

# 2022 IMPACT REPORT





A young girl with blonde hair is holding two ripe red apples over her eyes. She is wearing a red cord sweater. The background is a soft-focus outdoor scene with green foliage. A semi-transparent white rectangular box is centered over the image, containing the text for the mission statement.

# Our Mission

Leading the fight to end hunger,  
in partnership with our  
community and in service  
of our neighbors in need.



# CEO'S MESSAGE



**A REFLECTION:  
REDEFINING  
LEADERSHIP  
IN THE FIGHT  
TO END HUNGER**

*As I reflect on this past year,* the word that comes to mind is **change**. As we reorient ourselves in the “post-pandemic” era, I am immensely grateful for the support we’ve received and the impact we’ve made. It is with your support that we feel more confident than ever that we can serve the needs of our community day-in, day-out – even as those needs change and evolve.

This last year, our clients’ needs certainly increased. As our neighbors struggled to recover from long-term effects of the pandemic – only to face rising inflation and high food costs at their local stores – your support enabled us to adapt quickly to serve record-high numbers of people who needed food assistance. New faces appeared in our long lines. Because of you, we were able to serve over 258,000 clients per month on average in Contra Costa and Solano Counties – approximately 1 in 6 of our neighbors, last year. Since then, the need has only risen, and your support is more critical than ever.

We learned that there were critical gaps in our community safety net that we needed to address. That is why in 2022, we pushed forth our Three-year Strategic Plan, a roadmap that addresses these gaps with empowered partnerships, nutritious food that results in better health outcomes and improved data that can help us learn and best serve our community.

To ensure the long-term health and strength of our communities, there are significant steps we need to take, and the work has already begun. As we compiled learnings, it became clear that the needs of our neighbors are nuanced – from needing culturally-relevant food to having more access to agencies closer to home. That’s why, as of today, we’ve successfully partnered with over 260 agencies to better serve our communities, and are in collaborations with local farms that are led by women and BIPOC to serve diverse foods (see page 22 to learn how we’re forming partnerships).

There is still much more work to be done – and **change can’t wait**. Looking ahead, I am excited to partner with all of you, and our community, to continue executing our strategic plan. I am excited to redefine what it means to lead the fight to end hunger.

For this opportunity I thank YOU – our family of donors, sponsors, volunteers and partners who make serving our neighbors possible every single day. We are and will always be stronger together.

In partnership,

Joel Sjostrom  
President and CEO



A photograph showing a woman with grey hair, wearing a black face mask and glasses, seated in a wheelchair. She is wearing a patterned purple and black jacket. A volunteer, a woman with dark hair, sunglasses, and a blue face mask, is wearing white gloves and placing a large bunch of fresh carrots into a white plastic bag. The bag has a green logo that says "Smart Bag" and "Whole & Sustainable the USA". The background is slightly blurred, showing other people and a white van, suggesting an outdoor community event.

## CHANGE STARTS WITH ACCESS TO NUTRITION

*"This means nice  
fresh food for me.  
Otherwise I might  
not have it."*

-Mary,  
Community Produce  
Program Client



# Our Roadmap to a Healthier Community

## EMPOWERING OUR AGENCIES

Helping our nonprofit agency partners distribute even more food, and expanding our community partnerships to fill gaps

## IMPROVING HEALTH OUTCOMES

Targeted programming for vulnerable populations using education, advocacy and nutritious food

## ENHANCING DATA AND TECHNOLOGY

Improving service to our neighbors with better information gathering, reporting and analysis

The Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano's Three-year Strategic Plan





THE CRITICAL WORK  
HAS ALREADY BEGUN  
BECAUSE CHANGE CAN'T WAIT





# FIGHTING HUNGER TOGETHER

**34 MILLION POUNDS**

*of food distributed*

**258,000 PEOPLE**

*served every month*

**227 DIRECT DISTRIBUTION SITES**

*provided fresh foods and pantry  
staples to our neighbors*

**97 CENTS OF EVERY DOLLAR**

*went towards feeding  
the community*

**60% OF THE FOOD WE DISTRIBUTE**

*was fresh produce, proteins and dairy*

**1 IN 6 COMMUNITY MEMBERS**

*served every month*

**260+ PARTNER AGENCIES**

*including soup kitchens, food pantries  
and child development centers*

**6,700 VOLUNTEERS**

*served almost 100,000  
volunteer hours*





[foodbankccs.org/watchourimpact](https://foodbankccs.org/watchourimpact)

WATCH OUR IMPACT  
*IN ACTION*







# IMPROVING ACCESS

Launched last year, our **Find Food Map** is making it easier for neighbors to find the food they need at the times and places that work best for them.

