



FOOD BANK
FOR NEW YORK CITY

Delivering Hope

**Your Impact,
One Story at a Time.**

108 SCHOOL OF
AUTHORS



Letter from Leslie

Friend,

It is my pleasure to present your Impact Report, showcasing the incredible power of your philanthropy. This year, we've gathered the personal stories of just a few of the many New Yorkers who have been empowered by your generosity, from a mother receiving life-sustaining groceries from Food Bank Campus Pantry in Queens to an older neighbor in Harlem whose eyesight was restored thanks to the produce you enabled her to receive from our Community Kitchen.

It's humbling to take in their words, yet energizing, too. This is your impact manifested in gratitude, in resilience, in the sweep of a mission in motion. We are nothing without the people we proudly serve, and I am honored to introduce you to a few of them here.

Juana, Jessica, Vinicia, and Dwayne are just a few of the thousands of New Yorkers in desperate need of our services now. **Did you know that in 2023, half of NYC households were unable to meet their basic needs due to rising food and living costs outpacing wages?** In these moments, our neighbors must make stressful choices – do they eat or pay rent? If they do buy food, they purchase less or no fresh produce and protein, simply because they can't. They are forced to survive soaring rates of inflation on a diet that lacks the nutrition they need to live a healthy life.

In times as challenging as these, everyone deserves to sit at a table with people they love enjoying food that gives them the strength they need to carry on.

The stories here show how you help bring that strength to New Yorkers every day. Your support is not some passive thing, not some check sent in the mail. **It is an outstretched hand that pulls the people of our city through.** I couldn't be more grateful for your partnership and humbly hope that you'll continue to help our neighbors take charge of their stories so that they can chart new paths for the future.

Real change isn't one and done, but when we stand together, it feels like anything is possible. Thank you for helping us to empower every New Yorker to achieve food security for good.

Yours in service,

Leslie



President & CEO
of Food Bank For New York City



**Scan the code
to watch our
video interview
with Juana.**

Juana

Juana is a parent at P.S. 19Q in Corona, Queens. She takes time out of her workday each week to visit the school's Campus Pantry, which is powered by and receives food and other resources from Food Bank. Visiting the pantry allows Juana to fill up her own pantry between paychecks – without this critical source of emergency food relief, Juana's not sure how she would feed herself and her family.

P.S. 19Q is one of the largest elementary schools in America and nearly one third of its students live below the poverty line. The school has also welcomed some of the highest numbers of newly-arrived immigrant families of anywhere across the five boroughs. Our partnership with the school allows us to nourish the families that need us most. As Juana told us with a smile, Food Bank's Campus Pantry at P.S. 19Q brings her "peace."



**Scan the code
to meet Jessica
for yourself.**

Jessica

We met Jessica at this year's photo shoot for our Woman to Woman campaign, an annual Food Bank initiative that raises funds to provide women and girls with the period products, hygiene essentials, and childcare resources they need to thrive.

Jessica came to us on the recommendation of our friends at The HopeLine, a Food Bank member agency in the Bronx. She showed up early, ready to offer her voice to the campaign, and it was clear from the start that she had a story to share.

After the loss of her mother, Jessica became determined to build a family of her own, but the struggle to keep her family of five afloat amidst cuts to her benefits and the rising costs of everything from baby formula to diapers and topical cream has been too much to bear.

That's when she turned to Food Bank to help fill in the gaps for herself and her family. She now regularly joins us for meal service at our Community Kitchen and says the food that you help provide has helped her family survive.

“The team's unwavering support and encouragement during a critical period of my diabetes journey were instrumental.”

- Vinicia

Food Bank CSA Farmshare participant



Vinicia

Providing fresh produce to our neighbors is a fundamental piece of our work to empower every New Yorker to achieve food security for good. Last summer, we piloted a new CSA FarmShare program to provide families managing diet-related diseases like diabetes and high blood pressure with a weekly supply of fresh produce sourced from local farms.

Vinicia, a regular at our Senior Program, was one of our participants and shared that the fresh produce not only nourished her body, but actually helped to restore her vision.

"This program has been an invaluable experience. The staff was professional, knowledgeable, and always courteous, demonstrating a genuine interest in helping me manage my diabetes. The diversity and abundance of the food provided truly made a significant impact. **The team's unwavering support and encouragement during a critical period of my diabetes journey were instrumental.** The weekly supply of veggies, fruits, and accompanying recipes played a crucial role in reducing my A1C from 13 to less than 7. This positive change enabled me to undergo cataract surgery, restoring my vision. I am delighted to share that I now have 20/20 vision in my right eye and anticipate a similar outcome in my left eye."



**For more on
this story,
scan the code.**

Dwayne

Dwayne is an HIV navigator at Safe Horizon, a Food Bank member agency in the Bronx that is a national leader in helping survivors of all forms of violence move from crisis to confidence. Food Bank powers this mission with food and other resources designed to meet the specific needs of Safe Horizon's community, many of whom are homeless LGBTQIA-identified youth.

Safe Horizon's partnership with Food Bank allows it to nourish the 1 in 5 LGBTQIA+ New Yorkers facing food insecurity. As Dwayne puts it:

"On the daily, we offer respite for our neighbors, many of whom are street homeless. We offer resources like food and housing. On the LGBTQIA+ front, we provide affinity spaces and identity-based support groups as well as resources for transitioning care. We are committed to finding ways to practically support all our clients who happen to identify as LGBTQIA+."



**Scan the code
to meet Debbie
and her fearless
team of Food Bank
volunteers.**

Debbie

Debbie has been a Food Bank volunteer since 2019. Our mission to empower every New Yorker to achieve food security for good has grown close to Debbie's heart, so much so that she now regularly volunteers with her entire family.

"Growing up in rural Jamaica, I was witness to families facing food insecurities. From a young age, I was taught to give back to those who have limited access to food, by offering my time and sharing food with those who needed it. Food Bank offers the space and the resources for volunteers to be a part of the solution to end food insecurity in NYC. Giving back to my fellow New Yorkers in need is something my family and I look forward to doing every chance we get. "

For Debbie, the WOW moment always comes when she and her fellow volunteers learn about the number of New Yorkers that will be impacted by a single volunteer shift. It's a number that lets Debbie know that what she does matters, not just for herself or her family, but for all her neighbors across NYC.

67+ million

meals to New Yorkers

in nearly every zip code across the five boroughs, from the Boogie Down Bronx all the way to the shorelines of Brooklyn.

26+ million

lbs. of fresh produce

helping our neighbors access the nutrients they need to thrive.

\$37 million

in tax filing savings

through our 100% free Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program, notably the second largest VITA program in the US.

1.4+ million

lbs. of non-food items

from period products to diapers, baby formula, hygiene essentials, and more.

19+ million lbs.

of culturally-relevant food

from halal and kosher products to produce like bok choy, callaloo, dwarf okra, and more that affirm who our neighbors are and where they come from.

\$95 million

in vital SNAP benefits

which empowers our neighbors with the resources they need to provide groceries for their families.

Thank You

to our mission partner



anahata ♥ foundation



The Dune Road Foundation

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Snap the QR code to view our financials:



Locations:

Main Office / 39 Broadway, 10th Floor, New York, NY 10006

Community Kitchen & Food Pantry / 252 W 116th St, New York, NY 10026

Warehouse & Distribution Center / 355 Food Center Dr, Bronx, NY 10474