

ANNUAL REPORT 2023



just
food



2023 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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VERDELL TAYLOR, JR.

Retired from LMH & St. Luke AME

JENA GUNTER

University of Kansas

Dear Community,

In the past year, it has become clearer than ever that Just Food is a lifeline for over 13,420 Douglas County community members. Through our direct service pantry, home delivery services, mobile pantry, and network of partner agencies and satellite pantries, we have distributed thousands of pounds of food and essential supplies like diapers and kitchen items that community members need to make ends meet.

We are only able to do what we do with support from community members. Nearly 85% of our revenue last year came from individual contributors. These are folks who understand the challenge of navigating financial needs, especially in times of great difficulty like the COVID-19 pandemic. What we have to remember though, is that food insecurity existed before the pandemic, and it will continue to persist unless we do the work of addressing systemic inequities and generational poverty. At Just Food, we believe in food justice. No one should go hungry in our community, and we look forward to the day when food insecurity is eradicated.

Sincerely,

Aundrea Walker
Executive Director



LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

OUR MISSION IS TO END HUNGER IN OUR COMMUNITY BY

**Increasing access to
healthy foods**

**Reducing barriers to
health & well-being**

**Cultivating
self-sufficiency**



AUNDREA WALKER

Executive Director

ALI CURBOW

Director of Development

PAUL PEACH

Director of Operations

AMY HOPE

Office Manager

TORY ROBERSON

Food Recovery Manager

CHETAN MICHIE

Sourcing & Production Manager

CHARLES SHIVELY

Community Access Manager

WAYNE BRIGGS

Warehouse & Waste Reduction Manager

JESSICA MOYER

Volunteer Manager

THE JUST FOOD TEAM

ETHNICITY

Middle Eastern 0.2%

Asian & Pacific Islander
2.1%

Native American
5.7%

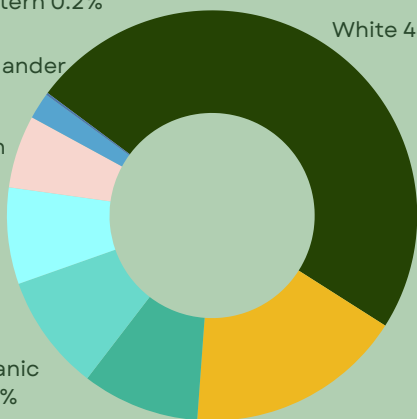
Multi-Raced
7.6%

Hispanic
9.2%

Black
9.2%

Undisclosed/Other
17.1%

White 48.7%



HEALTH & HUNGER

according to our
2023 shopper
survey:

38%

of shoppers have one or more family members with high blood pressure

26%

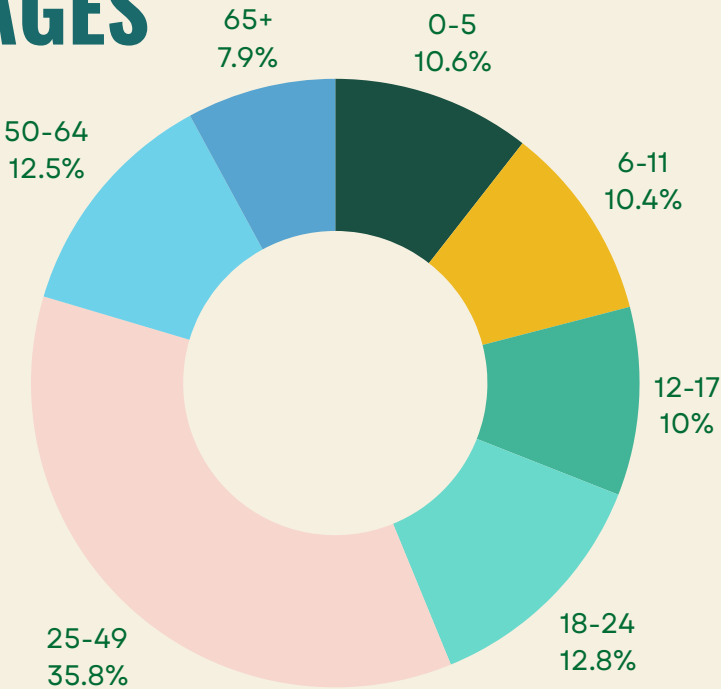
of shoppers have one or more family members with high cholesterol

