



Fairbanks Community Food Bank HARVEST



Neighbors Helping Neighbors

Winter 2022

SO MUCH IS SO GOOD IN OUR COMMUNITY, 40 Years Later

All we can say is a simple **THANK YOU** for your continuing support. We live in an awesome and very generous place, where neighbors really do help neighbors.

We **STILL** collect local surplus food and give it freely to those who need it.



Fairbanks Lutheran Church has been doing food distribution from Day 1 of this local food bank (1982). They are one of the original collaborating churches. The team of volunteers in this photo do this work every Monday. Their new pastor Ollie Bergh is joining right in, too. Their COVID innovation is a drive-thru pickup during summer months.

PARTNERSHIPS ARE THE KEY

In 1982 our State was in a recession. A few people came together to make sure no one in the Tanana Valley goes to bed hungry. Here we are 40 years later and that is still our simple mission. Obviously, we cannot do that all by ourselves. Our business plan is still as simple as our mission statement.

In order to keep the doors of this local food bank open we need a **great Board of Directors** who are passionate about our mission (see the Annual Report of 2022).

We need **partners** to provide the salvage food to us and **volunteers** to pack food boxes for those who need food assistance.

(continued on page 2)



SO MUCH IS SO GOOD IN OUR COMMUNITY, 40 Years Later *(continued from page 1)*

We need **food distribution sites** in both Fairbanks and North Pole, and other road-connected communities in Interior Alaska. And those sites need **volunteers**, too.

We need **undesignated dollars** with which we can pay GVEA and Interior Alaska Natural Gas Utility for heat and power. Our job is to collect, distribute, and warehouse local surplus food. We also need audits, insurance, and staff to organize the daily work for the volunteers to do, and we need to pay for professional services which all businesses need for safe and efficient operations.

Each day we collect 5-10 tons of local surplus food. In 2022 we are averaging the collection of 10,000 pounds of food each day (6 days/week).

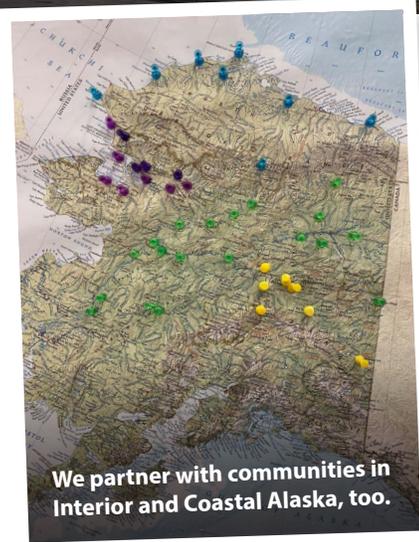
In 2022 we are averaging over **2,000 MEALS** each day (through several different daily programs), and that means we need volunteers to receive, pack, and deliver food boxes to those neighbors who wake up in the morning and don't know where to get their next meal.

Every day we know we need 15-30 on-site **volunteers** throughout the day in order to get the daily work done. Even during COVID-19, we somehow stayed open 6 days a week and met every food need expressed to us, in one way or another. We have very passionate and committed **volunteers**, many



of whom have worked in this food bank for decades. THANK YOU!

And, of course, two-thirds of the food we collect goes into the daily food boxes we pack in our warehouse and the other one-third goes to additional local agencies who have on-site meal programs. We do not want to waste any of the food that comes into our building, and our goal is to keep that waste to about 10% of all the perishable items which we receive. All of that takes coordination of dozens of partnerships each day.



Amazing Events

We STILL receive free food and give it away free. Which means we need events and donors to sponsor food and funds to help make this happen.

In 2022, we have had many amazing and creative events including EMPTY BOWLS (thank you to Fairbanks and UAF Potters, a Mr. Facejacket event, Chatanika Car Show, plus many food collections done by Alaska Peace Officers Association APOA, Midnight Sun Martial Arts, most local schools, UAF, AND match OPPORTUNITIES WITH Alyeska and Kinross Fort Knox in November and December). We NEED dozens of creative fundraising and food raising events in order to meet our community needs, and **our community continues to inspire us with their creativity and we are so grateful for their support.**

EMPTY BOWLS event, an annual fundraiser in April. Fairbanks Potters and UAF Potters donate several hundred locally made pottery bowls each year to make sure that no one in the Tanana Valley has an EMPTY BOWL.



