



BASTROP COUNTY EMERGENCY FOOD PANTRY

Comprehensive Capital Campaign FAQ

1. Are you a 501(c)3?

Yes, Bastrop County Emergency Food Pantry is classified by the United States Internal Revenue Service as a charitable organization and eligible to receive tax-deductible contributions in accordance with Code section 170.

2. What is your Tax ID Number?

The Pantry's Tax ID Number is 74-2485884.

3. How long has the Food Pantry been in business?

The Bastrop County Emergency Food Pantry has served our region since 1987.

4. What is the experience of the Food Pantry's Executive Staff?

Tresha Silva, Executive Director

Tresha Silva became the Executive Director in 2001. She brings to the position almost 25 years of non-profit experience. She began her career as the Education Coordinator for the Family Crisis Center in Bastrop, Texas. She went to Austin Community College and holds a certification from the University of Texas for managing a non-profit organization. Tresha Silva was appointed by former Bastrop County Judge Ronnie McDonald to represent Bastrop County on the Capital Area Council of Governments Aging Advisory Council due to her work advocating for seniors. In 2017, she was recognized as a Hunger Hero by the Central Texas Food Bank and is the current co-chair for the Bastrop County hunger coalition. She was a runner-up for Best Community Volunteer in 2007 in Bastrop County. In 2004, the Bastrop Chamber of Commerce gave her a point of light award and the Central Texas Food Bank honored her in 2020 for her work during the pandemic.

Kelly Manfredini, Director of Marketing and Communications

Kelly Manfredini received her bachelor's and master's degree in social work from Wayne State University, with a specialty in non-profit management. She has worked with the Food Pantry since 2010, three years of which she served as the Director of Development. She brings over 20 years of nonprofit fundraising experience and 8 years of marketing and communications experience to her position. She is an award-winning fiction author and has received recognition for her non-fiction work in writing about children with special needs.



5. Who does the Food Pantry serve?

Individuals experiencing natural disasters; the loss of a home, family member, or employment; a major health setback; and other life-changing crisis events that cause them to be food insecure.

6. What are the programs of the Food Pantry?

Emergency Assistance

When life crises occur, we offer emergency food, utility assistance, and help with applications to receive benefits under SNAP and Medicaid.

Educational Workshops

We offer short workshops through partnerships with local banks, nutritionists, non-profit partners, and nurses to help people learn how to budget, plan menus, avoid senior scams shop wisely, and eat nutritionally.

Whole Grains

We offer fresh vegetables, fruit, protein, and bread Monday, Wednesday, and Friday mornings to clients in our Open Arms and Brown Bag programs.

Fresh Food For Families

We offer a once-a-month distribution of fresh foods available to everyone in our County on the third Friday of every month.

Open Arms

Aimed at low-income individuals with disabilities, this program provides supplemental nutritious foods as well as weekly access to fresh produce, whole grains, and protein.

Brown Bag

Aimed at low-income seniors, this program offers weekly access to fresh produce, whole grains, and protein. As well as bi-weekly health and wellness-centered activities workshops, and health screenings.

Nibbles Backpack

We provide weekend meals and snacks during the school year for 272 children from low-income families at 5 elementary schools and 2 intermediate schools.



7. How many people do you serve in a month? Year?

The Food Pantry currently serves approximately 5,000 unique individuals, many of whom are seen an average of 7 times a year. The Food Pantry also provided information and referrals to 1,841 individuals, ongoing food support to over 300 seniors through the Brown Bag program, out-of-school time food for 272 school-aged children, and 35 individuals who received emergency utility assistance. **In an average month, the Food Pantry serves 1,300 unique individuals.**

In addition, we are an integral part of distributing food to other pantries that lack the resources (refrigerated trucks and manpower) to retrieve food from the Central Texas Food Bank. We have the trucks and manpower to retrieve and deliver food, but currently can't store and distribute the amount of food our County needs.

8. How many pounds of food do you distribute in a month? Year?

The Food Pantry distributed 446,859 pounds of food in 2023 and on average distributes 30,000 lbs of food a month. They served 5,609 of their neighbors, which was an 89% increase from 2020 and a 32% increase from 2022.

