



A Word from Our Board Chair and President & CEO

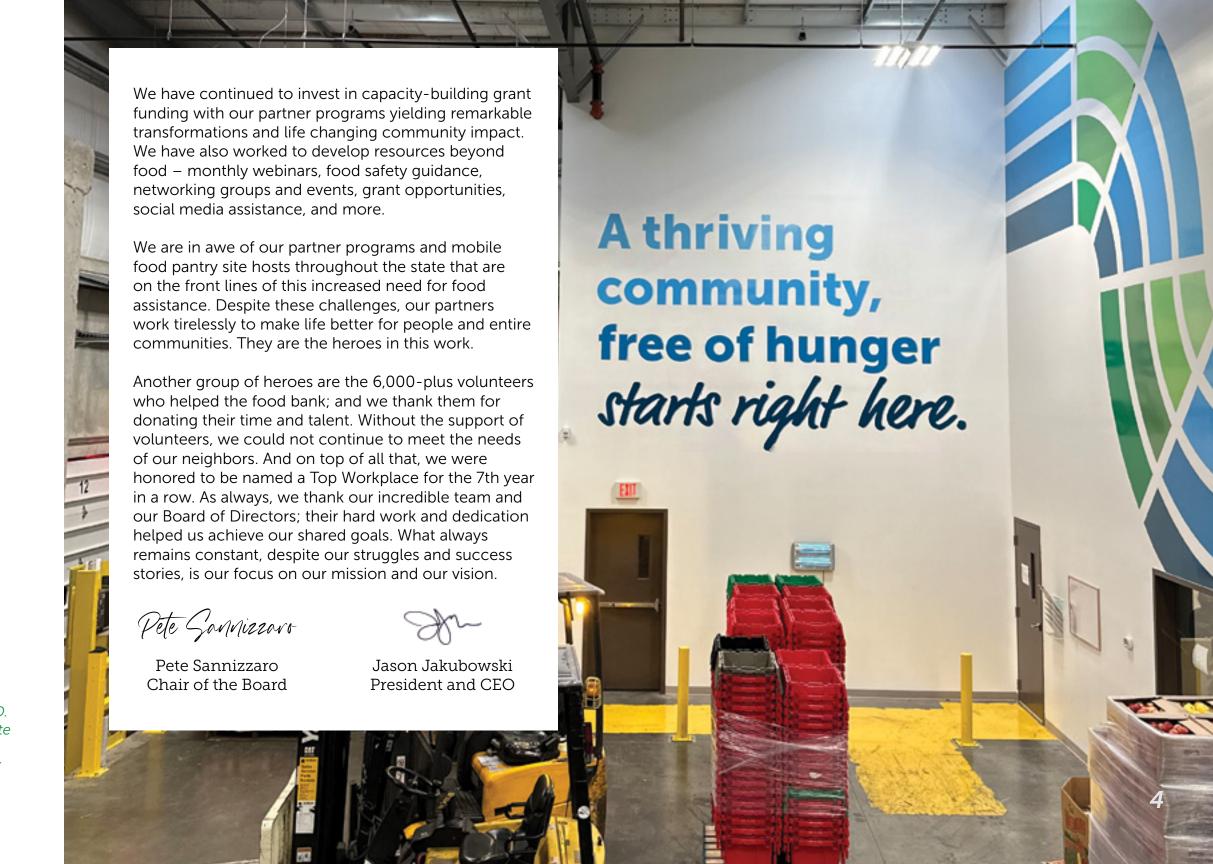
In 2021, we embarked on a one-of-a-kind merger creating the state's first food bank capable of bringing its services to the entire state. Since the merger's completion, we have focused on integrating management teams, consolidating warehouse space and systems and on our culture. We also reduced our operating expenses by nearly \$2M, making us a more efficient organization capable of better serving our neighbors in need. However, over the same period, we also continued to experience headwinds in the form of historic inflation driving up the prices of housing, healthcare and food. The unfortunate reality is that hunger is now affecting even more people throughout our nation; in Connecticut we're seeing a 23% increase in the need for food assistance. Food costs are at a 30-year high and food insecurity continues to disproportionately impact Black and Hispanic communities at the rate of 1 in 4 people. With need on the rise, our state saw an alarming 34% increase in the number of Connecticut children experiencing hunger. In the face of these ongoing challenges, Connecticut Foodshare will continue to innovate, optimize its warehousing and distribution, increase community collaboration and work with our state representatives on legislation that helps us serve the community.

