



**Growing Need. Growing Response.**

# Community Impact Report

Fiscal Year 2022



ST. CROIX VALLEY  
**FOOD  
BANK**



# Letter from the Director

Hunger is here!

The St. Croix Valley Food Bank is a community-initiated response to the growing need for food in western Wisconsin. The vision is to end hunger in the St. Croix Valley through collaborative partnerships that build healthy communities.

In our first full fiscal year, we were able to grow the hunger relief distribution sites across the region from 14 to 55, including serving those who are living in poverty in underserved, rural communities. Just over 4.2 million pounds of food was distributed to over 212,000 individuals—this is an all-time high volume of food and individuals served in western Wisconsin.

We were able to make a significant impact in the lives of our food insecure neighbors because of the generous community support. We know there is more work ahead, as the region demands 6 to 7 million pounds of food. With continued community support, we will ensure that EVERYONE in the region that struggles with hunger will have access to food.

I am very grateful for the support and incredibly proud of the work that is happening! Thank you, foundations, board members, hunger relief partners, community supporters, businesses, volunteers, and staff for your support. Together, we are working towards the vision - To end hunger in the St. Croix Valley through collaborative partnerships that build healthy communities.

Thank you for being a champion of the St. Croix Valley Food Bank - more good work ahead!

Ann Searles  
Executive Director



Ann Searles, Executive Director

## Mission, Vision, Values

### MISSION

St. Croix Valley Food Bank partners to provide equitable access to food, ending hunger for all in western Wisconsin.

### VISION

To end hunger in the St. Croix Valley through collaborative partnerships that build healthy communities.

### VALUES

Equitable Access | Dignity | Empathy | Inclusion

55

Hunger Relief Partners

212,522

Individuals Served

3,558,333

Meals Provided

329

Volunteers

# Program Impact

Last year, through the 55 hunger relief partners, over 212,000 individuals were served.  
95,868 Adults | 78,226 Children | 38,428 Seniors

# 1

## Mobile Pop-Up Pantries

The St. Croix Valley Food Bank's Mobile "Pop-Up Pantry" program has served 413,688 meals to those living in the high poverty, rural communities that do not have access to a pantry. There has been a notable increase in the number of elderly, including many veterans who lack access to food resources.

*"The Mobile Pantry helps with rising costs and inflation. With the SCVFB, my family can eat healthier foods." - Laurie L.*



# 2

## Hispanic Family Food Program

The St. Croix Valley Food Bank's Hispanic Family Food Program continues to grow and now serves more than 50 households during a once a month distribution providing culturally specific food.

*"Please accept our immense heartfelt gratitude to all who made it possible (SCVFB employees, volunteers, donors, businesses) for the food we receive month after month.*

*We are counting on them as the foods received constitute a significant benefit to our families. Many of us have very low income, limited resources and have children. May God bless you for your generosity." - Families of the Hispanic Family Food Program*



# 3

## Goodness in a Box

The "Goodness In A Box" program serves the homebound, elderly and disabled who simply cannot go to a pantry or food distribution event. The program started in St. Croix County as a pilot program and in the past year has distributed 7,429 pounds / 6,191 meals. The program is now expanding into Pierce County in spring 2023. Partnerships with county Aging & Disability Resource Centers connect the St. Croix Valley Food Bank to the residents that are in need.

*"A great program that has lots of items I can use." - Anonymous*



# 4

## Tribal Elder Box Program

In partnership with Feeding Wisconsin, the St. Croix Valley Food Bank championed the inclusion of the St. Croix Band of the Chippewa Indians in the "Tribal Elder Box" Program as they were the only tribe in the state not participating in this free, culturally specific food program. The average box of food is 14-16 pounds and includes a combination of protein (beef, bison, venison, fish, chicken, and pork) and produce (greens, apples, berries, corn, beans, squash, potatoes, tomatoes, and other seasonal produce). In 2022, the St. Croix Valley Food Bank distributed 19,967 lbs. of food in 1,165 tribal elder boxes.

