



# FY 2024 ANNUAL REPORT



## BASTROP COUNTY EMERGENCY FOOD PANTRY

WWW.BASTROPFOODPANTRY.ORG 512-303-0033  
P.O. BOX 953 BASTROP, TX 78602 806 FAYETTE STREET  
BASTROP, TX 78602



# BUILDING TOWARDS A BETTER TOMORROW!

Executive Director Report by Tresha Silva

As we look back on 2024, I'm filled with both pride and gratitude for all we've been able to accomplish, especially in light of growing food insecurity. For the second year in a row we have experienced a sharp increase in request for food and support services. Thanks to the hard work and dedication of our staff, volunteers, and supporters like you, we've still been able to serve our neighbors in need.

This year, we served 27% more people than we did in 2022, 67% more than 2021, and 74% more than 2020. For the second year in a row, we distributed nearly half a million pounds of food. That's a lot of meals shared with families, seniors, and individuals who are struggling to make ends meet. As we continue to serve more people, we've had to spend more money to keep up with the growing need. In 2024, we spent \$42,199 to purchase food for our programs. It was also the last year we ran our programs out of ageing buildings, which has been a huge milestone for us and the community!

In September, we kicked off the building phase of our capital campaign for our new 9,200 square-foot building, and we couldn't be more excited about the future. With this new space, we'll be able to store and distribute up to one million pounds of food each year. To help us through the construction, we also installed a new outdoor refrigeration unit to make sure we can continue storing food safely and efficiently while we wait for the new building to be completed.

Looking ahead to 2025, we're focusing on keeping things running smoothly at our Fayette Street location while partnering with Ascension Catholic Church to provide food distributions to seniors. We're also working hard to meet the challenge grant from the Mabee Foundation, which means we have to raise \$950,000 by July 2025 to complete the fundraising for our new building.

That's where you come in. We're asking for your help. Every donation counts and brings us one step closer to making the new building a reality. If you're able to give, we would be so grateful. Together, we can ensure that we continue to meet the growing needs of our neighbors and build a stronger, more sustainable food pantry for years to come.

Thank you for your ongoing support, and for being part of our mission to end food insecurity in Bastrop County. We couldn't do it without you.

Warmly,

*Tresha Silva*

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 4,238 unique individuals with 271,477 pounds of emergency food in FY '24. They provided 1,296 individuals with 34,105 lbs. of food through Fresh Food for Families distributions. The average person visits 2-3 times a year.**

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**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. **The Pantry provided 332 unique Brown Bag seniors with 37,555 pounds of healthy food and 176 with additional commodity boxes. They also provided 346 unique seniors and individuals with disabilities weekly access to fresh produce, whole grains, and protein which includes those seniors that received free home delivery. They also provided senior activities to 36 seniors.**

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**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 15 differently-abled, low-income individuals 931 lbs. of food.**

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**NIBBLES:** The Pantry provides 5 lbs. 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, El Camino Real Elementary, Bastrop Intermediate School and Mina Elementary. **The Pantry provided 272 children with 28,753 pounds of healthy out of school time food in FY '24**

# FY 2024: A CLOSER LOOK

The Bastrop County Emergency Food Pantry is the first and sometimes only line of defense against hunger for individuals and families in crisis in Bastrop County. They are the **ONLY** food pantry in the county that is open five days a week. They are also the only food pantry that serves the entire county.