9. Where do you get your food?

The Food Pantry gets approximately half its food directly from the Central Texas Food Bank. The Food Pantry "rescues" 25% of their food from HEB, Wal-Mart, Dollar Store, and various restaurants in the area that otherwise would have been thrown away. The Food Pantry also gets a lot of food donations from the community. In 2022, those donations made up 12% of the food inventory. The remaining 7% of the food is from direct purchases made to HEB or Wal-Mart to help fill in gaps in inventory.

10. Budget: What is your annual budget?

2024- \$576,440

11. What is your percentage of admin, program, and fundraising?

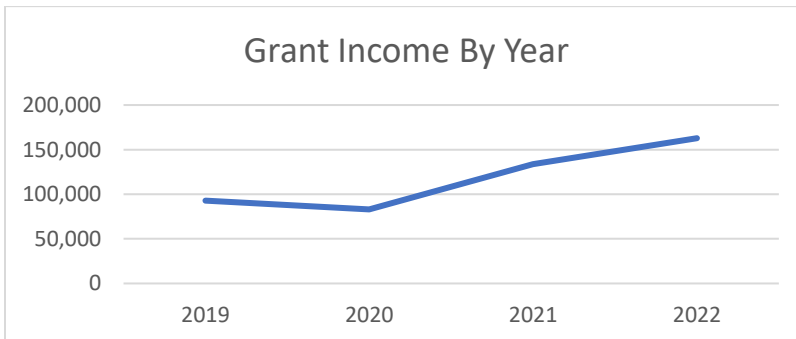
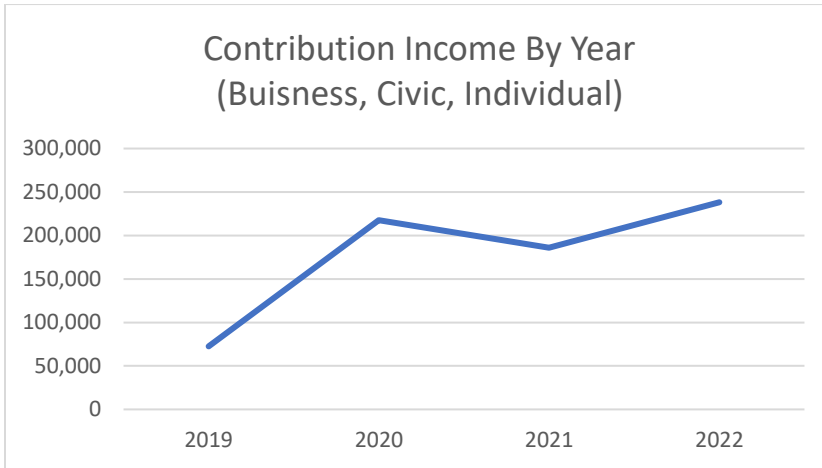
85% Program

10% M&G

5% FR

12. How will you support the operating cost of the new facility?

The Food Pantry's Development Department has been consistently raising income streams. They increased major gifts by 200% in the last four years and grants by 75%.



13. Grant Donors?

- St. David's Foundation
 - \$4, 113,520- Capital Campaign
 - \$140,000- Brown Bag Senior Program
- Carl C. Anderson Sr. and Marie Jo Anderson
 - \$20,000- General Operating
 - Possible Capital ask of \$75,000.
- HEB
 - \$6,000-NIBBLES
 - \$50,000- Capital Campaign
- Bastrop County-ARPA- Funding- \$990,000
- Aqua Water/BankCo- Equipment- \$10,000
- Moody- \$250,000 Capital Campaign



14. What is the cost of the project? Who are the donors?

The anticipated cost of the Food Pantry's Comprehensive Major Gifts Campaign is 7,500,000, which includes the ability to scale operations and resources. This means neighbors served through one or more Food Pantry programs will be able to think beyond their day-to-day survival toward a longer-term holistic approach. Ultimately, this comprehensive capacity initiative will help families on the edge of economic disaster by providing nutritious food and addressing the root causes of their poverty. Funding for the project will come from local individuals, businesses, churches, and civic groups as well as from grants from corporations and foundations.