The map is searchable by city, zip code and day of the week. To improve access further, it's available in English or Spanish – with more languages to come.

**50,500+** people used the map in its first year

**4,600+** people use the map each month





## EMPOWERING AGENCIES: LEADERSHIP IN PARTNERSHIP

Adapting to our community's needs takes agility – and agility is only possible working alongside our **260+** partners. Our partners, which include a vast network of food pantries, soup kitchens, transitional housing services, child-care centers and more, distributed **more than half of the food** we provided last year, helping us reach more parts of our community and support more of our neighbors in the ways that work best for them.

When you support us, you also support this critical network. Thanks to your generosity, **we awarded \$550,000 in agency enhancement grants to 82 agencies last year** – our biggest single grant round to date! These funds helped our partners purchase vehicles, equipment and make technological upgrades so they can distribute even more food safely.

Following are a few of their stories.





## EMPOWERING DIGNITY AND CHOICE

AGENCY: VALLEJO FIRST BAPTIST SOUP KITCHEN



PURCHASED MOBILE SALAD BAR AND ICE MACHINE TO INCREASE FOOD CHOICE FOR UNHOUSED NEIGHBORS

*"It makes the attitude different...I get feedback from people bragging that 'Hey I got to make my sandwich the way I wanted. I got to order it. Look at this.'"*

-Pastor Mike,  
Vallejo First Baptist  
Soup Kitchen





# EMPOWERING EFFICIENT FOOD TRANSPORTATION

AGENCY: LIFELONG MEDICAL HEALTH CENTERS



**PURCHASED CARGO VAN TO PICK UP RECOVERED GROCERIES  
FROM LOCAL STORES AND FOOD FROM OUR WAREHOUSE**

*"Since purchasing our van we've had Veggie Giveaway distributions every Wednesday without fail. No cancellations and no disruptions!...We are working on a system to share our van with our other LifeLong Medical Health Centers in Contra Costa County to help them grow their Veggie Giveaways, too."*





## EMPOWERING FOOD SAFETY

AGENCY: DELTA CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY FOOD PANTRY

PURCHASED VAN WITH  
SOLAR GENERATOR  
SYSTEM TO IMPROVE  
FOOD SAFETY

*"It has relieved my mind greatly to have this van just because this summer it was 120 degrees several days. I'm always afraid with meat, poultry, eggs and fish – we're out too long to not be concerned about that."*

-Pastor Karen,  
Delta Christian Community  
Food Pantry, Byron/Knightsen/  
Bethel Island





A photograph of four diverse college students walking on a paved path outdoors. From left to right: a Black male student with headphones around his neck carrying a brown messenger bag, a white female student in a blue denim jacket looking at a book, an Asian female student in a patterned shirt also looking at the book, and a white male student in a maroon jacket walking slightly behind them. They are all smiling and appear to be engaged in a collaborative learning activity. The background shows lush green trees and a clear sky.

SOLVING FOR

LONG-TERM HEALTH

STARTS WITH OUR YOUTH

Leading the fight to end hunger goes beyond providing immediate support, it also means generating awareness of the issue and creating a stronger safety net for the long-term health of our community. One key population is our youth – whose ability to learn and grow is dependent on the basic necessities of food.

Currently, 1 in 3 college students struggle with food insecurity. Because this population often suffers in silence, the Food Bank relies on a critical advisor: Community Advocacy Partner (and now Board Member) Jenny Berten. Inspired by her work as a nurse at Saint Mary's College of California, Jenny focuses her advocacy efforts on removing stigma and improving food security for college students.

Her efforts have already led to systemic changes at Saint Mary's that are creating new awareness and support for students facing hunger.