This annual report highlights the past year, the transformative impact we had and our continued focus on our four pillars: increasing access to food, investing in partners, creating lasting food security, and equitably serving communities in need.

Last year, with the support of over 650 partner programs and mobile food pantries, we provided more than 44 million meals throughout Connecticut. But we know that more is needed. This need led us to innovate with our two new hydroponic farms. These Freight Farm containers grew more than 78,000 units of nutritious greens that we have harvested and distributed across Connecticut and have sparked new partnerships and conversations. We also experienced one of the largest Thanksgiving distributions to date, providing more than 52,000 Thanksgiving meals through our network of partners, and our SNAP outreach team helped over 2,100 Connecticut households apply for SNAP.



Annual Meeting and Taste of Gratitude event October 2023. Pictured from left to right: Alfred D. Watts, Vice Chair of the Board; Pete Sannizzaro, Chair of the Board; Beth Henry, Immediate Past Chair; Jason Jakubowski, President and CEO of Connecticut Foodshare.





The Generosity of Our Food Donors and Farms

Our generous food donors across the state provide most of the food that makes its way onto our neighbors' tables. Some notable news among our food donation work last year included onboarding new donors that specialize in culturally connected foods; welcoming 32 Dollar General stores as new partners; and a nearly 10% increase in the amount of food received through Retail Rescue – 13.8 million pounds! Our Retail Rescue program ensures our partner programs quickly receive the freshest possible product through trained volunteers who pick up donations from local grocery stores and deliver directly to our partner programs.







Collaborating to Care for Our Food

Our staff and volunteers treat the food we receive with care and our neighbors in mind!

From inspecting canned goods and choosing the freshest produce to regulating the temperature of donated frozen food on the move – food safety is paramount in our operations.

Our warehouse, logistics, and transportation staff work tirelessly to get food to our partners and neighbors safely and quickly. Last year, our facilities in Wallingford, Bloomfield, and Bridgeport all received an A on their State Safety Audits, and we couldn't be more grateful for their hard work! They truly make meals possible for our community. Join us in thanking the 6,000 volunteers who donated over 46,000 hours last year.



Volunteers sorted over 3.5 million meals worth of food.

Volunteers are at the heart – and foundation - of Connecticut Foodshare's success. They bring passion, dedication, and a wealth of skills that help drive our mission forward. Join us in thanking the 6,000 volunteers who donated over 46,000 hours last year!

Their commitment makes every aspect of our work possible, and we deeply appreciate their invaluable contributions and amazing accomplishments!

Volunteers spent nearly 3,400 hours packing food boxes specially designed for seniors.

Over 13 million pounds of food was rescued through our volunteer-led Retail Rescue Program!

Connecticut Foodshare

Our Community, Our Food Ba

An average of 100,000 pounds of food delivered to agencies each day!



Sylvia, East Hartford

neighbor

Partner Programs - Supporting Our Communities with Food and So Much More

86% of the 44 million meals we provided were distributed to our neighbors thanks to the partner programs across the state.

MEALS DISTRIBUTED

PARTNER PROGRAMS 38.4 Million

FOOD BANK OPERATED PROGRAMS 6.3 Millio

Percent Nutritious

Percent Fresh Produce 3



Our partnerships with nearly 500 food pantries and community kitchens across the state made over 38 million meals possible last year. Their dedication not only ensures our neighbors get access to healthy, safe food – it also helps families and individuals with other resources that are critical to increasing food security for good. When Connecticut Foodshare holistically supports our partners, they can better focus on meeting the needs of their guests with dignity and choice.

"Your support is crucial in helping us assist students with multi-stressed situations who are facing food insecurity and mental health challenges. By partnering with you, we can ensure these students have access to nutritious food and the support they need to thrive."

- Futures Inc., West Hartford

"Your assistance has been fundamental to our operations. We are now able to provide meals for a significant number of individuals in the community through our meal program."
-Friendship Service Center, New Britain

"Our friends at Connecticut Foodshare are all about sharing delicious ingredients for our food pantry and kitchen! We cherish our partnership and are grateful for Connecticut Foodshare every day!"

-St. Vincent de Paul, Norwich

Over \$1.2 Million in grants to support our partners

"We can't wait to use the (Connecticut Foodshare) grant to purchase a van to aid our kitchen, and guests staying at 'The Inn'."

-South Park Inn. Hartford

"The freezer (from a Connecticut Foodshare grant) has allowed for a wider selection that guests can see and choose from. Moving to a full choice model allows food recipients to shop, removing the stigma of 'getting food' and replacing it with dignity and independence in choosing foods that are best suited for them."

