GOOD FOODS IN THE GOOD FIGHT AGAINST HUNGER
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Gillian Brennan
  VP External Affairs
Chris Long
  VP Governance
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Dear Friends,

The highlights of The Food Group’s year include a focus on healthy foods and a fresh new name and brand! It has been a remarkable year once again. Your support in 2014 provided over 4.1 million healthy meals to individuals and families struggling to find their next meal. Thank you for your support.

With our strong focus on healthy foods and your support we increased the amount of fresh produce distributed by The Food Group by 15.4% this year. Eating healthy, quality foods provides so many positive benefits to your health and ability to thrive. Unfortunately, there are many barriers to eating healthy on a limited budget. We continue our commitment to making healthy foods accessible and thank you for your partnership in this important work.

Our new name represents all of the work we’re doing in the community focused on food access, health and nutrition, and cultural responsiveness. Our work has become broader and has outgrown our founding name. Our new name allows us to grow, solve problems, break down barriers, and work across sectors to address hunger and food access issues.

I want to extend a sincere thank you to everyone involved with The Food Group. Through volunteer support, our staff, Board of Directors, partner organizations, the people we serve, and a strong network of donor support, The Food Group truly is a collaboration of many dedicated groups. Thank you for your support. We look forward to providing good foods in the good fight against hunger to even more families with you in 2015.

Warm Regards,

Lori Kratchmer

Lori Kratchmer
OUR HISTORY
The Food Group began in 1976 as Emergency Foodshelf Network and was originally a coalition of twelve food shelves in Hennepin County. 38 years later, the organization has grown into a hunger relief nonprofit focused on food access through a network of over 200 partner organizations and distribution sites. In 2014 we changed our name to The Food Group to better convey all of the work we do in the community.

IN 2014 THE FOOD GROUP WAS ABLE TO

- Partner with 239 hunger relief agencies & programs
- Serve 1,443,671 individuals through our partner agencies & programs
- Provide 925,393 lbs. of fresh produce
- Provide 343,517 lbs. of culturally specific food
lifting up local families in need through nutrition & cultural responsiveness

The Food Group specializes in providing quality and familiar foods to those in need. Leading the way on these initiatives, The Food Group has a dietitian and Multicultural Program Coordinator on staff.

The Food Group Believes Everyone Deserves:

- The dignity of access to a healthy meal.
- Access to healthy groceries where they live.
- To send their child to school nourished and prepared to learn.
- Access to foods they are familiar with and that their family will enjoy.

volunteers are one of the many groups in The Food Group

Everyday we have volunteers packing and sorting food in our 60,000 square foot warehouse, helping distribute food in the community, and helping in our administrative offices.

34,122 hours

14,219 individuals

equivalent to 16 full time employees

Marcus volunteers at the Minneapolis Farmers Market Produce Rescue.
In September, Emergency Foodshelf Network changed its name to The Food Group. After much consideration and thought our Board of Directors and staff embarked on a process throughout 2014 to change our name. Emergency Foodshelf Network no longer describes the depth and breadth of what we do in the community. We provide food and other resources to our food shelf partners but we also have direct food access programs. The Food Group conveys both our values and our innovative programming.

Our approach to improving food access is broad and innovative. We operate a self-sustaining low cost grocery sales program called Fare For All, which helps people struggling to put food on the table and stretch their food dollar. Additionally, we have a mobile food shelf program that delivers food directly to the homes of individuals struggling with mobility and transportation barriers. Our new name represents all of the work we do in the community.
THE FOOD GROUP SAYS IT ALL

In the words of one of our partners, “The Food Group is a nutrition bank” and “without them there would be an uncoordinated patchwork of organizations.” The Food Group conveys our values and represents our focus on distributing healthy, good foods through a large group of people and communities dedicated to fighting hunger. Thank you for being a part of this group.

“The Food Group more clearly represents the organization’s critical leadership position in hunger relief, defining also its culture of inclusivity and connectedness to others in the industry. It also reflects their commitment to providing healthy food to those who are food insecure.”

-Lisa Horn, Executive Director, The Open Door Food Shelf

SAME GREAT WORK

We still have the same mission and same scope of work as a nonprofit organization. We will continue to be dedicated to serving the hunger needs of our changing communities. Our new name positions us to grow into the future as the need arises for innovative local hunger solutions.
For the second consecutive year during the holidays, Whole Foods Market stores in the metro asked their customers if they’d like to make a monetary gift to The Food Group at the register. With great success, this partnership raised $59,000.

