



Sustenance

2019 Annual Report



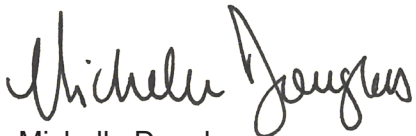
A Message From Our Leaders

The mission of Emergency Food Network (EFN) is “to provide Pierce County with a consistent, diverse, and nutritious food supply so that no person goes hungry” and we have been filling that need in the community for the past 37 years.

The legacy of EFN is based on partnerships. With support from more than 2,800 volunteers who share their time and talents with us annually, 71 food pantry and meal site partners, 90 companies and groups that host Food and Fund Drives, and more than 3,000 generous donors each year, we are stronger and serving more people because of you.

2018 showed the strength of all these partnerships! More than 1.3 million visits were made to food programs in the county. EFN bought, solicited, and distributed 13.9 million pounds of food, and our Mother Earth Farm grew and harvested more than 123,000 pounds of fresh fruits and vegetables for our neighbors in need. Our second year of hosting the Hunger Walk and 5K Run was an incredible success, we held more than 189 repack sessions for businesses and community members yielding 1.5 million pounds of food, and we had 634 volunteers out to our Mother Earth Farm to plant, weed, and harvest.

With 1 in 7 people and 1 in 5 children in Pierce County facing food insecurity, we know that our services are an essential part of the food security system. On behalf of the Board of Directors and the Emergency Food Network staff, we thank each of you for your ongoing and generous support. You make this essential safety net stronger and have allowed us to exponentially expand our reach over the past four decades. We could not do this work without your partnership.



Michelle Douglas
Chief Executive Officer



Paula Henson-Williams
Board of Directors, Chair





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Avery Shannon

Kristina Southwell

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Who We Are Helping

Eatonville Family Agency

Eatonville Family Agency (EFA) is the primary social services provider in the rural community of Eatonville, at the base of Mt. Rainier. Eatonville has a population of just over 2,700 people, and in 2018 EFA served 1,994 individuals. In 2018, EFN provided EFA with 88% of the food they gave their guests.

The food bank managers at EFA shared the following feedback about our partnership: “Without EFN, there is no way we could possibly feed all the people coming to us for food. EFN supplies the majority of food we give to folks. We appreciate the variety of food we get from EFN, especially the healthy produce. EFN even goes the extra mile by delivering all the way out to Eatonville each week. We can’t say enough about all the good EFN does in supporting hungry folks in Eatonville and Pierce County. Thank you!”



Food Pantry Guest Stories

“I was embarrassed to come [to the food pantry] since I’d always had a job, but after I lost my job and was almost out of food I got over my pride and came in. [The food pantry] helped connect me with other benefits, but recently I lost my SNAP benefits when disability assistance kicked in. I went from \$194 a month to \$26. Food helps through the lean times, basics like rice and beans are great because they keep me stocked up. I particularly like getting protein, fresh vegetables, and new types of snacks that I see in the store but can’t otherwise afford.”

“The food from the food pantry is a God-send. I don’t go shopping a lot because I have a wheelchair. Coming here gets me the basic necessities to cook myself a healthy meal. I don’t get a lot on food stamps. If I didn’t come here I don’t know where I’d get my basic necessities.”





Feedback from EFN's Partner Programs

"We are so very blessed in our partnership with EFN. Every delivery is exciting! Everyone is so very caring and supportive! [The] warehouse [staff] and drivers take really good care of us." – Trinity Lutheran Food Pantry

"EFN is a caring, awesome program. Everyone is helpful and generous. They do everything in their power to meet the needs in our community." – Gateway Church

71

Number of Food Programs that EFN Served in 2018

1.3 Million

Total Guest Visits to Food Programs in Pierce County

111,281

Average Visits to Food Programs in Pierce County Each Month

1 in 7

Ratio of People Who Are Food Insecure in Pierce County



Children
(Ages 3-18)
383,720
29%

Adults
(Ages 19-54)
598,395
44%



2018 Guest Visits

Babies
(Ages 0-2)
47,316
4%

Seniors
(Ages 55+)
305,942
23%

56%

Visits made on behalf of children, babies, and seniors

What We Do

Co-op Food Purchasing Program

EFN purchases food throughout the year so that we always have nutritious staple foods available for our Partner Programs. In 2018, we distributed 959,273 pounds of food through the Co-op Food Purchasing Program – that's more than 767,000 meals! Co-op foods include dried beans, canned fruit, canned vegetables, a lean protein, oats, fresh milk, and a grain (like rice or pasta). We buy in bulk to get a great deal on co-op foods. We spend just \$0.53 per pound on chicken, a saving of \$0.87 per pound compared to the average retail price.