-Salvation Army, Middletown

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Photo: Christina, St. Vincent de Paul Mission of Waterbury



Mobile Food Pantries

Connecticut Foodshare delivers food to our neighbors at more than 110 mobile food pantry sites across the state. We have a supportive network of community partners that host the sites, and volunteers who manage and promote our mobile food pantries. Without their hard work and compassion for our neighbors, our mobile food pantries would just not be possible.

With the need for food at an extreme level, Connecticut Foodshare must ensure we are doing the best we can for our neighbors – and we asked them for their feedback through a intensive evaluation conducted at our mobile food pantry sites. This feedback underscores how robust our mobile food pantry program is, how important it is to neighbors experiencing food insecurity, and how grateful our neighbors and volunteers are for this program.







Centering Our Neighbors for an Equitable Future

While providing 44 million meals is a tremendous achievement, we know that reducing hunger for good will take more than food. We have made progress with many efforts that center our neighbors' needs beyond food – and we believe these efforts will help create lasting food security.

Advocacy

In the past year, we have committed to developing a more inclusive, organized, and participatory advocacy program. We hold our vision of a thriving community free of hunger at the center of this work and emphasize the importance of authentic, meaningful participation of our partners and the neighbors we serve in moving our priorities forward.

We've been focusing on advocating for policies that will increase funding to provide more nutritious, regionally sourced food. We are adding our voice to calls for policies that address housing, mental health, and other intersecting issues that will help lessen the systemic inequities our neighbors face each and every day. We look forward to sharing more about our efforts and encourage you to visit our website to stay up to date on how you can help us make a difference.





Diverse neighbors with food insecurity experience came together as the first cohort of the Neighbor Council, which has three goals: center neighbor expertise and feedback in food bank operations; educate and train neighbors to engage in public policy and systems change; and elevate neighbor voices to build public awareness of food insecurity and ways to end food insecurity in our state. Over four months, they focused on leadership skills and ways to effect systemic change. Connecticut Foodshare plans to implement a second cohort in 2025 and aim to create a longer and more equitable program that includes multiple languages and a wider range of ages and lived expertise.

"I am more confident mobilizing out in the community and building connections." -Neighbor Council Member

"Being a part of this group is the catalyst I needed to start me on my road to making change in my community." -Neighbor Council Member

"I've opened what I thought was an open mind even more." -Neighbor Council Member





Community Resources Beyond Food

Each month we gather the most important resources from our community and share them with our partner program network and newsletter subscribers. Last year through the Community Resources newsletter, we shared 54 unique resources that could help our neighbors with more than food.





Subscribe to Community Resources



VISTAS



AmeriCorps VISTAs have worked on capacity building projects over the last year such as creating toolkits and collecting best practices around food sourcing, welcoming culture, volunteer training and retention, and much more. We are grateful that Connecticut Foodshare continues to be a priority sponsor organization for the AmeriCorps VISTA program.



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How You Can Help



Give Monthly

Increase your impact when you give monthly.



Make a Tribute

Honor someone special with a gift in honor or memory.

"I welcome an opportunity to

Connecticut residents who are

- Anthony, donor

contribute to a program that

has a substantial impact on

food insecure."



Employer Match

Check to see if your employer will match your donation.



Donor Advised Fund

Designate your gift to Connecticut Foodshare with your DAF.



ctfoodshare.org/ways-to-give



IRA Distribution

Make a gift using a qualified charitable distribution from your IRA.



Gifts of Stock

Make a gift of stock to help fight hunger.



