



COLLEGE PARK
COMMUNITY
FOOD BANK

2021 ANNUAL REPORT

62,625. That's the number of people who were served by the College Park Community Food Bank in 2021.

That breaks down to about 1,200 people each week. They went home with bags of groceries and boxes of fresh produce which fed their family for several days. That's the number of people that you—our community—supported and served.

Thank you for being our Community. The word Community is in our name because we know that it takes all of us working together to serve the needs of others. Once again, you have not let us down.

Through your countless food drives and donations, you have kept our pantry stocked all year long. Every Friday night we were so blessed to find our shed filled with donations from so many people, like the Stitz family, who delivered food to our shed 34 times this year. The Town of North Brentwood donated free boxes of groceries to us each month, and dozens of dedicated volunteers drove their own vehicles down to pick them up from February through June. In late summer, we received a generous American Rescue Plan Act grant from the City of College Park enabling us to continue providing boxes of fresh produce to our families each week. Throughout the year, we also received support from the University of Maryland, with numerous student groups volunteering and Good Neighbor Day organizers collecting food donations. We are so glad to partner across the region – with families coming from College Park to Brentwood and beyond, it's clear that our cities care about their community.

From individuals to cities to the university, to sister faith communities—you are all a part of our Community. Thank you, Wallace Presbyterian Church, for your continued support each month. What a blessing you continue to be over our thirteen years of operation. Living Water Adventist Church has also been a critical partner, providing financial support, volunteers, and a delivery service for homebound neighbors.

And where would we be without our amazing volunteers? You are the heartbeat of our operation. As the numbers of visitors has continued to increase, so has the response from our volunteers. You come every week – emptying the food shed, stocking the shelves, bagging the groceries, conducting traffic, and welcoming each visitor in Spanish and English. Through it all, we serve together. What a blessing it is for us to serve our surrounding community together with you.

Because of our Community's generous donations and extra volunteer hours, we were also able to replace the aging floor in the pantry and upgrade to a new commercial freezer and refrigerator. This infrastructure allows us to store and serve more perishable food for our visitors. Thank you.

Finally, I would like to thank our volunteer board of directors for their tireless service. You are the ones who keep the food bank's vision clear and us on track as we continue fulfilling our mission of serving healthy food to those in College Park and the surrounding areas. Your creativity in problem-solving, your attention to the fine details and different perspectives – your talents and gifts ensure that we are doing our very best to achieve our mission. I appreciate each of you.

This is a big Community with really big hearts. You are probably wondering how you can get (more) involved with this mission of reducing hunger in College Park and the surrounding areas with us.

Here are three easy ways to partner with us in this mission:

- Go to collegeparkfoodbank.com and click on the donate tab to provide financial support.
- Donate non-perishable and perishable food – stuffing our shed and freezer.
- Sign-up as a volunteer and serve with us on the Friday night packing crew or the Saturday morning distribution team.

Regardless of how you choose to partner, we encourage you to join us in reducing hunger in College Park and the surrounding areas. And we thank you for being a part of our Community!

With gratitude,
Mark Garrett
President



OUR MISSION

We work to reduce hunger in College Park and the surrounding communities by regularly offering healthy food to individuals and families.



OUR IMPACT

When the pandemic began, we quickly moved from monthly to weekly food distributions. The simultaneous increase in visitors resulted in a 16-fold increase in families served. Then in 2021, we sustained a higher volume for the entire year.



1,317
Facebook followers



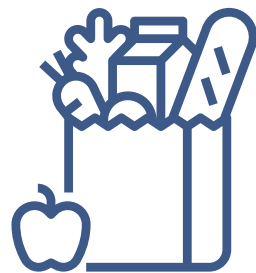
15,425
families served



62,625
individuals served

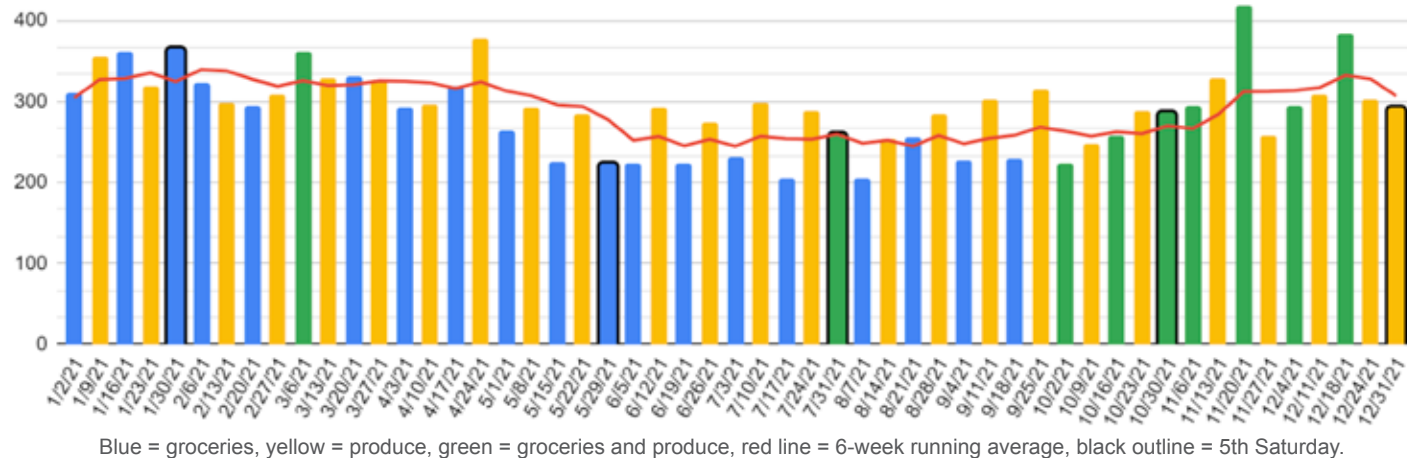


9,480
produce
boxes distributed



12,253
grocery
bags distributed

FAMILIES SERVED WEEKLY



“Thank you for giving away the food and the payment for our Thanksgiving. God bless you. Today our table will be full of food, thanks to you.”