Mother Earth Farm

EFN has been growing food at Mother Earth Farm (MEF) for 18 years, and in December of 2018, we completed 48 months of consecutive harvest! MEF is made possible by our staff farmers, seasonal farm assistants, over 600 volunteers and interns, and a crew from Washington Corrections Center for Women. Their combined efforts in 2018 resulted in 123,494 pounds of fruits and vegetables for our partner food pantries. We grow over 100 varieties of produce for our partners, and that food is often available to food pantry guests within 48 hours of harvest.

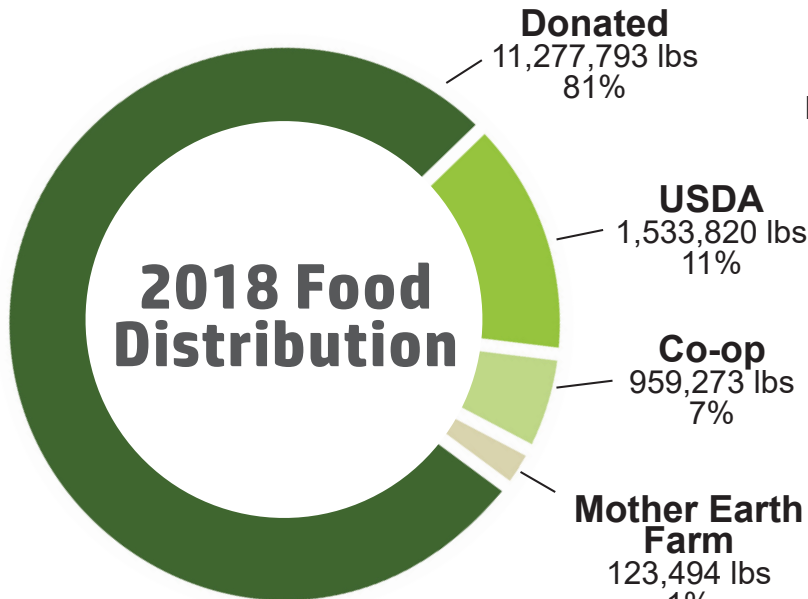
In 2018, we made some upgrades at MEF to improve the quality of our produce and to make our systems more efficient. Bates Technical College helped us build a cover over our wash station so that fruits and vegetables go out as clean and beautiful as produce from the grocery store. We've also been replacing irrigation in our fields so that more water can reach our crops in the summer months. Growing food year-round takes a lot of community help, but it's an important part of our mission to provide Pierce County with a nutritious food supply.

123,494

**Pounds of Produce
Grown & Harvested
at EFN's Mother
Earth Farm**

Break Bags Program

In Pierce County, more than 58,000 students receive free or reduced-cost lunch, and often breakfast, at school. While many students look forward to extended school breaks, for students on free and reduced-cost lunch, these breaks may result in hunger. We began the Break Bags Program in 2014 in partnership with St. Leo Food Connection, providing bags to Tacoma Public Schools and Clover Park School District. Each Thanksgiving, winter, and spring break we distribute 2,000 Break Bags to supplement meals that students would normally receive at school. Each Break Bag contains about 15 pounds of food for the student and their family. We include kid-friendly foods like granola bars and peanut butter, as well as canned soups and canned protein (like chicken) that can make a meal for the whole family. When students receive a Break Bag, they can focus on enjoying their break, not hunger pains, and return to the classroom ready to learn.