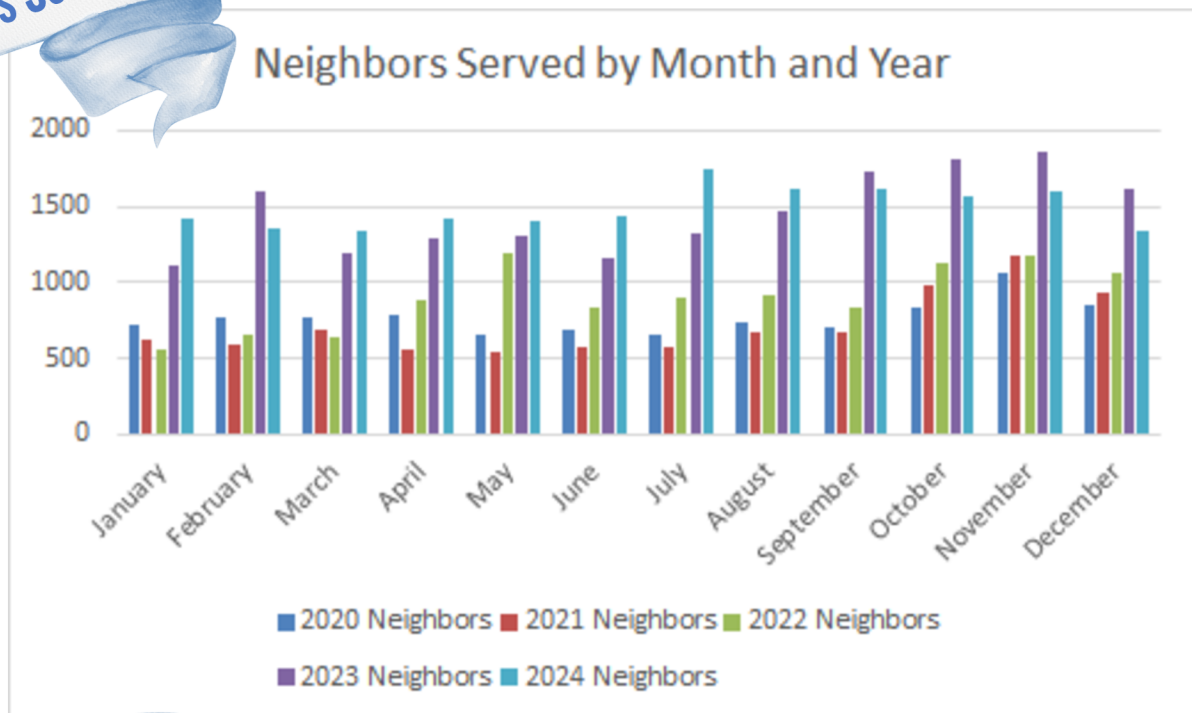


They served another record number of our neighbors in 2024 and anticipate that the number served will remain at these high levels for 2025.

