

SSCAC's Food Resources Program Impact Report



To respond to increased food insecurity in our communities, our Food Resources Program collected, stored, and distributed a half million pounds of fresh and non-perishable emergency food for children, families, and the elderly throughout Plymouth County in 2022. Low-income families and the elderly living on a fixed income are disproportionately impacted by the convergence of ongoing financial instability caused by the pandemic and sky-high prices for housing, utilities, food, gas, and other household necessities. Over the past 5 years, we have seen a 132% increase in the number of first-time food assistance recipients at our partner organizations. Together with our partner pantries, soup kitchens, and other emergency food providers, we are working hard to meet demand despite volunteer hesitancy about COVID exposure and decreases in donations. We will continue to play a central role in the collection and distribution of food to ensure our at-risk friends and neighbors have the food they need and to support the rebuilding of the region's emergency food system.



PHOTO COURTESY: SSCAC

EMERGENCY FOOD DISTRIBUTED IN 2022

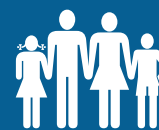
SSCAC distributes emergency food relief to more than 60 local food assistance programs, food pantries, schools, and Councils on Aging



394,731
Meals Provided



340,846 lbs.
Locally Donated



5,935 People
Fed Each Month

TEAM UP AGAINST HUNGER

Low-income people often have to make unimaginable choices between paying for rent, utilities, prescriptions, or food. SSCAC's Food Resources Program fights hunger and food insecurity by collecting, storing, and distributing roughly a half million pounds of food FREE OF CHARGE to food insecure south shore residents, as well as pantries, soup kitchens, schools, and other human service agencies throughout Plymouth County.



Feeding Families, Children & Seniors



SSCAC FOOD RESOURCES 2022 AT A GLANCE

Our Food Resources Program fights hunger and promotes nutrition for low-income individuals and families through coordination and collaboration with hundreds of community partners and dedicated volunteers who donate food, support the operations of our Food Distribution Center, and facilitate food distribution to those in need. During 2022, we maintained our strategic partnerships that help us target food distribution to children and seniors who are at greatest risk for poor health, mental health, and developmental outcomes due to hunger. In the past year, seniors comprised 33% of all individuals served, 31% were children, and 7% were first-time food assistance recipients.

FOOD IN	
441,107 POUNDS	TOTAL EMERGENCY FOOD COLLECTED To fight hunger and food insecurity on the South Shore, we received fresh and non-perishable food donations from compassionate individuals and groups, Food Recovery partners, Healthy Harvest partners, and the Greater Boston Food Bank.
181,175 POUNDS	RECOVERED FOOD We partner with local restaurants, grocers, markets, and others that rescue and donate high-quality fresh and prepared food that would otherwise go to waste.
24,789 POUNDS	HEALTHY HARVEST PRODUCE We collect donations of nutrient-dense, freshly picked fruits and vegetables from the Plymouth County Farm.
100,263 POUNDS	GREATER BOSTON FOOD BANK Purchased and donated food from the Greater Boston Food Bank brought to the region for food insecure south shore residents.
FOOD OUT	
473,677 POUNDS	EMERGENCY FOOD DISTRIBUTED We distributed 473,677 lbs.* of emergency food - the equivalent of 394,731 meals - including 204,420 lbs. of fresh perishables such as produce, dairy, vital proteins, and prepared foods. We target food distribution for the elderly and children.
151,094 POUNDS	MEALS FOR SENIORS We distributed the equivalent of 125,911 meals for seniors via our Bagged Food Initiative that supplies Meals on Wheels deliveries, local Councils on Aging, and our Food Distribution Center members.
111,861 POUNDS	MEALS FOR CHILDREN We distributed the equivalent of 93,217 meals for children through our Backpack Food for Kids partnership with local schools, Bagged Food Initiative that supplies food for families at Head Start centers and low-income housing, and our Food Distribution Center members.
5,935 PEOPLE	PEOPLE SERVED/MONTH Together with our Food Distribution Center members and community partners, we provided emergency food for an average of 5,935 people each month.



SSCAC's Food Distribution Center

In a typical year, we supply food free-of-charge to 70+ emergency food providers throughout Plymouth County. At the height of the pandemic in 2020, many of these providers closed or suspended in-person food distribution. Two years later, the region's emergency food system continues to feel the ripple effects of the pandemic. In FY22, 80% of our partners have resumed food distribution to those struggling with food insecurity in their communities. At the same time, more than 4,500 new individuals sought emergency food assistance during the year, a trend that is continuing into 2023.

#OurCommunityInAction



* Staff and volunteers regularly and carefully perform safety and quality inspections of all food in our inventory. Expired, spoiled, or substandard items are disposed.