



LOAVES & FISHES

Groceries for Neighbors in Need

IMPACT REPORT



What does Loaves & Fishes mean to you?

www.loavesandfishes.org

Note from the Executive Director

During one of the toughest years our organization has ever seen, you were right there with us supporting our efforts to serve our clients and fulfill our mission in an unprecedented time. We are so thankful for your support that allowed us to create programs and innovate new ways to safely operate in the community during a pandemic while experiencing unparalleled demands for food. As you look over our 2020 Impact Report, please know that you are a critical part of our success. We would not have been able to achieve the impact we did without you by our side.

In the year ahead, we know we have more work to do. Through our upcoming merger with Friendship Trays (the primary Meals on Wheels program for Mecklenburg County), we will work tirelessly to ensure that more people have access to the fresh, healthy food they need. Thank you again for your past support. We welcome you to be part of a brighter future ahead for all our neighbors in need.



Tina Postel, Executive Director

“It means I will have food for this whole month without bothering family members. It means I may not have to choose between medical insurance premiums and food.”



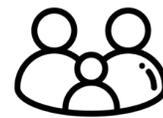
48,978
children & seniors
served



7,951
individuals served
through home
delivery



3,000,000
pounds of food
distributed



120,000
individuals served

Program Highlights



HOME DELIVERY



MOBILE PANTRIES



FOOD SHARES

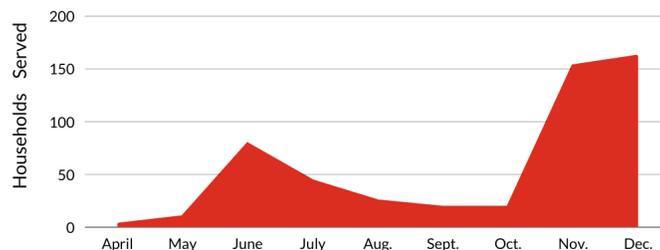


Bob Briggs, volunteer Home Delivery driver with a packed car ready to make deliveries.

HOME DELIVERY

The Home Delivery program was created this past year to serve those in need of food who were infected by, exposed to, or high-risk for contracting the virus without a support system to provide food to them. In 2020, nearly 8,000 individuals were served through Home Delivery. Volunteers drove to the warehouse, picked up boxes packed with a 7-day supply of groceries and fresh produce, and delivered the food safely to the doorsteps of clients all over Mecklenburg County.

Food Deliveries for COVID-19* Positive Clients

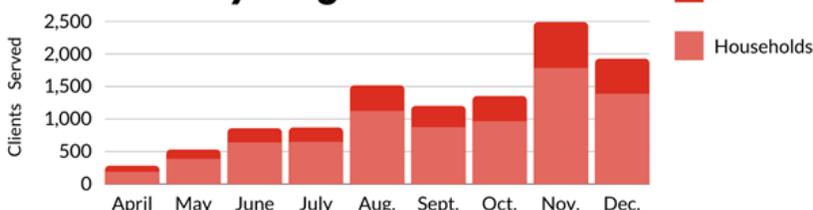


*COVID-19 status is self-reported by clients

“My son and I enjoyed our volunteer experience today. Very well organized and easy to follow instructions. Having Stage 4 cancer has greatly limited my opportunities to serve others, so I am grateful for the chance to do so with Loaves & Fishes,” one volunteer shared. At Loaves & Fishes, we had the food and the means to provide our neighbors in need with groceries, and we were able to utilize our fleet of dedicated volunteers. This was equally beneficial for our volunteers looking for ways to give their time and the clients who found themselves in a critical situation.

Through the program, we served 514 households that had at least one member who reported they tested positive for COVID-19. We also served a total of 2,771 households with clients who are elderly, who do not have transportation, or are disabled. The need for this home delivery option remains high.

