

## FY 2022 ANNUAL REPORT



## BASTROP COUNTY EMERGENCY FOOD PANTRY

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# CELEBRATING SUCCESS IN THE FACE OF CHALLENGES

Executive Director Report by Tresha Silva

As I reflect on the past year, I recall the challenges we overcame and the successes we celebrated as our amazing team of staff and dedicated volunteers worked to provide the community with the support they needed to weather all of the challenges that 2022 brought us: global pandemic, historic winter stormsTornado, rising inflation and gas prices, and rising rates of hunger in our County (32% increase since 2021).

My goal this year was to bring back many of the services that we put on pause because of the Pandemic and to find ways to grow our programs to serve the rising number of our nieghbors in need of food assistance.

The beginning of the year brought a devistating tornado to our neighbors in Elgin. We worked with partners like St. Peter's Lutheran to provide a mobile disaster food relief distribution so that those who lost their food due to loss of power or loss of their home, wouldn't go hungry. This year also saw high fuel cost and a 40 year high-rise in inflation, that made it hard for many of our neighbors to put food on their tables. We saw a 32% increase in request for food this year compared to last and a 30% increase from 2020. The high increase in request for services coupled with continued challenges with food supply chains had us often with nearly bare shelves. With the help from the community we were able to meet the needs of our neighbors. THANK YOU to all that helped back that possible.



GMSILVA

This year we grew our programs and brought back services like senior activities and transportation. One of the ways we learned from the pandemic and grew our Brown Bag senior program was to partner with DoorDash to deliver food for free several times a week to our seniors that do not have the transportation options to get to the Food Pantry for their food. We also brought back monthly senior activities and transportation for the senior Brown Bag program participants. Lastly, we added another school to our NIBBLES program and now serve 272 students from 7 different schools in the County.

The Bastrop County Emergency Food Pantry & Support Center remains committed to fighting food insecurity and providing the community with nutritious food in their time of crisis. This last year came with lots of challenges including an increase in need, but we rose to the occasion. And the community responded with generosity and supported us through it all. Thank you for supporting the work by donating and volunteering, we could not do this without our partners.

Tresha filva

Executive Director



## **MISSION**

The mission of the Bastrop County Emergency Food Pantry & Support Center is to serve Bastrop County residents going through periods of transition by providing emergency food assistance, education, and support.

### PROGRAM SUMMARY

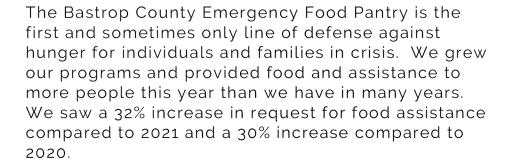
Emergency Food Assistance: The Pantry provides 30-days of emergency food, referrals, and assistance in applying for SNAP benefits. The Pantry provided 2,686 individuals with 188,809.2 pounds of emergency food in FY '22. They provided 1,278 individuals food through Fresh Food for Families distributions. They also provided 403 individuals with disaster relief food boxes.

Brown Bag: The Pantry provides low-income seniors with 25 lbs. of shelf-stable food every month; weekly access to produce, whole grains, and protein; assistance in filling out SNAP and Medicare applications. We brought back senior activities. The Pantry provided 244 Brown Bag seniors with 35,978 pounds of healthy food and 137 with additional commodity boxes. They also provided 255 seniors weekly access to fresh produce, whole grains, and protein which includes those seniors that received free home delivery through DoorDash! They also provided senior activities to 17 seniors.

**Open Arms:** The Pantry provides differently-abled, low-income individuals under the age of 55 with a supplemental supply of nutritious food and hygiene items. **The Pantry provided 11 differently abled, low-income individuals with monthly and weekly access to food in FY 22**.

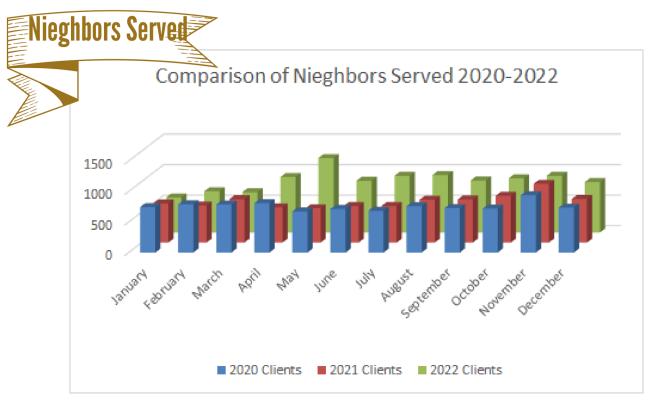
**NIBBLES:** The Pantry provides 5lbs. of weekend meals and snacks during the school year for children in low-income families at Lost Pines Elementary, Red Rock Elementary, Emile Elementary, Bluebonnet Elementary, Cedar Creek Intermediate, Bastrop Intermediate School and Mina Elementary. **The Pantry provided 272 children with 40,978 pounds of healthy out of school time food in FY '22** 