27%

of shoppers have one or more family members with type-2 diabetes

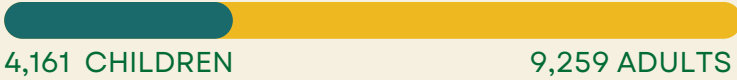


AGES



*13,420 UNIQUE SHOPPERS

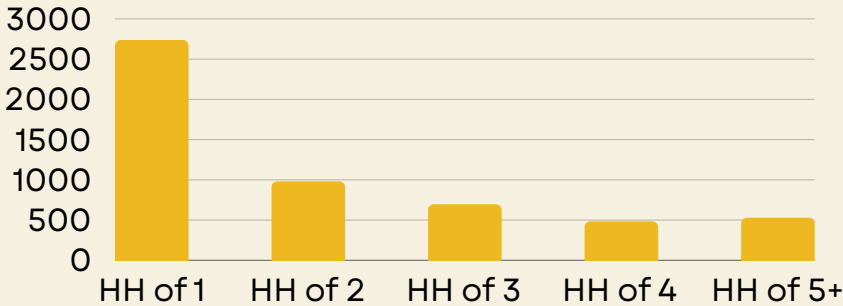
*unique shoppers at our main pantry location, Heartland's Care Cupboard and Cruising Cupboard stops



4,161 CHILDREN

9,259 ADULTS

HOUSEHOLD SIZE



Thank you for being sensitive to good nutrition needs and for listening and serving the community. I am very impressed with all you do. I am on a fixed income and this really helps.

-Just Food Shopper

OUR SHOPPERS

REDUCING BARRIERS

Home deliveries & mobile food pantries were created to effectively reduce barriers to accessing food. By bringing nutritious food directly to individuals' doorsteps or to areas of our community lacking easy access to traditional food distribution points; these initiatives address transportation challenges, physical disabilities, and other obstacles that may prevent people from reaching our food pantry. Ensuring everyone, regardless of reliable transportation, receive essential nourishment.



3,348

home deliveries

1,177

individuals served
at Cruising
Cupboard

CRUISING CUPBOARD STOPS:

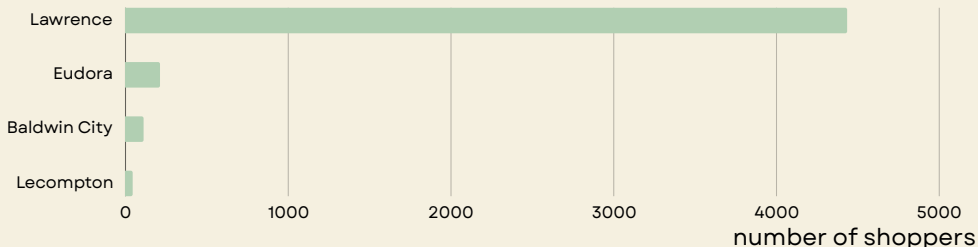
Baldwin City
Lecompton
Eudora

LAWRENCE:
Starbucks on 23rd

The Cottages at
Green Lake

LPL

LOCATION OF SHOPPERS



THE CARE CUPBOARD

The Care Cupboard at Heartland Community Health Center opened in September 2019 in partnership with Just Food & Harvesters. This innovative pantry closes the health and hunger gap by operating within Heartland, providing shoppers with reduced barriers to accessing the food they need to thrive and combat food-related illnesses.

In 2023, the Care Cupboard averaged **173 households** each week.