15. What does the new facility look like?

Our current operations are conducted in a patchwork of buildings with a variety of piecemeal resources. In other words, our supply chain process is not streamlined. Staff and programming are divided among 5 aging buildings that weren't designed for this work.

In the new facility, food and food-related staff will be housed in a 9,200 sq ft facility which will be located on the corner of Pine and Hazel, where three of our current structures stand. This facility will include a first-floor level with warehouse space, three intake rooms, and a "grocery store" where clients can "shop" for their food. The Fayette Street building will be repurposed into a communication education center, which will include space for workshop classes and a commercial kitchen. Having all of the food in one structure will tighten our supply chain process, ease communication, strengthen bonds between team members, and provide more user-friendly functionality for our clients.

The footprint of the new facility and repurposed education building are currently in development, and we would be pleased to share updates with our friends and neighbors as details are finalized.

16. Do you own your land?

We sure do!

17. Are you financing any part of this project?

If needed, the Food Pantry may pursue bridge financing, which helps us keep the forward momentum of the campaign in motion by "bridging" the gap for funding the



construction of our new buildings and renovations. This is due to donor pledge payments which are committed over multiple years.

18. Operational partners for BCEFP

- Local Bastrop businesses where food is rescued (refer to the map in Case/Fact Sheet)
- City of Bastrop
- Bastrop County
- Other food pantries in the Bastrop County food desert (As a leader and large-scale operator within our region's food relief ecosystem, the Food Pantry assists smaller local pantries and relief groups by bridging the supply gap between them and the Central Texas Food Bank.)

Please refer to the Fact Sheet/Case Statement for an explanation and visual of the Bastrop County food desert.

19. Who are the project partners and team?

- Col-lab Studio, Project Architect
- Shiva Shankar, Civil Engineer – Paradise Engineers
- Fayruz Benyousef Consulting, Generosity Experts, Fund Development Consultant Team

20. Naming opportunities

We have a wide variety of naming opportunities for our neighbors to choose from.

21. Why is this project necessary?

Several factors have led to an increased need for emergency and ongoing food support.

Natural Disasters

For those experiencing disasters, the Bastrop County Emergency Food Pantry has always been a port in the storm. As emergencies increase—fires, floods, historic winter storms, and global pandemics—our port becomes ever more critical. According to the National Center for Environmental Information, the State of Texas is the most disaster-prone state in the nation. Nearly 50% of all the billion-dollar-disasters in the US between 2010-2019 impacted Texas. Our County alone has been hit with 10 federally declared disasters in the last decade.



Rising Population and Inflation

The Texas population is expected to double in 30 years. In 2019, the census data reflected that Bastrop County was the 18th fastest-growing county in the state, growing by 30% in the last 8 years. In the last two years, it has grown by 2% more!

Simultaneously, inflation has risen 8% in the last year, driving up the cost of living. Many people are moving into our County to avoid the high cost of living in Austin and other urban centers. For struggling families, rent absorbs so much of their income that food becomes secondary. There is often a 22% gap between the amount of food families need and the amount they can afford.

Nutritional Deficiency

Food quality suffers when food budgets are insufficient and healthy food is hard to come by. Nutrition is too often a luxury and many of our neighbors and their children are currently battling health and behavioral issues due to poor nutrition.

Remote Access

Rural communities experience hunger at a much higher rate than their urban counterparts, and the state of Texas' rate is higher than the national average. The challenges associated with living remotely—lack of transportation and access to healthy foods—lead to hunger; poor nutrition; increased risk of chronic diseases like diabetes; poorer mental health; and behavioral and academic barriers in children. (Feeding Texas Hunger Atlas 2014).

22. What are the materials being used in construction?

The exterior building materials include the following:

- Two different brick colors
- Two different EIFS (Exterior Insulation Finishing System) colors
- Metal Roof Panels
- Exposed Painted Steel Columns and Beams
- Storefront Glazing
- Pre-Fabricated Metal Awnings
- Structural Canopies with metal wood-look soffits
- Concrete half walls with Wire Mesh Fence and Gates leading to exterior patio
- Wood fence