

FOOD RESOURCES

Program Impact Report



Our Food Resources Program fights food insecurity, promotes nutrition, and increases equitable food access for children, older adults, and families on the South Shore by working together with hundreds of dedicated community partners to collect, store, and distribute nearly 425,000 pounds of fresh and non-perishable emergency food to our local communities free-of-charge each year. By all measures and reports, in FY24 food insecurity remained high in Massachusetts and on the South Shore where 1 in 3 adults does not have enough food and access to affordable food ranks as the third greatest need for low-income individuals and families. Together with individuals, businesses, organizations, and community groups, we collected 423,016 pounds of fresh and non-perishable food donations which we distributed directly to food-insecure individuals and families and supplied to 63 emergency food providers in the region to help sustain their capacity.



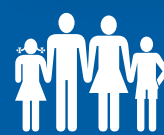
SSCAC collects and distributes fresh and non-perishable emergency food directly to households in need and supplies food to 63 food pantries, soup kitchens, schools, Councils on Aging, and others throughout the South Shore.



322,627
Meals Provided



205,710 lbs.
Locally Donated



9,537 People
Fed

TEAM UP AGAINST HUNGER



ARE YOU A TEAM PLAYER?

Find out how you can volunteer and make a difference by scanning the QR Code, calling 508-747-7575, or visiting us at www.sscac.org

With the high cost of living persisting in FY24, low-income people in our communities were making unimaginable choices between paying for rent, utilities, prescriptions, or food. SSCAC's Food Resources Program fights food insecurity, promotes nutrition, and increases equitable food access by collecting, storing, and distributing more than 423,000 pounds of food FREE-OF-CHARGE throughout the South Shore.

To promote nutrition, we strive to collect and distribute fresh, nutrient-dense produce, proteins, and dairy products along with shelf-stable non-perishable pantry staples.



SSCAC FOOD RESOURCES 2024 AT A GLANCE

In FY24, costs for groceries, gas, and other household necessities remained high at the same time that pandemic-related benefits ended. Left with fewer resources, economically disadvantaged individuals and families have had to cut back on food purchases in order to pay for less “discretionary” expenses such as rent, utilities, and transportation. According to the Greater Boston Food Bank’s 2024 Food Access report, food insecurity in MA grew 79% over the past 5 years from 19% to 34%. Further, the Plymouth County food insecurity rate was a troubling 36%, higher than the statewide rate.

To help mitigate the financial strain on low-income households, our Food Resources Program marshalled the compassion, energy, and support of hundreds of local residents, businesses, organizations, and community groups to collect 423,016 pounds of fresh and non-perishable food. Using a combination of direct-to-consumer food distribution and supplying of food “business-to-business” to food pantries, soup kitchens, and other emergency food providers in the region, we fought food insecurity, promoted nutrition, and increased equitable food access for 9,537 children, older adults, and families.

Knowing that children and older adults experience greater negative health, mental health, academic, and developmental outcomes due to hunger, we sustained our “Senior Access” and “Children’s Access” strategic food distribution through partnership with Councils on Aging, senior housing, schools, Head Start centers, family shelters, family resource centers, the Plymouth Boys & Girls Club, and more.

Finally, with an eye toward strengthening regional food capacity, SSCAC is proud to partner with the Old Colony Planning Council, the Plymouth County Commission, the Plymouth County Sheriff’s Department/County Farm, the Marion Institute, and others on a multi-year food security and municipal vulnerability assessment and planning process.

FOOD IN

423,016
POUNDS

TOTAL EMERGENCY FOOD COLLECTED

To fight hunger 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.

205,710
POUNDS

LOCAL FOOD DONATIONS

Over 100 individuals, businesses, organizations, and community groups donated 205,710 pounds of emergency food, including participants in our 1st Annual March Mania Food Drive Tournament which collected over 16,000 pounds of local food donations.

18,376
POUNDS

FARM FRESH PRODUCE DONATIONS

Our local food donations included 18,376 pounds of nutrient-dense, farm fresh fruits and vegetables from our partners at the Plymouth County Farm (including produce grown at the Farm’s new aquaponics center), The Farmhouse, and Plimoth Produce.

217,306
POUNDS

GREATER BOSTON FOOD BANK

We received and facilitated distribution of fresh and non-perishable food purchased from the Greater Boston Food Bank by SSCAC and other area pantries and donated food through GBFB’s local Retail Enabling Program.

FOOD OUT

387,152
POUNDS

TOTAL EMERGENCY FOOD DISTRIBUTED

We distributed 387,152 lbs.* of emergency food - the equivalent of 322,667 meals - including fresh perishables such as produce, dairy, vital proteins, and prepared foods.

136,595
POUNDS

MEALS FOR OLDER ADULTS

Through direct distribution and in partnership with food pantries, Councils on Aging, senior housing developments, and others, we distributed 136,595 lbs. of food - the equivalent of 113,829 meals - for food insecure older adults struggling to pay high grocery prices on a fixed income.

102,821
POUNDS

MEALS FOR CHILDREN

We distributed 102,821 lbs. of food - the equivalent of 85,684 meals - for children through direct distribution to families, supplying food to the region’s food pantries, our Backpack Food 4 Kids school partners, Head Start centers, shelters, low income housing, and other CBOs.

9,537
PEOPLE

SOUTH SHORE RESIDENTS FED

Together, with hundreds of compassionate food donors, volunteers, and food distribution partners, we eliminated hunger, promoted nutrition, and increased equitable food access for 9,537 South Shore residents of all ages.

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



#TeamUpAgainstHunger

9,537

People of All
Ages Received
Food

63

Food Distribution
Center Members

109

Local Food
Donors

7

Backpack
Food 4 Kids
Schools

7

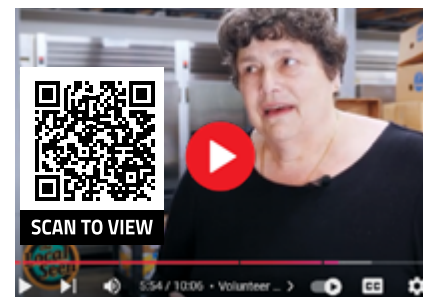
Councils on
Aging

6,071

Hours of Donated
by 51 Active
Volunteers

#OurCommunityInAction

For nearly 60 years, SSCAC has worked to alleviate poverty with programs that address the most pressing needs of low-income individuals and families in our communities, including home heating assistance and energy conservation, early education and childcare, food resources, transportation, emergency assistance and case management, and income maximization services.



#MealKitMondays

We continued our direct distribution to individuals and families with a bimonthly mobile pantry that brings pantry staples and fresh ingredients for a family meal to an area of North Plymouth identified as a food desert by the USDA. Through this mobile pantry and our bagged food distribution to Head Start centers, we distributed food to nearly 1,300 individuals.