CLASSROOM CUPBOARDS:

- Lawrence HS
- Free State HS
- Liberty Memorial MS
- Billy Mills MS
- Cordley Elem.
- New York Montessori
- Pinckney Elem.
- Sunflower Elem.
- Sunset Hill Elem.
- Schwegler Elem.
- Hillcrest Elem.
- Woodlawn Elem.
- Deerfield Elem.
- Baldwin Schools
- Eudora Schools

OTHER ORGANIZATIONS:

- Bert Nash
- Ballard Center
- Heartland Care Cupboard
- LDCHA
- DGCo Community Corrections
- ECM
- Trinity Episcopal Church
- DARE Center
- Lawrence Community Shelter
- Eudora Pantry (St. Paul)
- Salvation Army
- Stull United Methodist Church
- Lecompton UMC
- Prairie Ridge Apartments
- Sunrise Project



CAMPUS CUPBOARDS:

- University of Kansas
- Haskell LIGHT

partner pantries see an average of 5,000 visits per month

BASIC NEEDS

Just Food is more than just the food bank of Douglas County. As a member of both the National Diaper Bank Network and the Alliance for Period Supplies, Just Food serves as the diaper and period supply bank for Douglas County.

93,910

diapers were distributed to the Douglas County community in 2023



25%

of parents experiencing diaper need who rely on child care said they missed an average of 5 days of school or work in the past month because they didn't have diapers.

source: National Diaper Bank Network

Over **1 in 4** low-income menstruators have reported missing school, work, or similar events due to lack of access to period supplies.

source: Alliance for Period Supplies



alliance for
**PERIOD
supplies**



**National
Diaper Bank
Network**

SELF-SUFFICIENCY

Food insecurity and hunger do not exist in isolation; they intersect with a myriad of other challenges affecting families. These challenges collectively serve as vital social determinants of health. At Just Food, we champion holistic approaches to tackling food insecurity that also address the interconnected issues facing our communities. Our initiatives are crafted to reduce barriers to health and prosperity while promoting self-sufficiency.

GROWING:

Just Grow provides education through growing food in Just Food's community garden spaces. We have two community garden spaces within the Lawrence community. One onsite at Just Food and another in North Lawrence.

POTS & PAN-TRY

Pots & Pan-try is a program that supplies high quality kitchen supplies to families and individuals in Douglas County. Items not only include pots & pans, but hot plates, silverware, can openers, measuring cups & more.

46

households were supplied with needed kitchen items in 2023



VOLUNTEER IMPACT

Our mission thrives on the support of our volunteer community, who champion our cause. Every day, our main pantry is bustling with up to 40 dedicated volunteers, vital to our operations. Like our shoppers, these volunteers come to us through diverse avenues. We express deep gratitude to these community members, acknowledging that their time, dedication, and empathy are essential components of the shopping experience at Just Food.

21,020

hours of donated
time from volunteers
equivalent to ten full
time employees

850
unique
volunteers

*"Volunteering
has been a
good fit for
me. It's such an
authentic way
to be able to
connect with
people in our
community."*

**-Just Food Pantry
Volunteer**



OUR 2023 AWARD WINNERS

COMMUNITY

**BO
KILLOUGH**

Ann Weick
Leadership
Award Winner



**LAURA
VEATER**

Volunteer of the Year
Award Winner



FREE 2B

Community
Partner of the
Year Award Winner

free2b[®]

ADDING VALUE TO FOOD

Chop Shop's purpose is to serve primarily as a production facility for the organization, where recovered foods are turned into ready-to-eat meals that are available to Just Food shoppers.

This dedicated space has allowed Just Food to continue to meet the needs of our shoppers and reduce barriers to healthy foods.



**80
MILLION**

tons of food is wasted
in the United States
each year

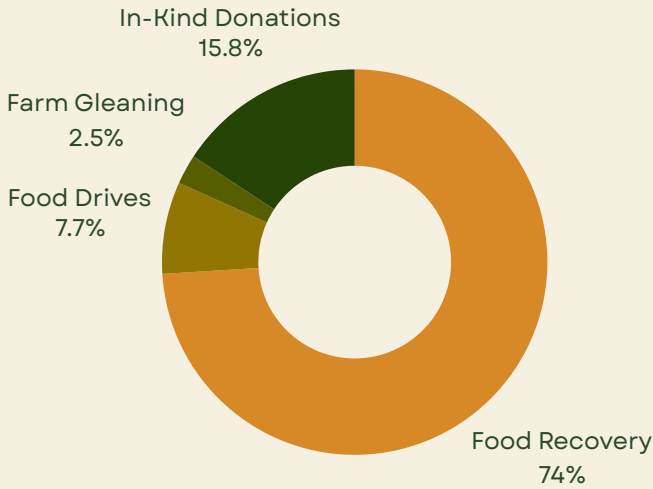
That is equivalent to:

**149
BILLION
MEALS**

source: Feeding America

In 2023, 29,540 pounds of food were gleaned from food recovery & turned into 40,043 pounds of ready-to-eat meals for our shoppers.