*The Tribe says - "Chi-Miigwech" (thank you very much)!*



# Supporting Western Wisconsin Farmers

# Volunteers



# 33%

Increase in pounds of food from local farmers



# 7,588

Hours

# 329

Unique Volunteers

"We are so excited to know that this super fresh, delicious, nutritious and real food is making its way to populations of people who lack access and really need it. We are extremely grateful for this partnership with the St. Croix Valley Food Bank!"

*-Jody Lenz, Threshing Table Farm*

## FoodShare Outreach


Launching in March of 2022, partnering with more hunger relief agencies, shelters, senior sites, and other groups to reach those who are eligible for this benefit - resulting in 58,900 meals in the first seven months of the program.

"I volunteer at the St. Croix Valley Food Bank because food insecurity is a major issue in many areas in western Wisconsin and the Food Bank is exponentially increasing the amount of food that is being distributed to the local pantries and directly to individuals.

The employees and other volunteers are great to work with and it's rewarding to be part of a team that truly cares and is making a difference every day."

*- Doug Schubert, Volunteer*





**I have been impressed by the strength, dedication and passion of our board members, staff and volunteers throughout the year. The organization's value of equitable access drove significant growth in the number of hunger relief partners from 14 to 55 and the pounds of food delivered from 2.9 million to 4.2 million.**

**This outstanding work aligns with a commitment to our vision - *To end hunger in the St. Croix Valley through collaborative partnerships that build healthy communities.***

**I have no doubt that this level of commitment will continue to result in significant contributions to hunger relief in western Wisconsin. St. Croix Valley Food Bank is truly exceptional.**

*- Jim Dahl, President, St. Croix Valley Food Bank Board of Directors*

## **2021-2022 Board of Directors**

### **OFFICERS**

Jim Dahl - President

Warren Schneider - Vice President

Ann Schilling - Secretary

Marc Ruska - Treasurer

### **DIRECTORS**

Petrona Melgarejo

Brian Elwood

Steve Snell

John Vegter

Becky Talledge

# Financials

This past year, 415,400 Wisconsinites faced food insecurity. Some good news is that this community stepped up to respond. And just in time, as supply chain disruptions and inflation made it harder and more expensive for us to get meals where they were needed most. We know that hunger is here and the generosity of this community reminds us we have a growing response.

## TOTAL SUPPORT & REVENUE



## RESOURCE DISTRIBUTION



“Ciranda, Inc.’s experience with the St. Croix Valley Food Bank has been very positive. We volunteer in the packing events to build stronger teams and connect our employees to the community. The diversity of their programs and ways in which they aim to serve community members with different needs is really inspiring. We value our relationship with SCVFB and look forward to finding new ways to collaborate in the future.”

-Ciranda, Inc.