In March 2014, Noodles & Company broke the record for the largest public food drive event we’ve ever held! Within seven days, Noodles & Company collected over 33 tons of food on behalf of The Food Group.

The General Mills Communities of Color program granted The Food Group $60,000 to support distribution of culturally specific foods to immigrant families. General Mills also granted The Food Group over $20,000 for general operating support.

Donating the profits of their beer sold in Minnesota to The Food Group, Finnegans funded over 45,000 lbs. of fresh local produce which was distributed to local food shelves. Additionally, Finnegans’ Reverse Food Truck, provided over 7,000 lbs. of non-perishable foods.

Longtime supporter, Target Foundation, granted The Food Group a generous gift of $80,000 and additionally provided event sponsorship & significant volunteer support throughout 2014.

Supporting The Food Group for over 30 years, SIT Investment Associates Foundation provided The Food Group with a $50,000 grant in 2014.
2014 marked the third annual Hunger Bash event to raise support and funds for local hunger relief. The night was full of energy for a great cause, including a silent and live auction, an engaging program, and delicious food. Phil Brooks of H. Brooks & Co surprised attendees with the announcement that his company would donate a truckload of produce.

Venue: International Market Square | Attendees: 300 | Funds Raised: $90,000

Special thanks to event sponsors:
Dorsey & Whitney, LLP, Luther Automotive, Target, D’Amico Catering, ECM Publishing, Minnesota Monthly, Xcel Energy, Pricewaterhouse Coopers, LLP

And to event committee members:

2014 HUNGER BASH EVENT FUNDS PROVIDED:

- 2 truckloads (80,000 lbs.) of rescued fresh produce
- 1,250 immigrant families with culturally specific foods
- 10 tons of local farm fresh produce
- 1,250 households with healthy holiday side dishes

Event Photo Booth by Louisa Marion Photography
The Food Group focuses on healthy food access to relieve local hunger. This work is done by providing nutritious food and support services to over 200 hunger relief partners, including food shelves, on-site meal programs, mobile food shelf sites, and Fare For All sites throughout the state.

**AGENCY SUPPORT**

Food shelf and on-site meal program partners receive free donations from The Food Group and supplement donations by purchasing basic staples at or below wholesale cost through our bulk purchasing program.

Helped our Agency Partners serve 1,443,671 individuals

Pounds Distributed: 2,989,341
Free/Donated: 1,336,121
Purchased 1,653,220

“The Food Group is very responsive to the needs of partner agencies and has creative programs to help address the needs in our communities.”

-Agency Partner
FARE FOR ALL

The Fare For All program offers healthy food at affordable prices to help individuals stretch their budgets.

Individuals Served: 184,203
Pounds Distributed 1,260,815

MOBILE FOOD SHELF

Through partnerships with subsidized housing buildings, the Mobile Food Shelf program brings food directly to the homes of residents experiencing transportation and mobility barriers.

Individuals Served: 8,261
Pounds Distributed: 215,847
INCOME AND EXPENSES 2014

REVENUE
In-Kind Contributions: 3,033,026
Financial Contributions: 2,077,345
United Way: 192,103
Government Grants: 309,766
Program Revenue: 2,994,298
Special Events: 60,594
Other: 8,374
Loss on Disposal of Property & Equipment: (19,596)
Total Support & Revenue: $8,655,910

EXPENSES
Program Services: 7,670,400
Administrative Support: 362,009
Fundraising Support: 460,122
Total Expenses: $8,492,531

Ninety cents of each dollar donated to The Food Group is spent on programs serving hungry Minnesotans.
### BALANCE SHEET 2014

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<th>ASSETS</th>
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<tr>
<td>Cash</td>
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<tr>
<td>Property &amp; Equipment – Net</td>
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<tr>
<td>Intangible Assets – Net</td>
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<td><strong>Total Assets:</strong></td>
<td><strong>$4,318,651</strong></td>
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<th>LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</th>
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<table>
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<td>Temporary Restricted</td>
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<td><strong>Total Net Assets</strong></td>
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**Total Liabilities and Net Assets** **$4,318,651**