact of generosity firsthand. These memories continue to fuel a desire to give back to those facing similar struggles.

Jim and Judy are driven to provide hope and support to our community. Their journey embodies the essence of our motto: Meals, comfort, and kindness.































**Our Minneapolis** commissary kitchen hosted just over 1,300 volunteers







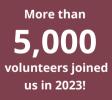






































# MEET OUR TEAM



## **OUR STAFF**

Angela Anderson Mary Franz Melanie McCormick Matthew Anderson Latisha Moening Justin Galzki Jamia Griffith Mona Moorhead Christy Ankrum Angie Ayala Carolyn Gross Mario Nelson Carlos Ayala Angela Hardy Ryan Ottman Fernando Ayala Aaron Haugabrook Ruffo Romero Kiley Benson Chris Haugabrook Alyssa Rydel Steven Shapley **Amber Bigelow** Robin Hill Chris Sholar Megan Bjork Matthew Horwath **Austin Bosley** Laura Ibsen **Brad Skow** Christian Bourdo Darian Jonatan Virginia Skruppy David Tambornino **Emily Kelson** Shatan Braziel Rebecca Bucknell Roberta Kress Jason Todd

Debbie Lieberman

Jason Maney

## **OUR BOARD**

**Chad Carruthers** 

Dan Forsberg

John Larson, Chair	Charanjeet Gill	Bill Smith
JJ Schlangen, Vice Chair	Audrey Johnson	Kurt Swiecichowski
Mike Jonikas, Treasurer	Twila Marie Johnson	Karthik Viswanathan
Catherine Holmgren, Secretary	Andy Nelson	
Bob Cheney	Connor O'Neill	Mike Degen, Emeritus
Jay Gerczak	Scott Smith	Mark Hoiland, Emeritus

**Beverly Tolliver** 

Levelle Tolliver



# Site Coordinator Spotlight

Meet Angela, our Site Coordinator at Peace House Community and Serenity Village North Residing in the Minneapolis area, Angela is more than a Site Coordinator — she's a proud recovered addict who knows the struggles of homelessness firsthand. This unique perspective allows her to connect deeply with her guests, providing meals and a genuine message of hope. Angela's journey with Loaves & Fishes began with volunteering alongside our Site Coordinator from Hope Presbyterian Church, Alyssa. It was an experience that ignited her passion for the mission of Loaves & Fishes. Today, she prepares and serves lunches in North Minneapolis as well as dinners in South Minneapolis Monday through Friday.

Angela's community collaborations have connected guests with essential resources many times which showcases the power of our Site Coordinators.

Angela's dedication to Loaves & Fishes is deeply personal. She intimately understands the struggles many of our guests go through. The transformative impact of a simple meal, a friendly face, and kind words motivates Angela each day. It is this commitment to creating meaningful experiences that drives Angela to make a positive difference within the community. Our Site Coordinators like Angela and Alyssa are invaluable to our mission.

# 2023 Financial Statement

Financials from fiscal year 2023 (10/1/22 - 9/30/23)

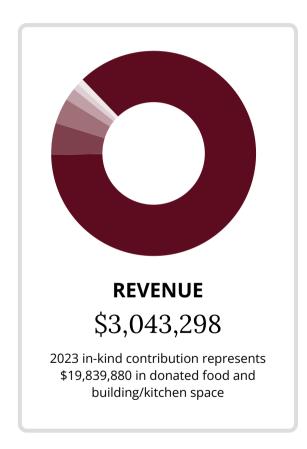
Loaves & Fishes is committed to respecting the privacy of our donors.

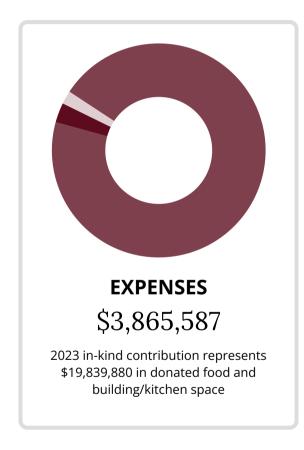
#### How Information is Used

Loaves & Fishes uses your information to maintain records, complete a transaction, communicate back to you, and for internal marketing purposes. We normally add you to our mailing list unless requested otherwise.