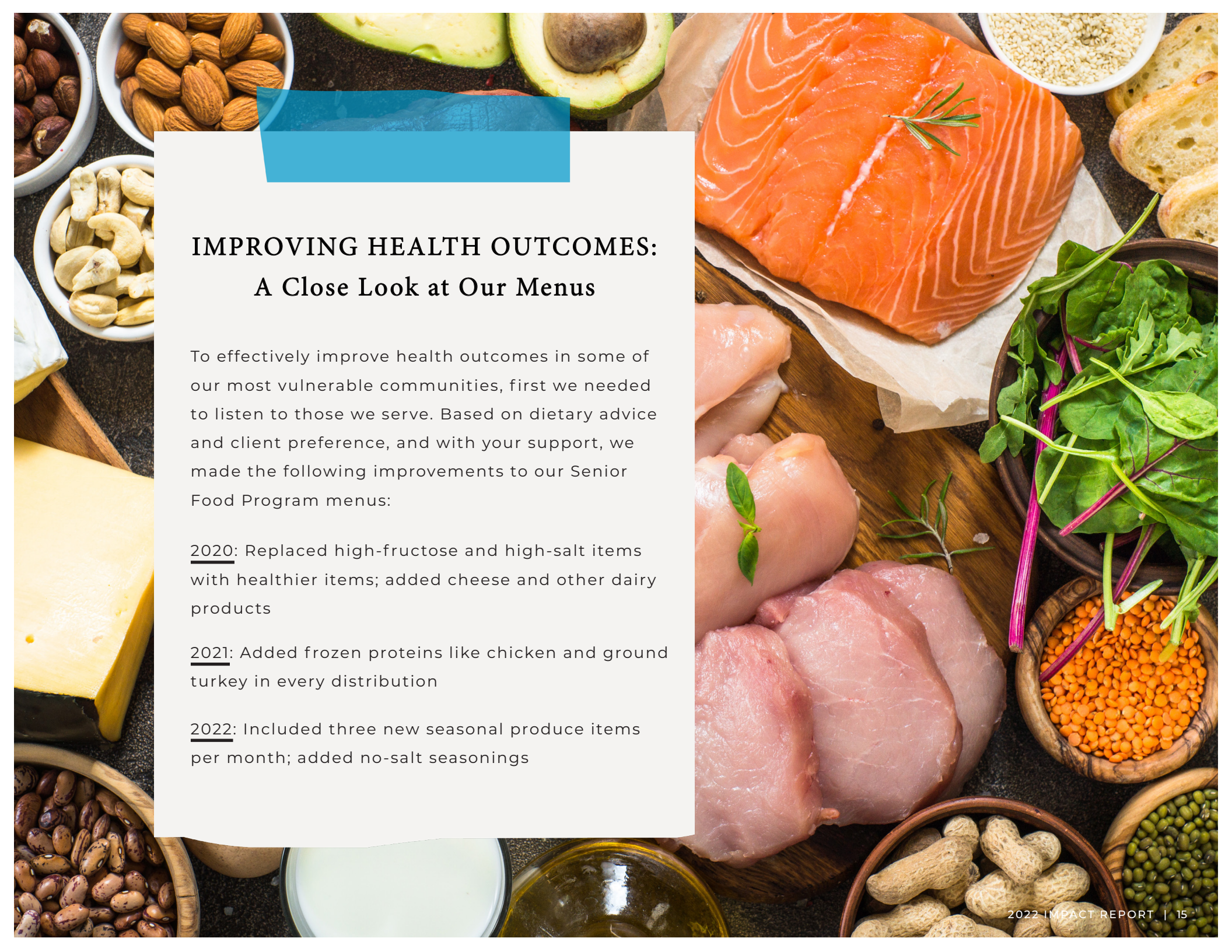
*"College hunger is not addressed to the degree it could be because students often experience food insecurity in silence. They say, 'I'll just live on Top Ramen, it's okay.'*

*But we know college students who are food insecure are **43% less likely to graduate** than their food-secure peers, and have increased rates of anxiety and depression. Hunger can also affect focus in the classroom and information retention.*

*Since spring of 2022, Saint Mary's used a proven-effective two-question food insecurity screening in the Student Health Center and Counseling Department. If students screen positive, we've created a list of community resources, which includes information about our campus food pantry, the Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano, and CalFresh benefits.*

*And because we're screening every student in the clinic, it raises awareness that 1 in 3 college students struggle with food insecurity. It's creating a conversation where it has not existed before, and that's the piece I like the most."*





## IMPROVING HEALTH OUTCOMES: A Close Look at Our Menus

To effectively improve health outcomes in some of our most vulnerable communities, first we needed to listen to those we serve. Based on dietary advice and client preference, and with your support, we made the following improvements to our Senior Food Program menus:

2020: Replaced high-fructose and high-salt items with healthier items; added cheese and other dairy products

2021: Added frozen proteins like chicken and ground turkey in every distribution

2022: Included three new seasonal produce items per month; added no-salt seasonings



## SUPPORTING OUR SENIORS: KAREN'S STORY

Like many of us, retired teacher Karen has been feeling unwelcome shock every time she checks the prices at her local supermarket. At one local store, a loaf of bread is \$5. The money she spends for one gallon of milk used to be enough to buy two.