Home Delivery Program Growth



Program Highlights



Team member Brosnan Granger putting groceries into trunks of clients cars at a Mobile Pantry
© Lindsay Kappius

MOBILE PANTRIES

In early 2020, we were all experiencing a scary time, learning that we needed to distance from others and stay in place at our homes. We made the decision to close our indoor pantries to make sure our clients, volunteers, and staff were safe. With the closing came a realization that we would not be able to safely provide client-choice, a model we worked hard to perfect in our pantries to allow clients to choose their groceries. We began packing emergency food boxes with a 7-day supply of nutritionally balanced groceries and quickly pivoted to using our trucks in parking lots of pantries to distribute those boxes.

The Mobile Pantry program quickly exploded and we were providing emergency food boxes to 3,700 people a week at the height of the pandemic. These boxes included fresh produce, dairy, meat, and purchased non-perishables – much of which were purchased thanks to your generosity. The boxes were then distributed in a drive-thru line to keep our clients, staff, and volunteers safe and distanced. With the Mobile Pantries, we never skipped a beat and continued to assist our neighbors in need, including those who found themselves needing help for the first time in their lives. We learned so much in 2020, and had to pivot in multiple ways, but nothing stopped us from being there for our community– not even a pandemic.



Volunteers helping out at a mobile pantry.
© Lindsay Kappius

“ It means that I can focus on paying bills instead of where I am going to get my next meal. ”

Program Highlights

FOOD SHARES

Loaves & Fishes partnered with our friends at Second Harvest Food Bank to distribute fresh produce, meat, and dairy products through the federal “Farmers to Families Food Box” program. As these foods come available, we work to provide these boxes to our neighbors in Mecklenburg County. We utilized different locations than our mobile pantries and worked hard to make it an easy sign-up experience on our website. In 2020, this allowed us to provide fresh produce to an additional **40,950** of our neighbors in need!



Fresh produce ready to be distributed to clients.
© Lindsay Kappius

“We are able to eat healthy meals and especially appreciate the fruit and vegetables and dairy from Pop Up Food shares.”



Legacy Giving

Funding the Future of Loaves & Fishes

Rebecca “Becky” Price donated a bequest gift to Loaves & Fishes. *“My mother always talked about how much she enjoyed volunteering at Loaves & Fishes and the people she worked with. The reasons that we support Loaves & Fishes are pretty simple, they get food to people that need it. They do not make it complicated for people in need. It is very easy to see/define where the contributions are being utilized,”* Stephen, Becky’s son tells us. *“My mother taught my brother and I to be Thankful for everything that we have and to always help the less fortunate. We support Loaves & Fishes along with the local shelters and Crisis Assistance.”* With a legacy gift to Loaves & Fishes, you can ensure that hungry neighbors in our community will have access to our services in the future.

To learn more about leaving a legacy gift to Loaves & Fishes, visit www.loavesandfishes.org/legacy or call Lucy Mitchell at 704-594-5832.

2020 Client Survey Stats



45%

will use the money they saved to pay the mortgage or the rent



33%

will use the money they saved to pay electric and/or gas bills



14%

will use the money they saved to pay for medicine

Food Insecurity Our Clients Face



96%

worried whether their food would run out before they had money to buy more



93%

have run out of food

Clients Impacted by COVID-19



91%

were negatively impacted by COVID-19

2019-2020 Budget

How Support was Used



Sources of Support



Break Down of Support

In-Kind Donations

5.6% Individuals
5.1% Congregations
11.7% Businesses

34.0% Organizations
41.5% Government
2.1% Schools/Colleges

Financial Donations

49.0% Individuals
9.4% Foundations
7.9% Congregations
13.3% Businesses

9.1% Organizations
8.8% Government
2.5% Schools/Colleges

2020-2021 Board of Directors

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Cathy Morrison - Secretary
Ed Brea - Treasurer
Gene Katz - Past President
Heather Harjes - At-Large Exec. Committee
Katie Kaney - At-Large Exec. Committee

Kristy Bell
Shelbra Booth
Darius Chase
Tom Falish
Brooks Jaffa
Meredith Jeffries
Thomas Kraus

Mac Redfern
Amalia Reyes Juchnik
Joseph Sanger
Alan Steele
Yamileth Vega