



Hershey Food Bank

2021 Report

The Hershey Food Bank is a 501 (c) (3) *all-volunteer* organization that has served the Hershey/Derry Township community for almost 55 years. In 2021, our volunteers contributed 7,500 hours of service to the food bank.

The Families We Serve: At the end of the year the food bank has 235 registered families, representing 570 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 become successful and no longer need our support, or move out of the area or new ones apply.

- Nearly 25.5 % are seniors.
- There are 195 children in the families we serve.
- Many clients are the working poor, underemployed, single parents, and those with disabilities.
- We serve individuals and families of many backgrounds: White, Black, Hispanic, Eastern European, Nepalese, African countries, etc.
- The Food Bank does not discriminate on any basis and we are committed to providing an inclusive and welcoming environment for everyone.

An average of 237 families used the food bank each month.

- **Families Served in 2021: 2,844**
- **Individuals Served in 2021: 7,464**

The Food We Provided: In 2021, food bank clients received **224,866** pounds of food.

Food Purchased: 126,611 lbs.

Food Donated: 110,518 lbs.

Food to inventory: 12,263 lbs.

We are a choice food bank where families use a shopping cart to shop and select the items they use or need. Unfortunately, in the last 20 months we had to adapt to new protocols due to covid to keep everyone healthy and safe. However, as much as possible we accommodate their special diet needs and requests.

The Food We Provide:

Each family receives a variety of:

- Meats
- Frozen vegetables
- Dairy products such as milk, eggs, cheese and yogurt.
- Fresh seasonal produce, such as potatoes, carrots, onions, cabbage, celery, tomatoes, cucumbers, apples, grapes, peaches, watermelon, etc.
- Non-perishable items, such as canned fruits, vegetables, pasta, , cereals, juices, etc.
- Bread and dessert items.
- Paper and personal care items, such as shampoo, deodorant, TP, napkins, tissues, etc.

Additional Assistance We Provided

- **Emergency utilities and rental assistance: 30 families** (total of 78 individuals)
- **At Christmas 320 gift cards were given to children.** Many were generously donated by local churches, and individuals.
- **Referrals to other agencies for additional services.**

Our Funding Sources:

We are blessed by and very appreciative of a wonderful and caring community that is very supportive of our organization's mission and those we serve. Thank you!

Our financial support is received from:

- Local churches 14%
- Businesses 10%
- Individuals 53%
- Organizations 6%
- Grants 12%
- Fundraisers 5%



Our Clients' Voices:

Hershey Food Bank Families

I wanted to take a moment to let you know how much you all are appreciated. Throughout this year you have been a blessing to have. My family appreciates the help you have given us.

We have had some good times and times of hardship and we are just very grateful that there are people whom cares about others like you have shown you do. We truly value your kind heart and the time you dedicate to others.

Thank you for helping me put food on the table for my family and for everything you have done, not just for my family but for many others.

We hope you have a blessed Christmas and may the New Year be full of healthy and love for all you do. Thank you for being a blessing in my life and my family.

Thank you for all you do for me and my children throughout the year. We appreciate everything more than you'll ever know. Your concern and prayers for my health is also much appreciated.

I just can't thank you enough for all your kindness. Thank you for helping my family we are forever grateful. I don't know what I would do without the help we get from the food bank. You are all so kind and thoughtful. May you continue to be blessed every day.

Dear friends,

Thank you for making this world a better place. You are always very kind to me and make me feel very welcome and at home when I go to the food bank. I appreciate all of you and what you do for me. I wish you and your family happy holidays.

Dear members of the Hershey food bank

My family and I are so grateful and blessed by your generosity. We want to thank you for helping us with our heating oil. We really appreciated. The tank was almost empty and we didn't have the money to have it filled. We were so worried about the cold weather and not having hot water. You are a blessing to our family.