**“The prices in the grocery stores are crazy,”** she shared, while picking up groceries from our Senior Food Program in San Pablo with her husband Chris and daughter Melanie. “You can’t afford to eat with prices like that, so this is much appreciated.”

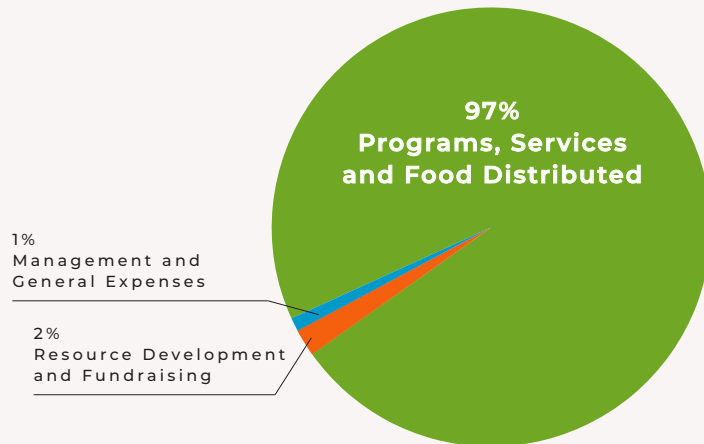
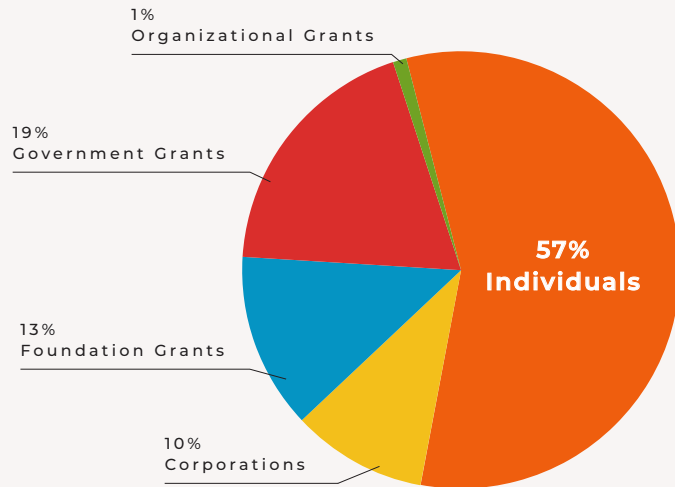
Prices for food were already creeping up when the year began, and since then it’s only gotten more expensive to eat. Add in increases for fuel, housing and other basic necessities and Karen’s family hasn’t been alone in feeling the pinch. **Demand for our Senior Food Program has grown by more than 60%**, as inflation eats into many seniors’ already-fixed incomes.

Karen and Chris said they’re grateful the Food Bank is there to help them stretch their budget during tough times like these. They particularly appreciate getting eggs, meats and produce – the fresh spinach we’ve added to our menus this past year is a family favorite.





# FINANCIALS



## TOTAL SUPPORT & REVENUES

Individuals	\$14,727,948
Corporations	\$2,518,154
Foundation Grants	\$3,285,755
Government Grants	\$4,912,699
Organizational Grants	\$221,292
Value of Donated Food Received	\$88,124,885
Investments and Rental Income	\$39,447
Fees and Service Charges	\$1,043,710
Discounts Earned and Other	\$139,079
<b>TOTAL SUPPORT AND REVENUE</b>	<b>\$115,012,969</b>

## TOTAL EXPENSES

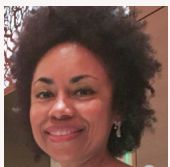
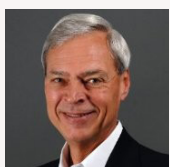
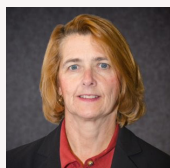
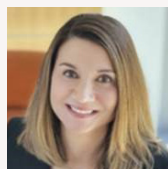
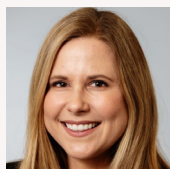
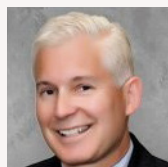
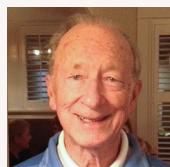
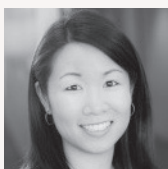
Programs, Services and Food Distributed	\$110,154,957
Resource Development and Fundraising	\$2,596,729
Management and General Expenses	\$1,093,412
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$113,845,098</b>



Hard copies of the annual audit are available upon request; digital copies can be accessed at [foodbankkccs.org/financials](https://foodbankkccs.org/financials). Every effort has been made to ensure the completeness and accuracy of the information contained in this report based on our Feeding America service area. Please contact Brian Morrow at [bmorrow@foodbankkccs.org](mailto:bmorrow@foodbankkccs.org) with comments/questions.