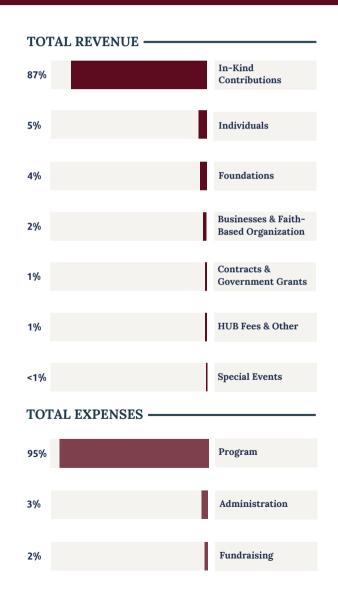
#### No Sharing of Personal Information

Loaves & Fishes will not sell, rent, trade, or transfer your personal information to other organizations. Use of donor information will be limited to internal purposes and only to further the mission of Loaves & Fishes. We assure you that the identity of all our donors will be kept confidential. Complete financial information is available upon request.





Did you know: \$9.50 of every \$10 we receive goes straight to programming



#### **Businesses**

3M

Abbott Laboratories

AgriBank

Airport Retail Group

All Kind Painting & Cleaning

Allina Health

Amazon Smile

Ameriprise Financial

Andersen Corp

Aramco Services

Arrow Tank & Engineering

AscensionPoint Recovery Services

Associated Clinic of Psychology

Auto-Owners Insurance

Bank of America

Bell Bank

Best Buy

BI Worldwide

Blaze Credit Union

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota

Bolton & Menk

Bon Appétit

**Boston Scientific** 

Bremer Bank N.A.

By the Yard Cambria Hotel Bloomington

Cargill

Caridad Corporation

**Christ Satisfies Housing** 

CHS

Community Alliance

Costco Wholesale Corporation

Crew Carwash

Delta Dental Driskill's Shorewood

Ecolab

Elevance Health

**EPIO Partners** 

**Estee Lauder Companies** 

Fight for Food

General Mills

Google

Great Southern Bank

Greenleaf Trust

Guidewire

Healthy For Life Meals

Herregan Distributors

Highmark Health

Illinois Tool Works

Kale Construction

KOSE

Kowalski's Companies

Kowalski's Grand Market

Kowalski's Parkview Market

Kyros Care

Larson Financial Group

Liberty Mutual

Land o'Lakes

Longfellow Community Council

Lube Center Sales

Medtronic

Microsoft

MN Fresh Fuel Coffee

Mosaic

MSP Communications

My Credit Union

Myslaiek Kemp & Spencer

Navigate Forward Nielsen Cares

Nordic Scents

Northern Metal Recycling

NorthStar Regional

NuVasive IT Ooh La La

Oxendale's West St. Paul

Palo Alto Networks

Pampered Chef

Piper Sandler Companies

Polaris

Principal Financial Group Foundation

Priority Painting and Finishing

**Qwest Corporation** 

Resan Partners

Resolution Life

Riedel Consulting Service

Saint John's University

Say Inc.