OUR INITIATIVES

It was a busy year! Everything we do is focused toward reducing hunger and increasing food security.



Home deliveries

In January 2021 we began partnering with Living Water Adventist Church to offer home delivery of produce and groceries to those who are unable to attend our distributions.



Pantry upgrade

Our 16-fold increase in visitors served has meant much heavier usage of our pantry. So last summer we replaced the pantry floor, upgraded our freezer storage, and introduced a refrigerator.



Education giveaways

In August we partnered with the City of College Park Education Advisory Committee to give away books to students. We also conducted a school supplies and gift card giveaway, with contributions from local Lions Clubs.



Return to weekly produce distribution

Thanks to a City of College Park grant of American Rescue Plan Act funds, we were able to reinstitute weekly produce distributions in October.



Turkey donation drive and Thanksgiving distribution

In November we collected 176 donated turkeys and distributed them, groceries, produce, and gift cards on the Saturday before Thanksgiving.



Giving Tuesday donation drive and holiday distribution

For Giving Tuesday, we collected \$2,634 and used it to purchase 220 gift cards we distributed to visitors on the Saturday before Christmas.



Special year-end produce distributions

Christmas and New Year's fell on Saturdays, but we know that hunger doesn't take a holiday. So we offered special December 24 and December 31 produce distributions.




OUR DONORS

We are supported by a beautiful combination of individual, business, religious, community, and government organizations donating funds and donating food.

OUR VOLUNTEERS

We make plans, but our volunteers make things happen! Their hands, feet, and good spirits embody our community's service to those in need.

 **567**
volunteers

 **2,057**
volunteer shifts
in 2021



Groups that donated funding

- Alpha Xi Delta
- Battelle Pacific Northwest Division
- Calvert Road Disc Golf
- City of College Park
- Corsa Group, LLC
- Delta Sigma Theta
- Giant Food
- Greater Washington Community Foundation
- Hope Evangelical Lutheran Church
- Hungry Harvest
- Living Water Adventist Church
- Maryland Emergency Food Program
- Mills Family Foundation
- Proteus Bicycles
- Supply Chain Management Society
- Wallace Presbyterian Church
- Washington DC Center of Self-Realization Fellowship

Groups that donated food

- Bladensburg High School
- City of North Brentwood
- Grip of Grace Ministries
- IKEA
- Living Water Adventist Church
- Sewa Diwali
- Sowing Empowerment & Economic Development, Inc. (SEED)
- Starbucks
- The Stitz Family
- University of Maryland Men's Club Lacrosse
- University of Maryland Alpha Xi Delta
- University of Maryland Good Neighbor Day
- We Work



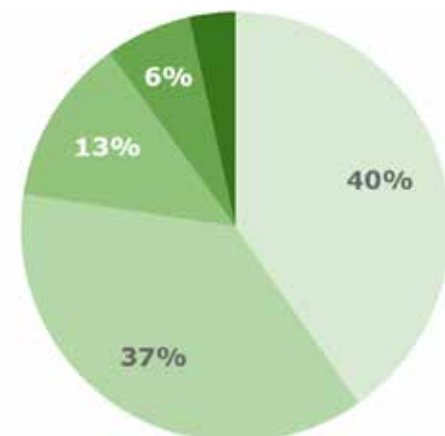
University of Maryland volunteer groups

- American Medical Student Association chapter
- Circle K
- Delta Epsilon Psi
- Incentive Awards Program
- Iota Phi Theta
- Kharis Campus Ministry
- Lambda Chi Alpha
- Sigma Alpha Mu
- Student Dietetic Association
- Theta Tau

Community volunteer groups

- Beta Phi Omega alumni
- Bowie neighbors group
- Glee Church
- Good Counsel High School
- IKEA
- IV Life, LLC
- The Lady Chapter
- Lions Club
- Living Water Adventist Church
- The Lunsford family
- Pentecostal Church
- Women of Lyn

2021 FUNDING



Individuals Government Grants Churches Social Groups Foundations & Corporations





COLLEGE PARK COMMUNITY FOOD BANK

From our founding in 2008, we were a ministry of the College Park Church of the Nazarene. In May 2021, we became an independent nonprofit recognized by the State of Maryland. We continue our close relationship with the church, which provides us pantry space and other facilities for distribution, as well as manages our finances. Through 2021, donations continued to be received for us by the church under its 501(c)3 tax status. In 2022, we expect to begin receiving donations via our own 501(c)3 status.

Board of directors, 2021-2022

Mark Garrett, **President** | Lisa Bartusek, **Vice President** | Todd Reitzel, **Treasurer** | Joy Wolfram, **Secretary**
Kimberly Barnes-Ohanwe, **Board Member**