13.9 Million

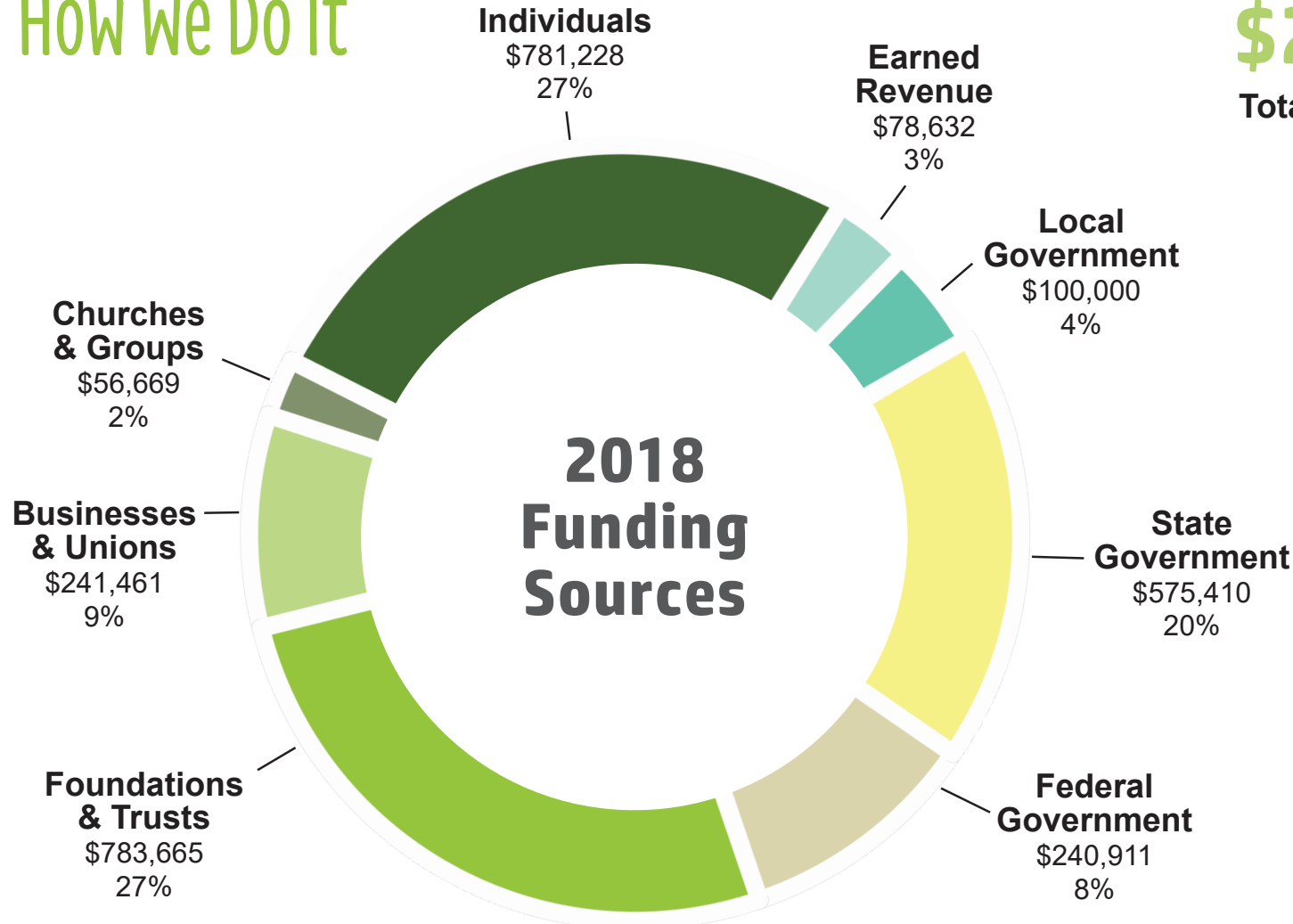
Pounds of Food Distributed in 2018

General Distribution

Each month, we distribute more than one million pounds of food to our 71 Partner Programs. The majority of that food comes to EFN as a donation from our great community partners. We receive food from the government, farmers, grocery stores, food drives, and individuals. Some of the great donations we received in 2018 included 11,000 pounds of Rainier cherries, 8,900 pounds of vegan sausages, and 63,000 yogurt cups. When donations arrive at EFN by the truckload, they are stored in our warehouse and distributed as needed throughout the community.

By leveraging donated, purchased, and government food with food grown at Mother Earth Farm, we can provide five meals for just \$1.

How We Do It



\$2.8 Million

Total Revenue in 2018

Thank You

Thank you to all the generous donors who made gifts in 2018!

Full financials and a list of 2018 donors available on our website www.efoodnet.org

EFN has been awarded a 4-Star Rating by Charity Navigator and Gold Certification on Guidestar.

Grant Support

Thank you to the organizations who made generous grants to Emergency Food Network in 2018!