DONATED FOOD



572,513 LBS

of food was recovered from our food recovery partners

35,088 LBS

of food waste was repurposed to farms



FOOD RESCUE

GREENHOUSE GASES

U.S. food loss and waste (production, transportation, and handling of food) embodies **170 million metric tons of carbon dioxide** equivalent to the annual CO₂ emissions of 42 coal-fired power plants. When food ends up in landfills, it generates methane, an even more potent greenhouse gas.

Food waste is the single most common material landfilled and incinerated in the U.S.

source: USDA and EPA







Just Food does an amazing job providing access to food for our community. We appreciate all that you do for us. I like being able to find a variety of items from produce, to eggs, to meat, and snacks. My favorite thing is the produce section. I am always thrilled when I can use a majority of our family's points on fruits and veggies (fresh or frozen!)

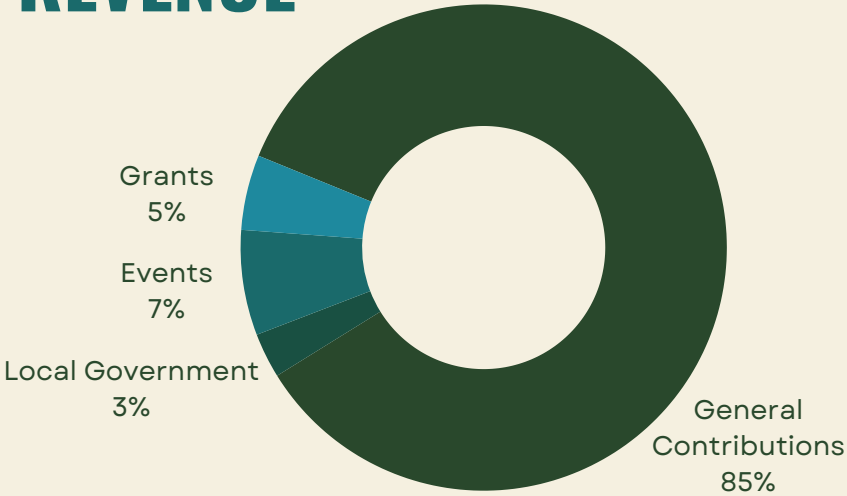
-Just Food Shopper

Most people think "food bank, cheap food, not good quality, dregs of societies leftovers..." Admittedly, sometimes things can get a bit lean, but Just Food never puts out the food I've described above. I only use it when I REALLY need it, however, I've always found it to be quality food and necessities, right when I needed them. The staff is always pleasant and very helpful when I do go in, they never seem rushed or short tempered, which is another admirable quality of the place. If you're in need, please, don't hesitate to contact them! They have senior commodities and even have mobile pantries now! And in special circumstances delivery!

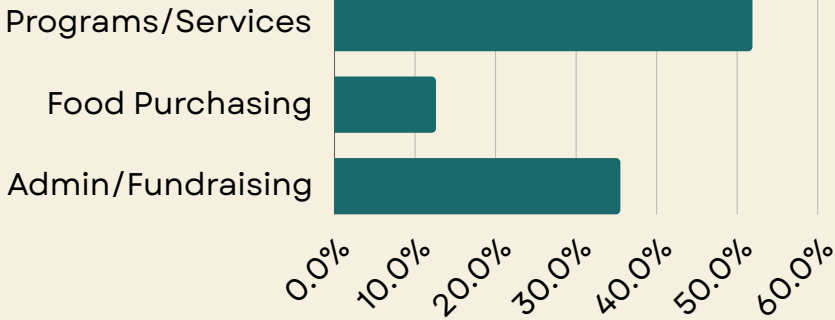
-Just Food Shopper

REVENUE

FINANCIALS



EXPENSES





**just
food**

1000 E. 11th Street Lawrence, KS 66046