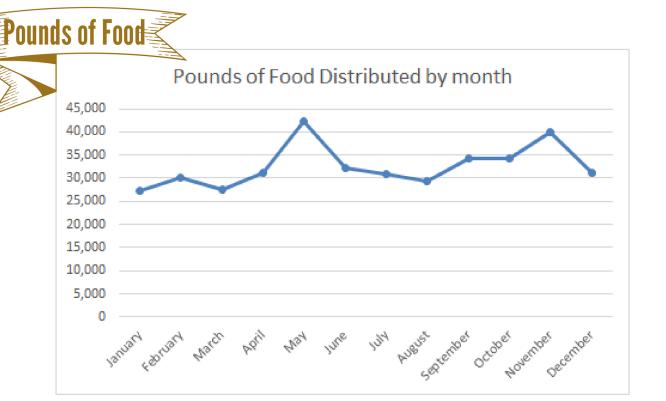
## FY 2022: A CLOSER LOOK





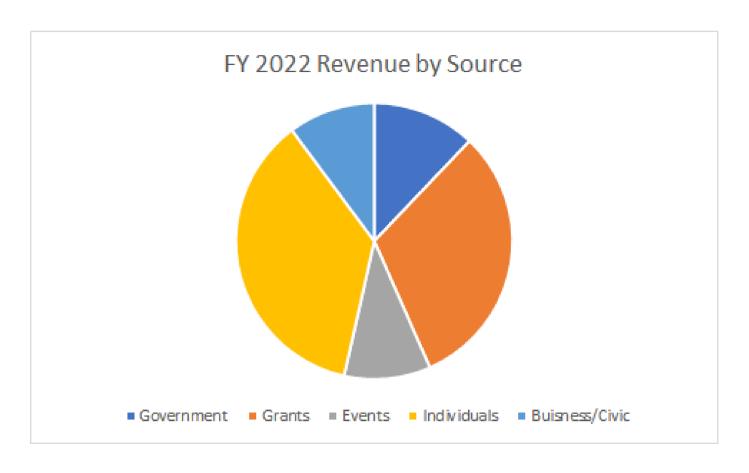
In 2022, the Food Pantry provided 4,297 individuals with 390,447 pounds of food!

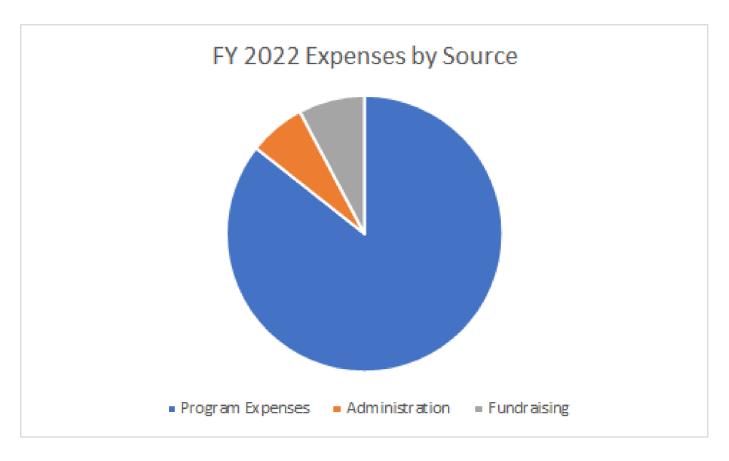




## 2022 FINANCIAL REPORT

The Bastrop County Emergency Food Pantry experienced increased food expenses due to the supply chain crisis. The community continued to generously support the work and mission of the Food Pantry. With this support, they could meet the community's growing needs and manage the increased cost of providing this life-saving assistance.





### 35 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE

The Food Pantry has been one of the gratest corner stones of the County for the last 35 years.





This June we celebrated 35 years of service to the County. We have come a long way from our humble beginnings in what we lovingly refer to as the "old house" to the five building campous that we have now. Each year we grow our programs and services to meet the growing needs of the community. We look forward to sharing the next 35 years with you all!









## **VOLUNTEERS**

"Volunteers do not necessarily have the time; they just have the heart."

– Elizabeth Andrew

Our amazing volunteers deliver food to seniors, answer the phone, assist in food distributions, date and process food donations, and so much more. In 2022, we were blessed with the help of for the 102 dedicated volunteers that gave 3,481 hours of their time and talents.

Because of our volunteers, the families in our community have meals on their tables. Our school children have food for the weekends. Our programs that assist the elderly and differently-abled function because of our amazing volunteers. Their involvement impacts our community in such a huge way, and we are so very grateful!











"Volunteers are one of our most valuable resources and we couldn't complete the organization's mission without them. They make things happen!"

#### WHO WE ARE

#### **EXECUTIVE STAFF**

Tresha Silva

Executive Director

Kelly Manfredini, M.S.W.

Director of Development & Marketing

#### **ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF**

Julia Dunn

Financial Administrator **Diane Garrard** 

Administrative Assistant

**Sherry Darvin** 

Volunteer Coordinator

#### PROGRAM STAFF

Sandra Dougan

Jessica Reader

**Beverly Anderson** 

Support Clerk

Intake Coordinator

Transportation and Emergency Food Assistance Brown Bag Program Manager

#### INVENTORY STAFF

**Stephanie Castillo** 

Inventory Lead

**Anthony Chavez** 

Inventory Clerk

**Andrew Garrard** 

Stock Clerk

#### **Board of Directors**

**Tonda Owens** 

**Board President** 

**Rene Flores** 

Treasurer

**Barbara Adkins** 

**Board Secretary** 

**Judy Seymore Board Member** 

Stephanie Wood

**Board Member Emeritas** 

**Deflora Thorne** 

Vice President

Josue Limon

**Board Member** 

## **HOW YOU CAN HELP**

Tell others about the Pantry and the work we are doing for the community!

Call the Food Pantry and ask about volunteering. 512-303-0033

Consider making a gift or increasing your yearly giving this year.