- The Albertsons Companies Foundation
- American Endowment Foundation
- American Express Foundation Employee Matching
- Apple Physical Therapy Foundation
- The Babare Foundation
- The Bamford Foundation
- Ben B. Cheney Foundation
- Bruce W. Gilpin Memorial Foundation
- CHI Franciscan Health
- City of Lakewood
- City of Tacoma
- David Fogg Family Foundation
- De Falco Family Foundation
- Dimmer Family Foundation
- The Driscoll Foundation
- Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund
 - Gretchen Jordal Donor Advised Fund
 - Warren Martin Donor Advised Fund
- Florence Kilworth Foundation
- George & Dorothy Babare Family Foundation
- Golden State Foods Foundation
- Gottfried and Mary Fuchs Foundation
- The Greater Tacoma Community Foundation
 - Ann and Peter Darling Fund
 - The Bob and Mary Hammond Family Fund
 - Edward P. and Juanita J. Miller Fund
 - Joe and Gloria Mayer Fund
 - Margy McGroarty Endowment Fund
 - Redford Family Fund II
- The Greg D and Melanie S McFarland Foundation
- Johnson & Haefling Family Foundation
- JPMorgan Chase Foundation
- KeyBank Foundation
- Kiwanis Club of Clover Park
- Kiwanis Club of Tacoma
- Kiwanis of West End Puget Sound
- The Kroger Co. Foundation
- Lakewood Community Foundation
- L. T. Murray Family Foundation
- Margie Suskin Charitable Trust Foundation
- Medina Foundation
- Moccasin Lake Foundation
- Multicare Community Partnership Fund
- Names Family Foundation
- National Christian Foundation Seattle
 - Bart and Berta Brynstad Charitable Fund
 - Todd and Teresa Silver Charitable Fund
- Niagara Cares
- Nisqually Tribe
- None Will Perish Foundation
- The Norcliffe Foundation
- Partners in Lakewood Rotary
- Pierce County
- Powell Family Foundation
- Puget Sound Energy Foundation
- RealNetworks Foundation
- Rotary Club of Lakewood
- Rotary Club of Tacoma #8
- Rotary Club of Tacoma South
- Russell Family Foundation
- Safeco Insurance Foundation
- The Schoenfeld-Gardner Foundation
- Schwab Charitable Fund
 - Baarsma Family Charitable Fund
 - Robert and Sharon Camner Charitable Fund
- Tacoma Garden Club
- Tanz Charitable Fund
- The Titus Will Families Foundation



- TOTE Maritime Alaska
- Ueland Foundation
- United Way of King County
- United Way of Pierce County
- Vanguard Charitable Endowment
 - Bob and Candy Tingstad Charitable Fund
 - Jim and Eileen Kelley Charitable Fund
 - Neil and Heidi Wachter Charitable Fund
 - The Ottie and Clara Ladd Charitable Fund
 - Shirley Goelzer Charitable Fund
 - William Jackson Charitable Fund
- Whisper Foundation
- William Kilworth Foundation
- Woodworth Family Foundation

How You Can Help



Volunteer

Repack Project

Come to our Lakewood Distribution Center to repackage bulk foods into family-sized servings to go out to food pantries.

Mother Earth Farm

Help provide a fresh food option by planting seeds, weeding, and harvesting produce at our 8-acre organic farm, located in the Puyallup Valley.

Food & Fund Drives

Collect food for our neighbors in need by hosting a Food & Fund Drive at your school, church, work, grocery store, or restaurant.

Other Opportunities

Volunteer at one of our annual events, help out in the office, grow a row of produce in your garden, or lend a hand at one of our 71 Partner Programs!



2018 Volunteer Achievements

2,875 **14,522**

Total Volunteers

**Total Hours
Volunteered**

1.5 Million 

**Total Pounds of Food
Repacked at the Repack Project**

 **363,798**
**Total Pounds of Food
Collected at Food Drives**

Register to volunteer today!

Contact us at 253-584-1040 or
volunteer@efoodnet.org

View volunteer opportunities on our website
www.efoodnet.org



Donate

Give Funds

EFN provides 5 meals to our neighbors in need for just \$1. Make your donation today online at www.efoodnet.org, call us at 253-584-1040, or mail in the enclosed envelope.

Supper Club

Join the EFN Supper Club! Your monthly donation helps EFN plan for the year and is a convenient way for you to support our work.

Give Food

Your food donations provide variety to supplement the staple items and produce Emergency Food Network distributes to our partner programs.

Leave a Legacy

By making a bequest or other planned gift to EFN, you will leave an important legacy that emphasizes your commitment to seeing that no person in Pierce County goes hungry.

See all the ways you can contribute by visiting our website www.efoodnet.org

Events

Recognition Breakfast
Thursday, March 14, 2019

Hunger Awareness Month
May 2019

Hunger Walk & 5K Run
Saturday, May 4, 2019

Letter Carriers' Food Drive
Saturday, May 11, 2019

Casino Royale
Saturday, June 15, 2019

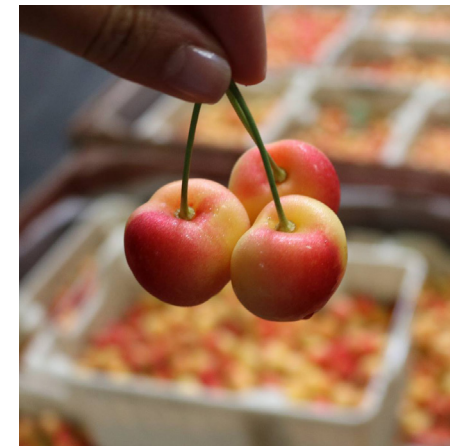
Abundance Dinner & Auction
Saturday, October 26, 2019

Empty Bowls
Saturday, November 23, 2019

Read more about EFN's events and register at www.efoodnet.org.

Social Media

Stay up to date on what's going on at EFN! Follow us on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and YouTube!





OF TACOMA AND PIERCE COUNTY

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