

WINTER 2026



Feed My People
FOOD BANK



Hunger Herald

Creating Equitable Access to Food for Healthier Communities



Volunteers for Feed My People set up a December pop-up pantry in Radisson, a rural community in Sawyer County.

2025 Impact Report

A year of rising need and a community determined to respond.

At its core, our work is about helping households regain stability during difficult moments. Providing food eases the strain families feel when resources run thin so parents can worry less, children can focus on learning, and older adults can better make ends meet. By meeting immediate needs, we help create consistency and preserve dignity for households across our region.

That commitment was tested in 2025. Feed My People (FMP) and its network of more than 250 partners navigated a series of disruptions that challenged the food safety net we collectively sustain. The sudden loss of the Local Food Purchase Assistance (LFPA) program in the spring forced a rapid pivot, with our Farm to Food Bank partnerships helping stabilize supply. Later in the year, a federal government shutdown temporarily halted FoodShare, significantly increasing demand across our network.

More households turned to food assistance for the first time in 2025. First-time visits to our partner pantries and FMP's direct

programs increased by 9%, totaling 101,859—the highest number in our history.

Looking ahead, the need for food assistance will continue to be shaped by economic uncertainty, policy changes, and the everyday realities facing families across our region. For 44 years, FMP has responded to challenges not alone, but alongside the community that created it. What began as neighbors helping neighbors has grown into a regional food safety net sustained by donors, volunteers, and partners who believe access to food is a shared responsibility.

Each box of groceries distributed, delivery completed, and partnership strengthened is possible because our community chooses to show up and give their time, resources, and voices. Your support ensures that when families face difficult moments, we can be there. ■

2025 GRANT AWARDS

We are deeply grateful for all grant partners whose investments strengthen our mission.

LEAD SUPPORT

Food Security and Wisconsin Products Grant (WI DATCP)
Otto Bremer Trust
Pablo Foundation

SUSTAINED SUPPORT

Charles M. and Joan R. Taylor Foundation
Community Health Endowment Fund of the Eau Claire Community Foundation
Dunkin - Joy in Childhood Foundation
Eau Claire Community Foundation
Jack and Carol Bartingale Family Fund
Lois and Arnold Domer Fund
Rev. Kurt M. Jacobson Family Fund
Aubre's Fund
Lippert Cares
Marshfield Clinic and Security Health Plan
Marshfield Community Health Fund (Ladysmith)
Mayo Clinic Health System
New Glarus Brewing Co - Only in Wisconsin Giving, Inc
Nordson Corporation Foundation
Spirit Lutheran Foundation, Inc.
Volunteer Generation Fund - Americorps

COMMUNITY SUPPORT

4Imprint One by One
Adler Clark Electric Community Commitment Foundation
Clark County Community Foundation
Community Foundation of Chippewa County
Marshfield Area Community Foundation
Prevail Bank
Riverland Community Cares
The Women's Giving Circle Fund of the Eau Claire Community Foundation
Trinity Lutheran Church Endowment Trust
Walmart Spark Good
WE Energies Foundation
Wisconsin Medical Society Foundation

By the Numbers

Our Impact in 2025



9% increase from 2024

101,859

first-time visits per program

A first-time visit is counted when a person receives food from FMP or a partner program at least once during one calendar year.

“

“Recently, a family in our school district was struggling to make ends meet due to the loss of the parent’s ability to work. Through the Raider Market, we were able to support this family and make sure they had food to ensure everyone at home was fed over winter break. The family member who came to pick up the food was in tears with gratitude.”

- Pantry Coordinator, Arcadia School District

8.86 MILLION

pounds of food sourced

including

1.78 MILLION pounds of fresh produce

1.97 MILLION pounds of food rescued from retail partners

6.88% increase from 2024

172,468 DELIVERY MILES

driven with our fleet of refrigerated trucks

8.6% increase from 2024

21,390 VOLUNTEER HOURS

supporting our work

37% of people in West Central Wisconsin struggle to meet basic needs.*

*The State of ALICE in Wisconsin: 2025 Update on Financial Hardship

Celebrating Service

VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

Becky Wood

In a short time, Becky has made a big impact—supporting nearly every Eau Claire pop-up last summer, leading volunteers at Empty Bowls 2025, and serving on our Community Engagement Committee. Since August 2024, she has logged 178 hours.



Each year, Feed My People’s staff and board have the privilege of honoring volunteers and organizations whose generosity makes our work possible. Choosing just a few is never easy. We are deeply thankful for every person who shared their time, energy, and heart with us in 2025.

