January, 2024 sequimfoodbank.org



# **ANNUAL REPORT**

**Mission and Vision**: Providing food and assistance to people and organizations so that no one goes hungry in our community.

# Hopeful

As we look back over the last year, I am proud of our accomplishments at the Sequim Food Bank. We began 2023 with a budget that was not balanced and unsure about food supplies from our emergency food partners. We had a lot of work to do. Throughout last year, our team worked diligently to procure food and strategically target new grants and private funding opportunities.



Hope is being able to see that there is light despite all of the darkness."

**Desmond Tutu** 

When services demand increased, we found more food, increased our volunteers, installed safety measures for volunteers and visitors, and expanded our partner events. We exceeded expectations.

Because of this combined effort, we begin 2024 with multiyear food purchasing funding, a technology improvement grant, and funding to launch an pilot meal delivery program in February of this year.

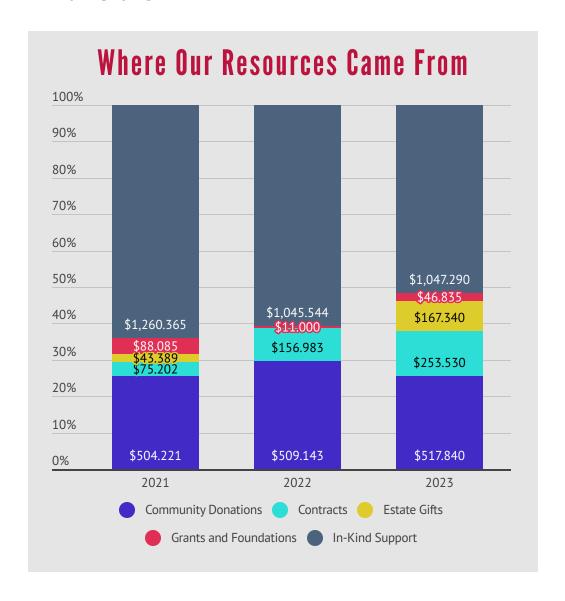
I am hopeful as we begin 2024. There is much we don't know. Food inventory from our emergency food partners are still unsure. Visitor need continues to increase. As we move through this year, we will experience successes and failure, excitement and sadness, and change. In spite of the unknowns, I continue to be hopeful – hopeful that with our team of volunteers, staff, and community support, we continue serving our community and meeting their needs.

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Andra Smith
Executive Director



## **Financials**

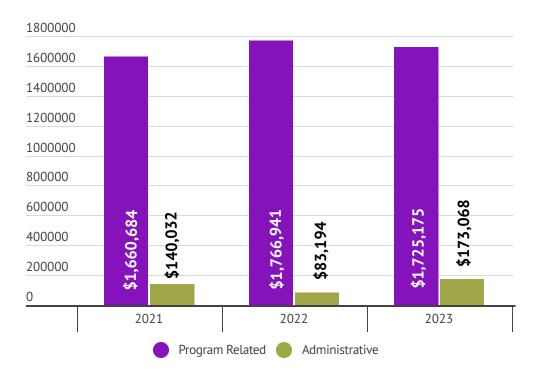


Historically, our community is our biggest supporter and 2023 was no different. Because of the efforts of our staff and strategic grant requests, our revenue is becoming more diversified; creating a more balanced revenue stream. In addition, we had three gifts from estates in 2023 totaling \$167,340.

## **Financials**

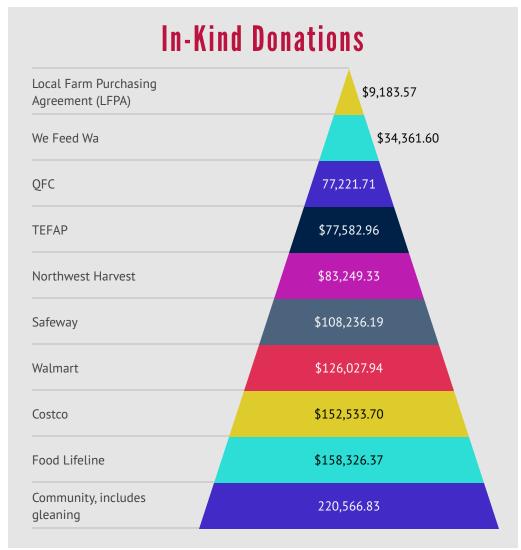
### **How We Use Our Resources**

The Sequim Food Bank puts the needs of the community first and 2023 continued to reflect that priority, reflecting our vision that "No one goes hungry in our community." As the needs of our community continue to change, we efficiently use our resources to adapt our programs to best serve our community. In 2023, our program related expenses totaled \$1,725,714.60 (91% of our total expenses) and our administrative expenses totaled \$173,067.95 (9% of our total expenses).