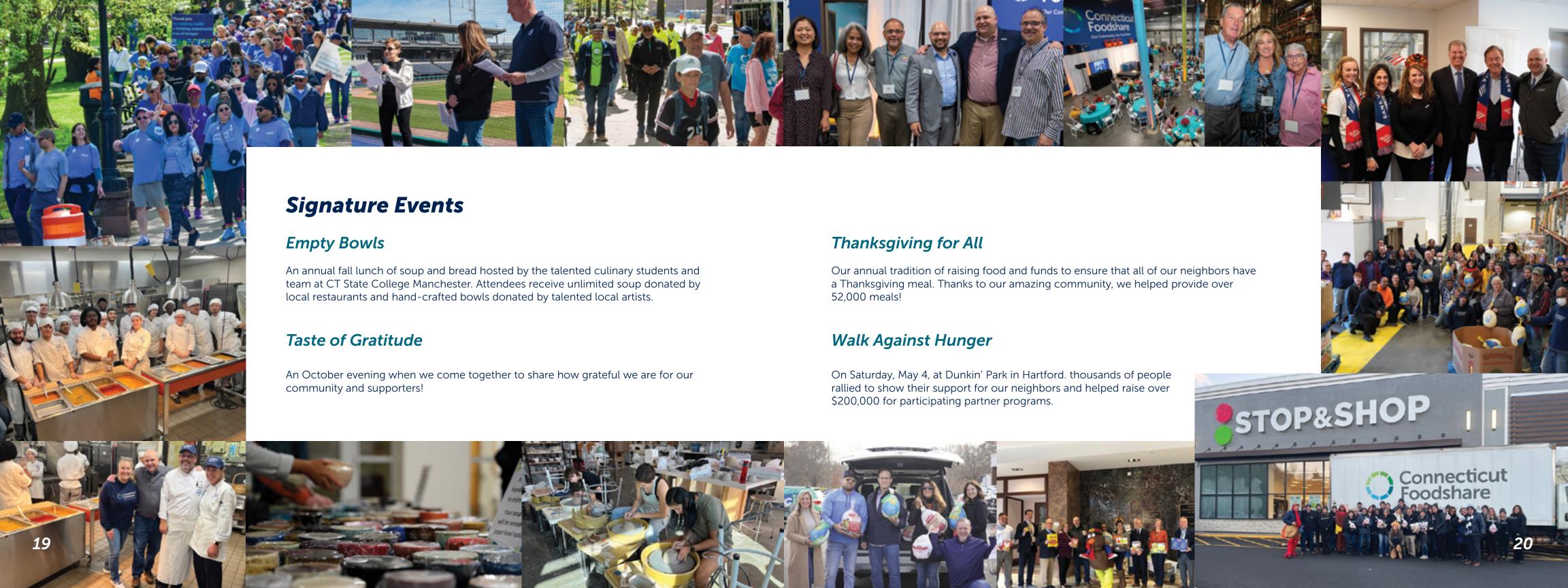
Legacy Gifts

Support hunger relief with a planned gift.



Virtual Food Drive

Start your own or support an existing virtual food drive.



Board of Directors and Honorary Directors 6/30/23-7/1/24

Chair: Pete Sannizzaro
Community Member

Vice Chair: Alfred Watts
Cornerstone Christian Center

Treasurer: Heather Smith-Jaser
PKF O'Connor Davies

Secretary: Arlene Putterman
Community Member



Jennifer Barr Stop and Shop

> Max Barry Aetna

Jered BruzasUnited Way of Greater Waterbury

Tom Buckingham Nassau Financial Group

Molly Devanney Highland Park Market



Joe GianniBank of America

Beth Henry Curative

Katie Hunlock Community Member

Peter Kihara Interim CFO's LLC

Vanessa Maczko Wiggin & Dana



Honorary Directors

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Desiree Bartholomew

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Mayor Shari Cantor

Cheryl Chase

Jenny Chou

Beth Costello

Renee DiNino

Rep. William Dyson

Christine Frederick

Harry Garafalo Scot Haney

Anthony Karlowicz

Mark LaFontaine

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Thomas Trumble
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Jamie McDonald

Bear's Restaurant Group

Maria Paredes

Beacon Communities LLC

Kayla Reasco

Intersect Public Solutions

Wendy Wahl

Guardian Life

Diana Zhang

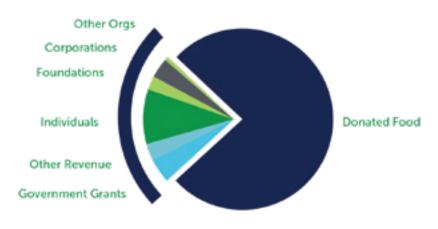
BlockTower

Financial Report

REVENUE

Fundraising Revenue	
 Individuals 	\$ 11,639,891
Foundations	\$ 2,935,370
 Corporations 	\$ 4,163,838
 Other Organizations 	\$ 812,721
Total Fundraising Revenue	\$ 19,551,820
Non-Fundraising Revenue	
Donated Food	\$ 90,651,871
 Government Grants 	\$ 5,134,829
Other Revenue	\$ 3,639,748
Total Non-Fundraising Revenue	\$ 99,426,448