Second Harvest Heartland

Securian Financial Group

ServiceNow

Sovos

Standard Heating and Air Conditioning

Stenseth Samuelson & Boese Stonebridge Capital Advisors

Summit Healthcare

Thomson Reuters

Thrivent Financial TIAA

Travelers

Twin Cities Wellness Center & Recovery Gym

U.S. Bank Foundation

UNFI

UnitedHealth Group

Vantage Law Group

Voya Financial

Wells Fargo

WestRock Foundation

**Westwood Professional Services** 

Wildlife Management Services

Winnebago Wipfli LLP

**Xcel Energy Foundation** 

## **Foundations**

786 Foundation

American Endowment Foundation Andersen Corporate Foundation

Anonymous Aon Foundation Archer Daniels Midland Ayco Charitable Foundation

Baillon Family Foundation

Bank of America Charitable Gift Fund

**Baxter Family Foundation** 

Bloomington Community Foundation BNSF Railway Foundation

Butler Family Community Foundation

**Buuck Family Foundation** 

C.H. Robinson Worldwide Foundation

Caliber Foundation

Canterbury Park Holding Corporation

CarVal Investors

Casev Albert T. O'Neil Foundation Catholic Community Foundation

Commonwealth Charitable Fund

CommunityGiving Constellation

Edward Jones Charitable Gift Fund

Enterprise Holdings Foundation

Fidelity Charitable

Frank & Frances Wilkinson Foundation

General Mills Foundation

Gertrude R. Shiely Charitable Trust

Gravbrier Foundation

Greater Manhattan Community Foundation

Hardenbergh Foundation

Harold and Dorothy Madson Foundation

Harold W. Sweatt Foundation

**HMSHost Foundation** Holden Family Foundation

**Hubbard Broadcasting Foundation** 

Hugh J. Andersen Foundation

**Humboldt Family Foundation** 

Hutter Family Foundation

Initiative Foundation

**IWI** Charitable Foundation

James T. Nystrom Foundation

Janice Gardner Foundation

Laird Youth Leadership Foundation Margaret Rivers Fund

McVay Foundation

Michael and Donna Kaplan Foundation Mike and Linda Fiterman Family Foundation

Minnesota Jewish Community Foundation

Minnesota State Auctioneers Foundation

Morgan Stanley Gift Fund National Christian Foundation

National Philanthropic Trust Northland Foundation

One4All Charitable Fund

Otto Bremer Trust

P&G Fund of The Greater Cincinnati Foundation Pledgeling Foundation Ray Edwards Memorial Trust

Raymond lames Charitable

**RBC** Foundation Renaissance Charitable Foundation

Richard M. Schulze Family Foundation Saint Paul & Minnesota Foundation

Schwab Charitable

Sit Investment Associates Foundation

SpartanNash Foundation

Susan Stuart Seiler Family Foundation

T. Rowe Price Charitable

Tankenoff Families Foundation

The American Gift Fund

The Antioch Foundation

The lack and Sarah Matasosky Foundation

The Jay & Rose Phillips Family Foundation of

Minnesota

The Jaye F. and Betty F. Dyer Foundation

The Minneapolis Foundation

The Morsman Family Foundation

The Patch Foundation The Richfield Foundation

The Victor and Christine Anthony Family Foundation

**Tourville Family Foundation** 

Turner Family Foundation

U.S. Charitable Gift Trust

**UNFI** Foundation

Vanguard Charitable Whole Foods

Yield Giving Open Call Fund

### Government

City of Richfield

Emergency Food & Shelter Program

Hennepin County Community Services

Hennepin South Services Collaborative

Hunger Solutions Minnesota

Minnesota Pollution Control Agency Ramsey & Washington County Recycling & Energy

# Groups

Alpha Nu of Chi Psi

American Legion Unit 320 Auxiliary Gaming

City of Bloomington Employees

Goldbricks Club

Kiwanis Club of North Suburban St. Paul Minnesota Grocers Association

Minnesota State Wireless Association

Rotary Club of West St. Paul/Mendota Heights

St. Cloud School of Nursing Alumni

Teamsters Local Union #638 The Rotary Club of Minnetonka Twin Cities Sports Collectors Club



Thank you to the thousands of individual

donors not listed who make our work possible

including our recurring monthly donors!

# Why I give

"Loaves & Fishes' free meals have been a life saver for my parents. My mom and dad are both retired, aging, and living on a very small income. My mom's ability to chop up veggies and make home-cooked meals is extremely limited due to arthritis in both hands and wrists. Plus, groceries are becoming more and more expensive for them (and everyone).

My dad stops by Hope Presbyterian Church in Richfield a few times during the week to pick up meals for the two of them. Every once in a while, I will even grab meals for all three of us so we can sit down and enjoy a family dinner together. The meals are both healthy and delicious. I couldn't believe it when I learned that they are made from rescued food!

I donate to Loaves & Fishes because I know there are so many other parents like mine who could use some help. I want Loaves & Fishes to be around for a very long time to keep supporting those who are overlooked in our community."

-Loaves & Fishes Donor

















Ways to get Involved

Learn more at www.loavesandfishesmn.org

Volunteer at a community meal site, our St. Cloud warehouse, or our Minneapolis commissary kitchen

Attend an upcoming event

Donate online, via check, or through your DAF or IRA

Become a monthly recurring donor

Spread the word about our impact in the community

Follow us on Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, and Youtube









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