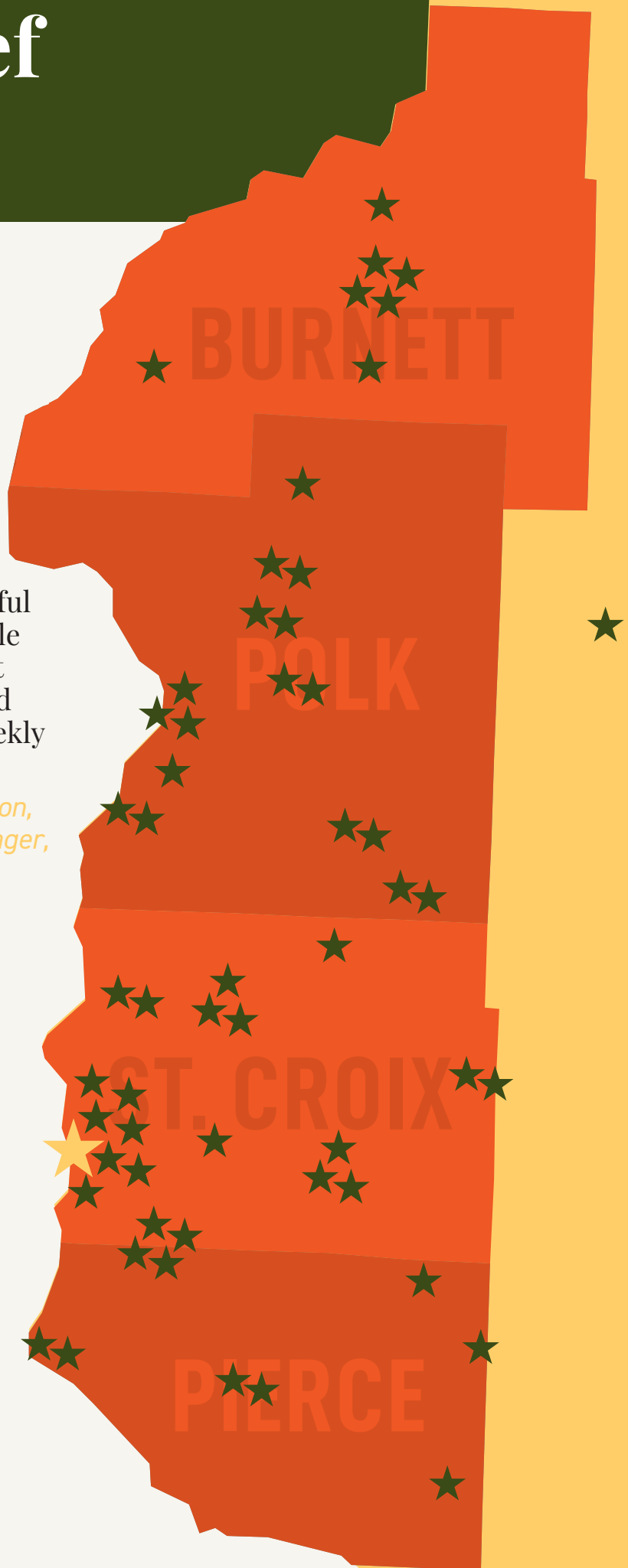


# Hunger Relief Partners

Amery Area Food Pantry  
Baldwin Community Food Pantry  
Baldwin Mobile  
Balsam Lake Food Pantry  
Balsam Lake Mobile  
Burnett County Food Pantry  
Christian Food Cupboard of Hudson  
Community Referral Agency  
Danbury Community Center  
Deer Park Mobile  
Elmwood Food Pantry  
Family Pathways Frederic Food Shelf  
Family Pathways St. Croix Falls Food Shelf  
Five Loaves Food Shelf  
Fresh Express  
Glenwood City Mobile  
Goodness in a Box  
Grace Place Emergency Shelter  
Grantsburg Area Food Shelf  
HAB&FP Drive Thru Distribution  
Happy Kids Backpack Program  
Hispanic Communities Distribution  
Hudson Area Backpack  
Hudson Area Fresh Harvest  
Lifeline Backpack Program  
Lifeline Food Pantry  
Lions Food Distribution  
Loaves and Fishes Interfaith Food Pantry  
Maple Plain Community Center  
Milltown Food Pantry  
Northwoods Homeless Shelters  
Our Neighbors' Place Backpack Program  
Our Neighbors' Place Day Center  
People Loving People  
Pierce County Backpack Program  
Pierce County Food Pantry  
Plum City Food Pantry  
Prescott Area Backpack Program  
Prescott Area Food Pantry  
River Falls Community Food Pantry  
Roberts Food Pantry  
Round Lake Community Center  
Sand Lake  
Siren Mobile  
Somerset Community Food Pantry  
Somerset Mobile  
Spring Valley Community Food Pantry  
St. Croix Falls Backpack Program  
St. Croix Falls Food Shelf  
Summer Food and Fun Backpack Program  
The Open Cupboard  
The Open Cupboard Backpack Program  
Turningpoint for Victims of Domestic and Sexual Violence  
West CAP  
Yellow Lake Food Distribution

“We are grateful for the flexible staff, robust offerings and options for weekly delivery.”

*-Jennifer Hanson,  
Food Shelf Manager,  
Five Loaves*





ST. CROIX VALLEY  
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1231 Industrial St. #400

P.O. Box 377

Hudson, WI 54016

715.629.5405

[www.stcroixvalleyfoodbank.org](http://www.stcroixvalleyfoodbank.org)

[endhunger@stcroixvalleyfoodbank.org](mailto:endhunger@stcroixvalleyfoodbank.org)

Thank you for  
supporting your  
local food bank,  
to meet the local  
needs of the  
communities in  
western Wisconsin.