Total Revenue \$ 118,978,268



ASSETS

Total Assets	\$ 56,442,935
Land, Building & Equipment - Net	\$ 13,388,085
Current Assets	\$ 43,054,850

EXPENSES

Programs	
 Food Collection and Distribution 	\$ 110,804,801
 Programs & Community Outreach 	\$ 4,148,539
Total Programmatic Expenses	\$ 114,953,340
Administration	
 Management and General 	\$ 4,552,463
Fundraising	\$ 3,328,014
Total Administrative Expenses	\$7,880,477
Total Expenses	\$ 122,833,817



LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS

Total Liabilities	\$ 3,842,301
Net Assets	
Designated	\$ 48,829,401
Donor Restricted	\$ 3,771,233
Total Net Assets	\$ 52,600,634
Total Liabilities & Net Assets	\$ 56,442,935

Financial and Food Donors

\$100,000 and above

Big Y World Class Market BJ's Charitable Foundation CVS Feeding America Hartford Foundation for Public Giving

KeyBank Foundation RTX Corporation Steven & Alexandra Cohen Foundation Stop & Shop The Chase Family Foundations

The Neag Foundation United Way of Central and Northeastern Connecticut Wakefern Food Corporation

\$50,000 to \$99,999

American Savings Foundation Bank of America Bedoukian Research Inc. Charles A. Frueauff Foundation Costco Wholesale Corporation Dave's Inc. Eav Retail LLC

First Reserve

Joy in Childhood Foundation Kia America Lincoln Financial Foundation Point32Health Foundation Salem Lutheran Church Talcott Financial Group The Atlas Foundation, Inc. The JANA Foundation Inc

The Tudor Foundation The Werth Family Foundation The Woman's Seamen's Friend Society of Connecticut Inc Walmart Foundation Zide Family Foundation

\$25,000 to \$49,999

Katharine Matthies Foundation

Knights of Columbus

Koskoff, Koskoff & Bieder, P.C.

LEGO Systems Inc

M&T Bank Community Foundation

O & G Industries. Inc

SBM Charitable Foundation, Inc.

State Farm Insurance

Subway Headquarters

Taste of Hartford, LLC

The Community Foundation for Greater New Haven

The David and Eunice Bigelow Foundation

\$10,000 to \$24,999

McDermott Family Charitable Trust

McInerney & Fafard Foundation

McPhee Electric Ltd

Meo Charitable Foundation

Morgan, Lewis & Bockius

NJM Insurance Group

PASI, LLC

Americorps Avangrid Foundation Chuza Foundation Community Foundation of Middlesex County Inc Community Snacks ConnectiCare. Inc. & Affiliates Connecticut Container Corp. Connecticut Health Foundation, Inc. **Enterprise Mobility Foundation** Haven Hot Chicken Henry Nias Foundation Jersey Mike's

7-Eleven, Inc.

Albert Wadsworth & Helen Meserve Memorial Fund

American Electro Products, Inc.

Ameriprise Financial

Archdiocese of Hartford

Big Lots Foundation

Bondi Foundation

BoxLunch

Canino Family Charitable Foundation

Chelsea Groton Foundation

Chubb Charitable Foundation

Church/Wu Fund

Cigna Foundation

Clarence B. & Joan F. Coleman Charitable Foundation

Community Chest of New Britain and Berlin, Inc.

Connecticut Association of Healthcare Recruiters

Crate & Barrel

Disney EARS to You Fund

Domino's Pizza LLC

FactSet Research Systems

Farmington Bank Community Foundation

General Mills Foundation Genworth Foundation Greater Hartford Community Foundation, Inc. Guardian Life Insurance Company Harkness Foundation Hartford Healthcare Haydon Kerk Pittman, a Division of Ametek **HCC Global Financial Products** Henkel Corporation Legrand Lena Benas Memorial Fund, Bank of America, N.A., Trustee Liberty Bank Foundation Lil & Julie Rosenberg Foundation Lorensen Auto Group

The Ensworth Charitable Foundation The Hartford Financial Services Group, Inc. The Macauley Foundation The Paul Rand Charitable Trust The Skye Foundation The TJX Foundation, Inc. TJ Maxx Twenty-Seven Foundation Webster Bank Wilton Rocks for Food Inc

PayPal Giving Fund PeoplesBank Pitney Bowes, Inc. **Provident Foundation Trust** Robert & Diana Borman Family Foundation Rogin Nassau LLC Santander Bank Sysco Connecticut, LLC Tan-MacShane Foundation TD Charitable Foundation TDC Specialty Underwriters, Inc. The Brian & Marilyn Lindsay Foundation, Inc. The Claire Helsing Foundation The Community Foundation of Eastern Connecticut The Daniel & Sharon Milikowsky Family Foundation The Dick & Bernice Ramsey Charitable Fund The Elizabeth M. Landon and Harriette M. Landon Charitable Foundation The Hartford Steam Boiler Inspection and Insurance Co.