Chatanika Car Show: 80 old vehicles and their owners assemble once a year at the Chatanika Lodge and talk shop — and bring food and money donations for this food bank. Always great fun!



Amtgard is the local branch of a medieval fantasy role playing game. They are **FIGHTING HUNGER** in Fairbanks!



These are Quota Club members who built "take out" boxes in September. Left to right: Cyndia Miller, Daniela, Mary Cotter, Kaye Kingkade, Vivian Stiver, Yvette Thompson, Sierra McCabe



Facejacket 2022: What a creative and fun way to raise money for this food bank. Thank you to all who have grown "facejackets" for this annual contest.



Have an Idea?

If YOU have a good idea, please call us at 907-457-4273 (45-SHARE). YOU are the reason we can say yes when a young mom comes in and doesn't have food for her children and we can hand her a special meal handmade in our food-safe DEC approved kitchen as "carry out" by Quota Club, for example.



Our Mission Statement

The Mission of the Fairbanks Community Food Bank is to collect local surplus food in the community and share it with local people who need it.

Board Members 2023

- President:** Gene Therriault
- Vice President:** Trevor Hanson
- Secretary:** Patty Walter
- Treasurer:** Hollis Hall
- Genevieve Bell
- Ray Bronson
- Nancy Hanson
- Chad Hutchison
- Bob Hajdukovich
- Uriah Nalikak
- Marisa Sharrah
- Ron Wall

Staff Leadership Team

- Anne Weaver, CEO
- Samantha Kirstein, Community Development Director
- Gail Ballou, Attorney

Contact Information

725 26th Avenue
 Fairbanks, Alaska 99701
Phone: (907) 45-SHARE (457-4273)

The Difference Your Donation Makes

We will keep you fully informed about the difference your donation makes, and we ask you to consider 5% for the Fairbanks Community Food Bank as you prepare for the next generation in your estate planning.
Thank you.



From 1982 to 2022 We Celebrate:



The collection and salvage of **76,000,000** (yes, seventy-six million)

pounds of local surplus food over the past 40 years. 90% of the locally collected food comes from commercial food vendors and local grocery stores in the Tanana Valley.



919,000 volunteer hours of service have

gotten this enormous community work of food banking done. Believe it or not, that is at least 75-80 volunteer hours donated each day, 6 days a week, 52 weeks a year, for 40 years.



The food bank is well-positioned to serve Interior Alaska for the next 40 years. Through recessions and COVID-19, we know

we can count on **over 4,000 individual donors.**

Our bottom line is that we still receive free food and give it away free, and it takes a whole community to make good things happen in Interior Alaska. This year has certainly presented many challenges, but the doors of this food bank are still open to serve. Whew!

Mission Moments

All of these stories and other daily stories of courage and donor excitement come from our **FACEBOOK** page. Please go to www.fairbanksfoodbank.org and click on the **FACEBOOK** icon to see what we do every day.

This newsletter is about how programs and services provided by a variety of local PARTNERS work together in our community. The bottom line is that the Fairbanks Community Food Bank's mission is to provide food assistance to those who need help TODAY. We work together with our local PARTNERS to problem solve. We cannot do this work without a whole COMMUNITY standing with us. There are so many stories to tell but in this newsletter we are focused on PARTNERS.

A teen moved to Alaska to stay with a friend, and ended up in the Fairbanks Rescue Mission. She was able to enroll in the Career Education Center (CEC) school which is located in the Food Bank Building, across the street from the Fairbanks Rescue Mission, and this food bank had been given gift cards from a local Safeway store cashier check-out community donor program. Those gift cards were being distributed through CEC school. This young student was able to get a place to live, an opportunity to graduate from high school, and meals provided by Safeway and this food bank.

If you're interested in volunteering, give us a call today at 907-457-4273 or visit www.fairbanksfoodbank.org to sign up!