ORGANIZATION OF THE YEAR

Peace Lutheran of Pigeon Falls

A dedicated crew that travels from Pigeon Falls on the first Monday of every month to volunteer at FMP, their teamwork, reliability, and hard work have made a lasting difference. Together, they’ve logged 496 volunteer hours since 2022.





A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR

The Line Tells a Story

2025 was an impactful year for Feed My People. Our partner agencies, volunteers, and staff have seen numerous challenges and responded with grace, purpose and determination.

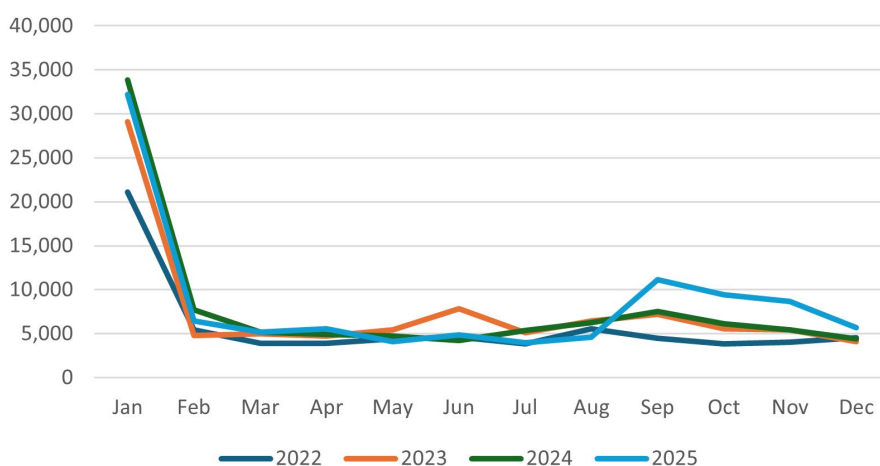
Affordable, nutritious food has been harder to source than in previous years, so we created our Food Resource Team to bring in high quality donated and purchased food from our own region. Two communities with high food insecurity were shaken by the announcement that their largest pantries were closing, so we stepped in to provide crucial support. FoodShare benefits were frozen, so we quickly brought in unprecedented amounts of crucial food and made it available to partners throughout our region.

At times it was almost disorienting. Levels of food insecurity hit in waves while the ways available to respond in assistance shifted beneath our feet. I use the word “almost” because we maintained our mission—simple in its mandate, however complex in its execution. We fed people. Whatever it took, the incredible people who combine their efforts to make this happen always found a way. You never swayed.

I want to share with you how important it is that this determination continues. One of the crucial statistics that we track is first-time visits to food assistance programs. In this statistic, we start the sheet new on January 1 each year, and each unique individual who receives assistance from a program only gets counted once for that program for the whole year.

Here, we are able to see the struggles of our communities painted by number. Slight increases in first-time visits in April coincide with households straining to catch up on utility payments as spring allows their heat to be shut off again. Increases in September are tied to the costs families have as they ensure that their children have what they need to return to school. The orange line in the graph shows a spike starting in May and running through July of 2023. This tracks the end of the increase in FoodShare benefits that year and it not only indicates first visits,

First Visits of the Year



but also warns of the increased trend of food insecurity from that point forward.

I ask you, now, to see the line that I am certain you have already noticed. The light blue of 2025 and the story it tells from September through the end of the year. During these four months, 35,000 individuals needed food assistance from a Feed My People supported program for the first time in 2025. None had reached out to that program within the prior eight months. Many had never sought help feeding their households before.

Right now, there is no doubt that some people are doing very well. We don't need to worry about food, shelter, utilities, daycare, healthcare or transportation for ourselves or those we love. It is crucial that we see the struggles of our neighbors, though, whether in the concern that they wear in their brows, or in the lines of a chart.

It is also crucial that we act. Please maintain your determination to support Feed My People, and the community members that we serve. We cannot manage without you and your neighbors cannot manage without the support that Feed My People provides.

In gratitude,

Padraig Gallagher, Executive Director



Support the Work Ahead

We can't fully address hunger without you. Donate and learn more at fmpfoodbank.org.



Feed My People
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feeding healthy futures

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FEED
THE *Love*



**45% of those
who rely on
Feed My People
are kids.**

**Show them love
this Valentine's.
Give by February 20.**



DONATE TODAY
give.fmpfoodbank.org/feedthelove



SAVE THE DATE Empty Bowls 2026

Thursday, May 28 (11 am - 7 pm) at Feed My People
Support our mission and choose from 100's of bowls made by local artists and students
Also featuring Food Trucks, Silent Auction, Tours & More