



**Friendship  
Trays** Meals on Wheels of  
Charlotte-Mecklenburg



# 2021-2022 IMPACT REPORT

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

# NOURISHING OUR NEIGHBORS WITH FOOD AND COMPASSION



My friends, what a journey we have all been through since the spring of 2020. Something as simple as putting a meal on the table became even harder for so many of our neighbors in Mecklenburg Co.

In 2021, we fed 77,140 people—enough to fill Bank of America Stadium. In 2022, that number jumped dramatically to 106,547—enough to fill not only Bank of America Stadium but also The Spectrum Center and Bojangles Coliseum.

Then, just when we thought we had finally begun to see a light at the end of the tunnel, we just experienced the highest August in our 48-year history, feeding 11,947 neighbors a week's worth of groceries. That is a number higher than at the height of the pandemic.

Fortunately, we have not been alone. You, our volunteers, donors and community partners, have been right by our side on the front lines in this fight against hunger and isolation.

We hope you take a moment to read through this Impact Report to see the groceries, meals and hope that YOU made possible.

Tina Postel CEO,  
Loaves & Fishes/Friendship Trays

**In 2022, our Board of Directors approved new mission and vision statements that better encompass our work of providing groceries, meals and hope.**

**Mission: Nourishing Our Neighbors with Food and Compassion**

**Vision: Accept No Excuses for Our Neighbors Going Hungry**



# A RETURN TO CLIENT CHOICE

Over the past year, our food pantries have begun a return to offering client choice shopping. The ability to choose your own food is so empowering.

Now, volunteers are once again able to personally greet neighbors and welcome them into the pantry so they can shop and select the groceries they know their families will like.

Detra expressed her gratitude for the option of client choice, which allowed her to handpick some of her husband's favorite grocery items for the week, including fresh grapefruit. The groceries were especially helpful to Detra and her husband, as she has been unable to work due to an ankle injury. However, she was looking forward to returning to work the following week.

*Detra shopping for groceries at our Harrison United Methodist Church pantry*







# A COMMUNITY THAT ACCEPTS NO EXCUSES FOR OUR NEIGHBORS GOING HUNGRY

We depend on an army of volunteers to deliver meals, deliver groceries, sort food donations, pack food boxes and distribute groceries in our pantries and fresh produce at our Pop Up Food Shares.

In 2022, volunteers provided over **70,000 hours of volunteer time, a value of \$2.7 million**, to ensure meals were delivered and pantry shelves were stocked.



To volunteer visit [loavesandfishes.org/get-involved](https://loavesandfishes.org/get-involved)





*Georgette - grocery client*



*Lynne - meal recipient*



*Grocery Home Delivery*



*Our amazing Social Services Team, Kecia Rutledge & Ileshia Johnson, connected 11,924 of our neighbors to food and additional services.*

## OUR PROGRAMS

- » Network of 35+ emergency food pantries in Mecklenburg Co. providing a 7-day supply of nutritionally balanced groceries
- » Primary Meals on Wheels Program for Mecklenburg Co.
- » Online Grocery Ordering by Instacart
- » Fresh produce distributed through PopUp Food Shares
- » Specialty diets for chronic health conditions
- » Grocery Home Delivery
- » Mobile Food Pantries
- » Social Services Team
- » Pregnancy program providing nutritious groceries for the duration of pregnancy and up to four weeks after delivery.

# GETTING FOOD WHERE IT'S NEEDED



## 2,300

In March of 2022, we launched our online grocery ordering platform, **Food Storm by Instacart**. Through this website, our grocery clients can choose the food they would like delivered to their door based on our availability.

Having the ability to choose brings dignity and empowerment for our neighbors. By year's end the program **served 2,300 individuals** and was featured in both local and national news. The program continues to grow!



## 82%

The meals provided by our Meals On Wheels program are essential to the health and well being of our neighbors. For 71% the food they receive is their main food source for the day.

Volunteers provide human connection for isolated and lonely individuals and peace of mind for their families—**allowing homebound individuals to age in place.**

**82% report eating healthier** and 79% feel that their overall health status has improved due to the meals they receive from Loaves & Fishes/Friendship Trays.





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# BECAUSE OF YOUR SUPPORT IN 2022



## FOOD PANTRIES

Provided nutritious groceries to **106,547** neighbors. Almost half were children and seniors.



## MEALS ON WHEELS

Delivered **133,662** nutritiously prepared meals through our Meals on Wheels program.



## POP UP FOOD SHARES

Distributed excess fresh produce and perishable food items to **65,835** neighbors.



## GROCERY HOME DELIVERY

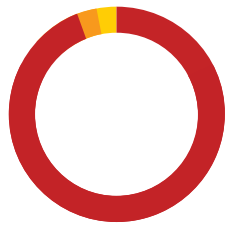
Delivered a week's worth of nutritious groceries directly to the homes of **20,499** neighbors.



## SOCIAL SERVICES TEAM

Our staff Social Services team connected **11,924** neighbors to food and additional services

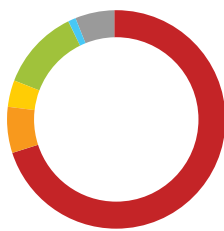
# 2020-2021 BUDGET



## HOW SUPPORT WAS USED

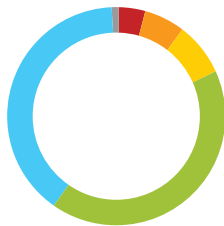
Program	89%
Administration	5%
Fundraising	6%

## SOURCES OF SUPPORT



Individuals	70%
Foundations	7%
Congregations	4%
Businesses	12%
Organizations	1%
Government	6%

## SOURCES OF IN-KIND SUPPORT



Individuals	4%
Congregations	6%
Businesses	8%
Organizations	42%
Government	39%
Schools/Colleges	1%

# 2021-2022 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Shana Plott - President  
Meredith Jeffries - Vice President  
Jacqueline Sinicrope - Past President  
Michael Elliot - Secretary  
Eduardo Brea - Treasurer  
Russ Ferguson - Exec. Committee  
Katie Kaney - Exec. Committee  
Gene Katz - Exec. Committee  
Keith Pehl - Exec. Committee

Aimee Baldwin  
Shelbra Booth  
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Nicolle Lewis  
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