The Joseph & Susan Gatto Foundation

The Juno Trust

\$10,000 to \$24,999 continued

The Kurtz Family Foundation
The Mark W Blackman and
Deborah H Blackman Family Foundation
The Meriden Foundation
The Nassau Companies of New York
The Owenoke Foundation

The Ruth Krauss Foundation
The Selander Foundation
The Shack Sackler Foundation
The Walt Disney Company
Thomas J. Atkins Memorial Trust Fund, Bank of America, N.A., Trustee

Travelers

Treasure Hill Foundation
Turner Construction Company
UnitedHealth Group Employee Giving
Wayne Eisenbaum Charitable Foundation

\$5,000 to \$9,999

Actalent American Natural Soda Ash Corporation Amphenol Corporation Anthony Donofrio Stumpers, LLC (DBA Restore) Arch Re Art of Giving Corporation Aspen Insurance BACH Wealth Management, LLC Bailey Enterprises LLC BL Companies, Inc. Boost Oxygen LLC **Brownington Foundation Burlington Stores Foundation** CapSpecialty Charter Oak Federal Credit Union Chenevert Family Foundation Cigna Connecticut Bar Association Inc Connecticut Community Foundation Connecticut FreeMasons Foundation Cowles Family Foundation Crocs

Cummins

Dell Technologies Dime Bank Foundation Farm Credit East First Church of Christ New Britain Fiserv George A. and Grace L. Long Foundation, Bank of America, N.A., Trustee Google (Matching Gifts Program) Hartford Distributors, Inc. Highland Park Market of Manchester Hoag Family Charitable Foundation, Bank of America, N.A., Trustee Hopkins School, Inc. Hot Table LLC iCapital Network, Inc. IFI Claims Patent Services Immanuel Congregational Church, Inc. Instacart Intersect Public Solutions, LLC J. Walton Bissell Foundation, Inc. Jacobs & Wallace, LLC Kaman Corporation Kellogg's Corporate Citizenship Fund

Lockheed Martin Lucia P. Fulton Foundation M K Reichert Sternlicht Foundation Market New Haven **MAV Foundation** Mintz & Hoke Miss Porter's School O'Donnell Iselin Foundation Orix Foundation PASI, LLC Penwood Real Estate Management, LLC Prince of Peace Lutheran Church REAP Foundation, Inc. Resource Management Corp Rockville Bank Community Foundation, Inc. Symetra Financial Tapper Charitable Foundation The David Family Foundation The Edgemer Foundation, Inc. The Elsie A. Brown Fund Inc. The Grace Jones Richardson Trust The Hazel Dell Foundation Inc

The James H. Napier Foundation

The Jane and William Curran Foundation Inc The Joe & Cindy Goldberg Family Foundation The Machinist Club - Golf The Miale Team at Keller Williams The Nesi Family Foundation The Nicholas & Viola Spinelli Foundation The Pampered Chef The Pinkus Foundation The Resource Foundation The Rose Family Foundation The SNJ Family Fund The Stroup Family Fund The United Illuminating Company The White Horse Country Pub & Restaurant Voya Financial Waterbury CT Teachers Federal Credit Union Westfield Bank William & Ellen E. Macristy Foundation William and Alice Mortensen Foundation Wiremold Co.

Financial and Food Donors

1,000,000 pounds +













BJ's

Fresh Point

Trader Joe's

Bozzuto's Inc

C&S Wholesale Grocers

HPC

Country Pure Foods
Aldi's
Amazon

500,000 pounds +

ShopRite

Walmart

Whole Foods

100,000 pounds +

Pepperidge Farm
Price Chopper
Reverse Solutions - The Outlet

Sardilli Produce & Dairy

Sysco
US Food Service
World Class Distribution

25,000 pounds +

Bartolotta Inc.

Blue Hills Orchard

Coast to Coast Produce, LLC

Culture Fresh
The Fulfillment Company
Tomorrow Farms Co.

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Connecticut Foodshare

Our Community, Our Food Bank



Our Mission: To deliver an informed and equitable response to hunger by mobilizing community partners, volunteers, and supporters.