# BOARD of DIRECTORS



**CHAIR: JILL STEELE (2020)**

*Senior Vice President, Corporate Strategy, Prophet*

**VICE CHAIR: LAURA MORAN (2016)**

*Retired, Partner, Prophet*

**JENNY BERTEN (2022)**

*College Health Nurse, Saint Mary's College of California*

**DAN BIRKHAEUER (2022)**

*Partner, Bramson, Plutzik, Mahler & Birkhaeuser, LLP*

**BILL BURKE (2022)**

*Vice President, Comerica Bank*

**TOM CHOWANIEC (2020)**

*Retired, Regional Manager, General Mills*

**KEVA DEAN (2022)**

*Eligibility Work Supervisor, Contra Costa County*

**RICH GOLINSKI (2020)**

*Partner, Certy Partners*

**MARK GUNDACKER (2019)**

*Head of People, Chan Zuckerberg Initiative*

**MELISSA MANKE FIMBRES (2022)**

*Director, Technical Services, Valero Energy Corporation*

**MELISSA JONES (2018)**

*Executive Vice President, Chief HR Officer, CSAA Insurance Group*

**MARC LEWIS (2017)**

*Attorney, Partner/Co-Founder, Lewis & Llewellyn LLP*

**TERESA MAKAREWICZ (2019)**

*Retired, Manager CA Business Coordination, Shell Oil Products US*

**RYAN MISASI (2022)**

*Executive VP, Retail Banking, Farmers & Merchants Bank of Central CA*

**BRUCE PHELPS (2018)**

*Retired, Consultant, BiotechPro Consulting, LLC*

**TANYA POWELL (2020)**

*Chief Financial Officer, Total Safety Supplies and Solutions*

**GRETCHEN TAI (2022)**

*Vice President, Investments, CSAA Insurance Group*

The year in parentheses indicates the year that member was elected to the Board. Board members are all independent voting members.



# GROWING FORWARD: An Eye Toward the Future

## WHAT'S COMING NEXT FOR THE FOOD BANK

As we move into 2023 and beyond, the Food Bank is eager to redefine what it means to lead the fight to end hunger. Thanks to supporters like you, we've been able to quickly pivot and adapt to food crises due to the pandemic and natural disasters. Looking ahead into a post-pandemic world impacted by record-breaking food inflation, we'll be supporting vulnerable populations who will take years to recover.

**Change can't wait.** That's why we're eager to take the insights we've learned and the partnerships we've built – to provide support in the short-term, and innovate on how to solve food insecurity for the long-term.





A photograph of two young children lying on their stomachs on a lush green lawn. The child on the left is wearing a green and white striped shirt, and the child on the right is wearing an orange shirt. Both children are smiling broadly and holding large, round sandwiches. The background is a soft-focus view of the grass and some foliage.

## MORE TO COME

- We are sourcing more produce from small, local producers, distributors and farms led by people who are Black, Indigenous or people of color (BIPOC) or women. This will both support their businesses and provide our neighbors with a variety of fruits and vegetables that are culturally relevant to the diverse communities that call Contra Costa and Solano Counties home.
- We will soon launch our 2023 legislative agenda, which will focus on social safety net programs, strengthening food systems and building policy partnerships.
- We are expanding key programs, like Kids Nutrition on Weekends (K-NOW) and Senior Food Program to serve high-need areas and populations.





THE IMPACT OF OUR WORK IS ONLY POSSIBLE THANKS  
*to the power of our partnerships*



Our work is possible in part thanks to our corporate supporters. If you are interested in being a corporate sponsor of our Impact Report, contact Julia Bermudez at [sponsorships@foodbankccs.org](mailto:sponsorships@foodbankccs.org).

*Together,*

we are creating a more effective, equitable and  
inclusive safety net that supports the long-term  
strength of our community. As we evolve and redefine  
what it means to solve one of the toughest challenges  
our community faces – hunger – we are  
thankful to have you with us.