**In 2024, the Food Pantry provided 5,460 unique individuals with 487,932 pounds of food!\***

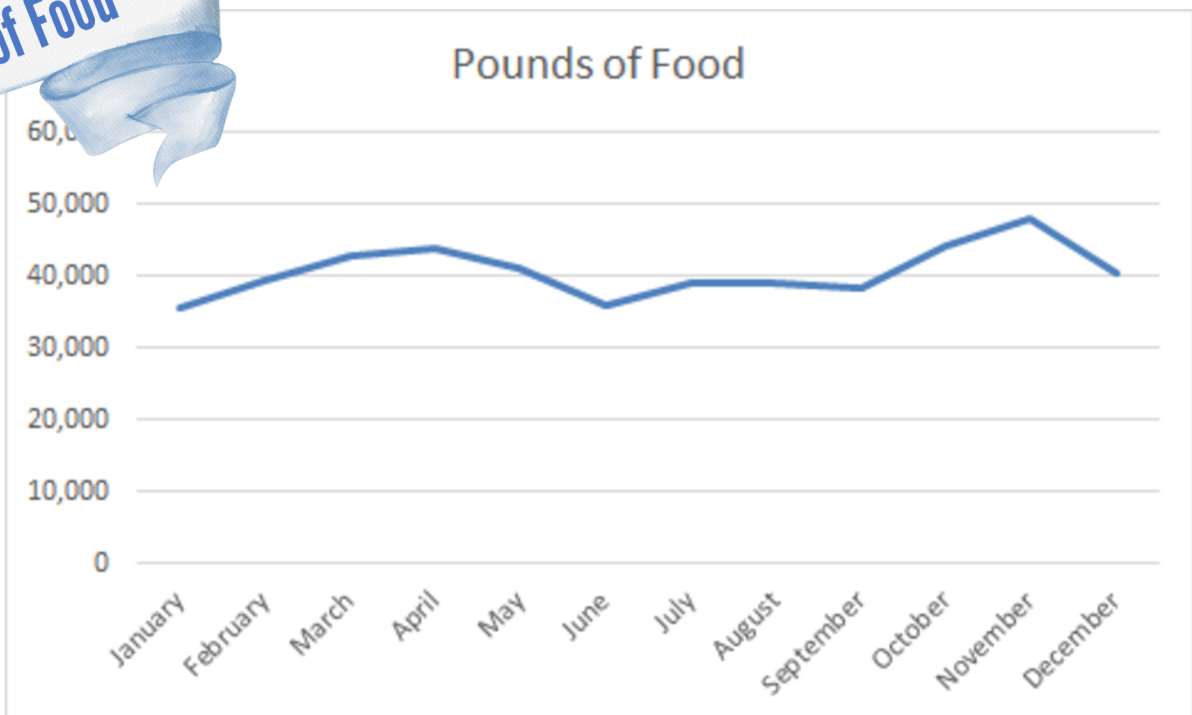
**Neighbors Served**

Neighbors Served by Month and Year



**Pounds of Food**

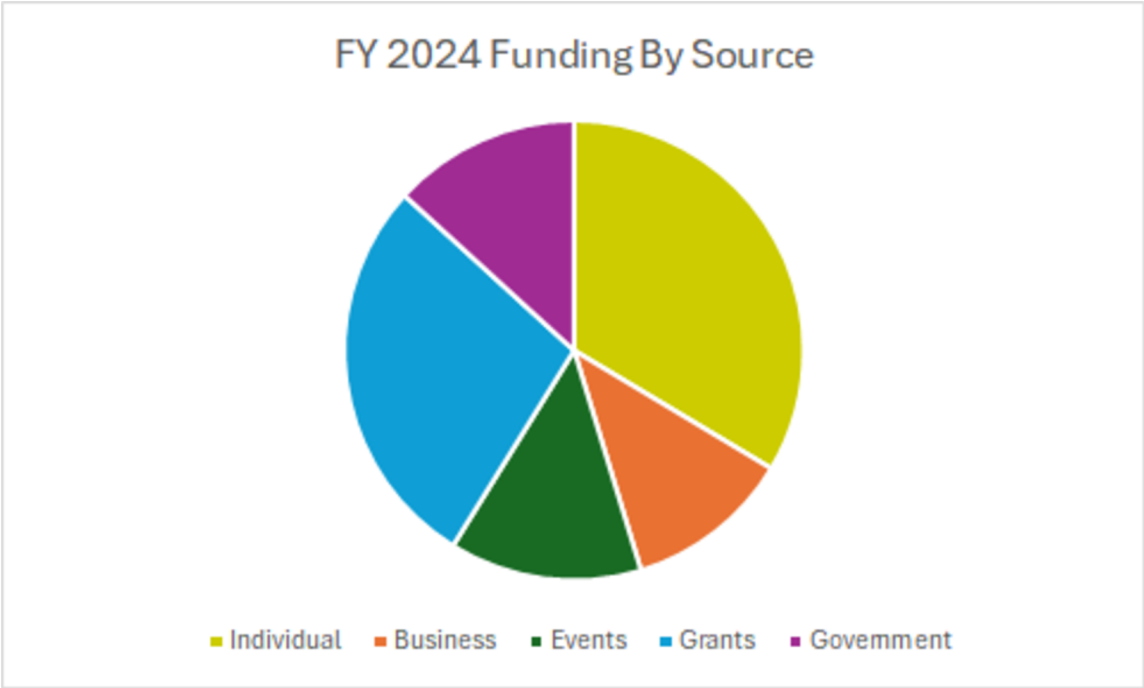
Pounds of Food



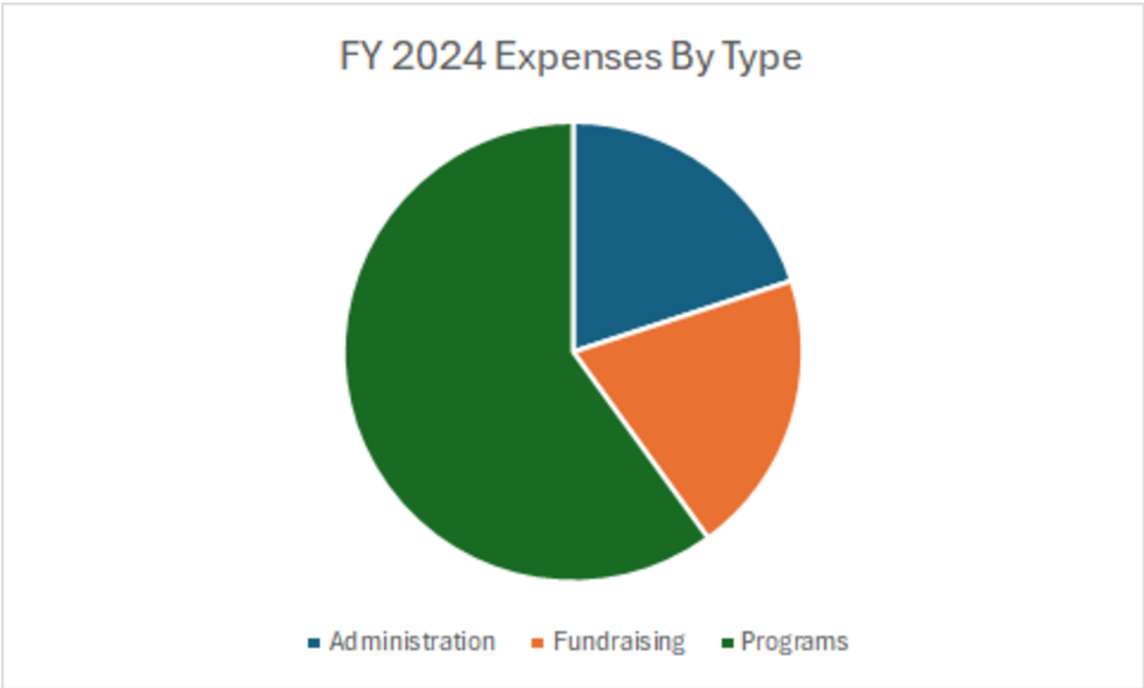
\*Pounds of food listed is higher than what is listed in IMPACT postcard when amount was corrected for NIBBLES program.

