



## Hershey Food Bank

### 2018 Report

The Hershey Food Bank is a 501(c)(3) *all-volunteer* organization that has served the Hershey/Derry Township community for over 50 years. In 2018, our volunteers gave 12,178 hours of service to the food bank.

**The Families We Serve:** The food bank has 363 registered families, representing 933 individuals. Some families use the food bank twice a month, some once, and some less often. The number of families changes slightly from month to month as families move out of the area and new ones apply.

- Nearly 25% are seniors.
- There are 323 children in the families.
- Many are the working poor, underemployed, single parents, and those with disabilities.
- We serve families of many backgrounds: White, Black, Hispanic, Eastern European, Nepalese, African countries, etc.

An average of 444 families used the food bank each month.

- **Families Served in 2018: 5,330**
- **Individuals Served in 2018: 15,254**

**The Food We Provide:** In 2018, food bank clients received **345,120** pounds of food.

Food from Inventory: 6,705 lbs.

Food Purchased: 269,842 lbs.

Food Donated: 68,573 lbs.

We are a choice food bank where families use a shopping cart to shop and select the items they use or need. They select food, personal care, and paper products based on family size.

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## **The Food We Provide (continued):**

Each family receives a variety of:

- Meats
- Frozen vegetables
- Dairy products such as milk, eggs, and cheese
- Fresh seasonal produce, such as potatoes, carrots, onions, cabbage, celery, tomatoes, cucumbers, apples, grapes, and peaches
- Non-perishable items, such as fruits, vegetables, pasta, canned meat, cereals, and juices
- Bread and dessert items

## **Additional Assistance We Offer:**

- **Emergency utilities and rent: 45 families**(total of 171 individuals)
- **Christmas gift certificates given to 305 children.** We also provided the children with other gifts generously donated by parishioners of local churches, groups, clubs, and individuals.

## **Our Funding Sources:**

We are blessed by and very appreciative of a wonderful and caring community that is very supportive of our organization and those we serve.

Our financial support is received from:

- Local churches 14%
- Businesses 10%
- Individuals 19%
- Organizations 9%
- Grants 11%
- Fundraisers 37%



## **Our Clients' Voices:**

Thank you, sweet angels!! Thank you doesn't seem enough. You'll never know the difference you've made to our family. God bless.

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I am so blessed to have a community to help and go above and beyond measure to assist my family in times of need. God is so good. He has yet to fail me and continues to place people with hearts of gold in my life. Thank you so much as I do not take anything for granted. Life is an ongoing up- and downhill battle; however, I continue to trust in God and know that He will always make a way. Please give everyone a huge hug for me and let them all know how forever grateful I am to each and every one that has assisted in helping. Blessings to each of you.

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A thank you note for you from the bottom of my heart for all your help. It is hard to be in this position, as you understand, but I am very grateful! God bless you and always be by your side and in your heart.

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Thank you again for today. It's a tremendous help for me and my daughter! It's a blessing to have people like you to help families in need. I look forward to seeing and talking with you in the future.

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You have been so good to me when I have been in need. You never think life is going to throw you struggles, but it is always a blessing to find those that will help during the storm.

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Working full time and having so many health problems in my family has been very difficult for me to manage. You just don't know how much it means to me that everyone in the community keeps me afloat. I can't express enough appreciation for all the food bank has offered over these past years.

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Thank you so much for the time and energy you put into helping others through your service at the food bank. Your thoughtfulness is greatly appreciated by me and my family. All the gifts were loved by my children. Thank you for making our Christmas a little brighter and for all you do throughout the year to help us all.