In 2023, 91% of expenses went directly to food bank operations.

## **Financials**



Once again, our community continues to support our mission. and was our largest in-kind donor in 2023. Our grocery store partners continue to provide food and their inventory seemed to stabilize the second half of the year.



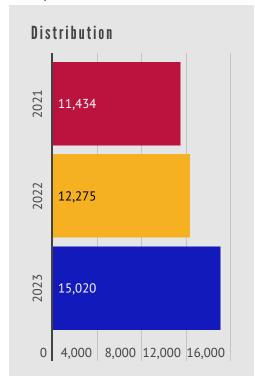
# **Programs**

#### Weekly Food Distributions:

We had 3,451 unique households (9,614 unique individuals) make 15,020 visits in 2023. That is a 22% increase from 2022.

#### Family Holiday Meal Programs:

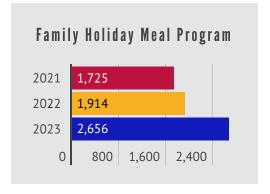
We provided holiday meal bags to more families than ever before - 2,656 families between November and December. Over 100 volunteers took part at each distribution and went very smoothly, even with a small gift card hiccup. The FHMP increased 39%

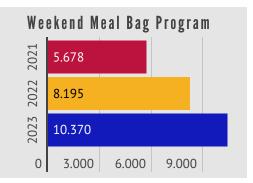


#### Weekend Meal Bag Program:

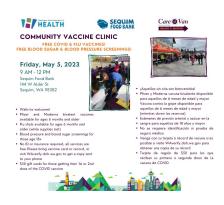
In 2023, there was a 27% increase in the demand for the Weekend Meal Bag programs which feeds Sequim's youth. A total of 10,370 meals were provided through this program and delivered through Sequim Schools, Head Start, and through weekly distributions.







# Partnerships and Other Programs







We will have a limited selection of free warm clothes, gloves, blankets, hats and other winter items available.

Representatives from partner organizations will be here:

- · North Olympic Health Care Molina Health Care
- Peninsula Behavioral Health
- Olympic Personal Growth
- · Standup Wireless (with free phones to those who qualify)
- And More!







MOLINA'



Last year we hosted over 30 partner events at the Sequim Food Bank. As we move into the new year, we will continue to expand our partner presence and providing our visitors access to additional support services. This collaborative effort and regular partner presence and through our work within the Sequim Health and Housing Collaborative is establishing the Sequim Food Bank as a services and support 'hub' for

Seguim and Eastern Clallam County.

Sequim Health & HOUSING COLLABORATIVE

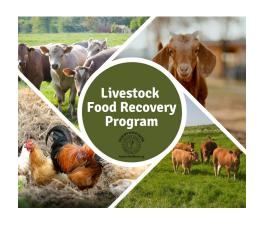
In addition, we support other organizations in the community by providing food and supplies totaling over 6,500 pounds! Some of the organizations we helped were: Little Free Pantries, Sequim Free Clinic, Boys & Girls Club, Serenity House, Peninsula College, Seguim School District, partner food banks and more

## **Food Waste and Redistribution**

Last year, 62,711 pounds of food were donated to local Sequim farmers through our Livestock Food Recovery Program.

Sustainability is one of our core values and through the dedication of staff, food scraps were diverted from the landfill and offered to local farmers. Because of this program several of the farms have increased their herds and better support their families.

Last year, 8,442 pounds of expired food was disposed of due to being past its human consumption period.



# Volunteers

Volunteers are the backbone of our success. We are able to provide the level of service to our community because of our volunteers. Last year, when our distribution numbers kept increasing, it became necessary to add additional volunteers during distributions. Our community was ready to serve! Last year, our volunteers logged 17,838 hours of volunteer time in helping fight hunger. That's the equivalent of nearly 9 full time employees! The dedication and support of our volunteers allow us to continue working toward our vision that "No one goes hungry in our community!"







# Our Board of Directors

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Patty Lebowitz
Mark Ozias
Joseph Sharkey
Andra Smith, Executive Director



P.O. Box 1453 Sequim, WA 98382 (360) 683-1205