# 2024 FINANCIAL REPORT

The Bastrop County Emergency Food Pantry experienced increased food expenses due to inflation as well as low and inconsistent food from the food supply network. The community continued to generously support the work and mission of the Food Pantry. With this support, they continued to meet the community's growing needs and manage the increased cost of providing this life-saving assistance.



In 2024, the Food Pantry purchased a record amount of food at a cost of \$42,199.22!



The expense category includes the capital campaign, which makes the management administration and fundraising abnormally high.

# EYES TOWARD THE FUTURE

What does the future of food insecurity and food assistance look like for Bastrop County?



*Bastrop County takes care of it's own...*

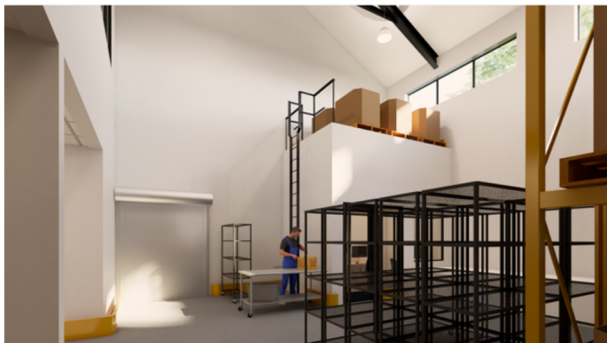
In 2024, the Good Neighbor capital campaign went public after raising over 75% of the funding for the project. As of December 2024, the Food Pantry had raised 96% of the funds needed to complete this project!

*"We love our campus and the buildings that sit on them. They have been a blessing to us these 38 years, but the time has come to move forward with the community's needs in the forefront."- Tresha Silva*



Our new, 9,200 sq ft. facility will double our food storage capabilities, streamline our inventory process, and allow us to serve our neighbors in a more efficient way.

Our favorite feature of the new facility will be the "grocery store" where our neighbors can "shop" for the foods they want for their families. This decreases food waste and gives back some dignity to the people that come to us for help.



The warehouse will allow us to store all of our food in one central location instead of in five separate buildings. It will double our storage and streamline the process in which we bring in and distribute food to the community.

The new campus will include shared spaces for the community to enjoy, including a beautiful teaching garden, computer lab, and teaching and demonstration kitchen.





# UNDER CONSTRUCTION

Impact of the capital campaign and progress on construction...

In September, our support center, an old camp swift building, which housed our senior program, was removed from the property. This building had been used to serve seniors since 1990! We were sad to see it go, but excited for the future building!

During the construction phase of our capital campaign, most of the team's office space was impacted. The Food Pantry rented a space on Main Street to house our senior program staff and our administrative staff.



Beverly, Sandra, and Sherry in front of the support center.



Temporary office at 1112 Main



This fall, we also installed an outdoor refrigeration unit to help us maintain the inventory we needed to continue uninterrupted service to the community. The unit will also help the Food Pantry meet their goal of being able to increase their storage and distribution capacity to 1 million pounds of food in the new facility.



## Sneak Peak 2025



# 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 distributions, date and process food donations, and so much more. In 2024, 105 Volunteers contributed 5,300 hours or the equivalence of 3 additional FT employees at the pantry.

**105 Volunteers contributed 5,300 hours or the equivalence of 3 additional FT employees at the pantry.**

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!

Thank you



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

–Tresha Silva

# WHO WE ARE

## EXECUTIVE STAFF

**Tresha Silva**

Executive  
Director

**Kelly Manfredini, M.S.W.**

Director of Marketing &  
Communications

## ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

**Julia Dunn**

Financial  
Administrator

**CiCi Hall**

Administrative  
Assistant

**Sherry Darvin**

Volunteer  
Coordinator

**Frances Naranjo**

Development  
Assistant

## PROGRAM STAFF

**Sandra Dougan**

Transportation and  
Support Clerk

**Celine Garcia**

Emergency Food Assistance  
Intake Coordinator

**Beverly Anderson**

Brown Bag Program  
Manager

## INVENTORY STAFF

**Stephanie Castillo**

Inventory Lead

**Thomas White**

Inventory Clerk

## Board of Directors

**Tonda Owens**

Board President

**Rene Flores**

Board Member

**Barbara Adkins**

Board Member

**Judy Seymore**

Board Secretary

**Stephanie Wood**

Board Member Emeritus

**Deflora Thorne**

Vice President

**Josue Limon**

Treasurer

**Barbara Ramirez-Perez**

Board Member

# HOW YOU CAN HELP

- ✓ Tell others about the Pantry and the work we are doing for the community!
- ✓ Volunteer at the Food Pantry. Go to our website & sign up!
- ✓ Consider making a gift or increasing your yearly giving this year.