



# ANNUAL REPORT 2020



# About Us

## Our Mission

We bring food and hope to our neighbors...because there can be enough for everyone.

## Our Core Values

We are neighbors helping neighbors.

We believe in a shared sense of civic responsibility.

We believe access to food is a basic human right.

We encourage our neighbors to use food resources wisely.

We serve our clients with respect.

We know nutrition matters.

We uphold the highest standards of integrity.

We honor the contributions of all staff, volunteers and donors.

## Our Commitment to Equity

As an organization, we believe access to food and hope is a basic human right. We advocate to end food injustice and poverty. We are clear that it is our responsibility to address the impact of racism.

The food and economic systems we participate in are based in systems that promote racism and oppression versus equity and justice.

Our mission to ensure everyone has access to food and hope calls us to work in partnership with communities of color, to speak out, take action and elevate the voices and efforts that are focused on dismantling racism. As an organization we commit to:

- Listening and amplifying the BIPOC voices that must be heard.
- Being vulnerable in conversation and accountable in action.
- Investing in Diversity, Equity and Inclusion work for our staff, board and volunteers.
- Advocating to dismantle systems of oppression that are based on white supremacy and institutional racism.

Connect with us! @ballardfoodbank



# Letter From Executive Director

Dear Ballard Food Bank Friends,

What a year it has been. While the need for nutritious food and other important resources has swelled as a result of the global pandemic, so has our community's response. Watching neighbors come together to carry out our mission fills my heart with so much hope for the future.

We see the impact of this challenging year every day as we serve our clients at Ballard Food Bank. In February of 2020, 3,200 people visited the Food Bank or received food deliveries; by December, that number had ballooned to more than 6,400. I am constantly in awe of the commitment of our volunteers and supporters. They have allowed us to boost our services and help our community through these unprecedented times.

This year has made it even more clear that Ballard Food Bank needs a new, larger space. We are thrilled to be in the final stretch of the building of our new home. At 11,000 square feet, the new facility will be double the size of the current "Big Blue Building," enabling us to serve many more people in need.

We could not have gotten this far without you, our wonderful supporters. We're also grateful to the foundations, state and city government, and businesses who have been a part of this endeavor. And now, we're looking to the community to help us cross the finish line of the Hope Beyond Hunger Capital Campaign to fully fund our new home.

Our supporters make our core values come to life – thank you for all you do.



In gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jen Muzia". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jen Muzia, Executive Director

# Getting Food To Families No Matter What

The COVID-19 pandemic presented us with new operational challenges, but this didn't stop Ballard Food Bank and our volunteers from getting food to our neighbors in need. From an expanded home delivery program to a COVID-safe pick-up drive thru, we transformed our programs with one important goal in mind: get food to families no matter what.

**67%**  
increase  
in visits

**66,045**  
total visits  
and  
deliveries

**2,309,825**  
pounds of  
food  
distributed

## Drive-Thru Food Bank



*Ballard Food Bank is my hero; I'm out of work and I would be really hurting if it weren't for you. So very grateful.*

# No-Cook Bags and Groceries

For our neighbors who don't have stable housing, we have our no-cook window where they are able to safely grab healthy food and groceries that don't require cooking.



# Home Delivery Program

We have expanded our Home Delivery Program from only seniors and homebound neighbors to anyone who felt safer receiving food through delivery or folks who don't have a car. Our community has stepped up immensely. We have seen our highest number of volunteer delivery drivers and volunteer packers!



**730**  
deliveries a  
week made to  
households in  
need. Up from  
120 in 2019



## Why I Volunteer

*I'm able to give back to my community and I'm able to help people with a really important need which is food. My daughter joins me on food runs and for her it's been eye opening and educational. It's not families you see on TV. They're in our neighborhoods, they're blocks from our houses.*

- Julie L.,  
Home Delivery Driver Volunteer

# Weekend Food For Kids Program

As students moved to virtual learning in early 2020, the need for nutritious foods to fuel their learning only continued to increase. Even with students no longer physically at school, our Weekend Food for Kids program made sure that students would have access to brain-powering meals, allowing them to focus on learning and living during unfamiliar times.



7,320  
mac & cheeses



7,320  
peanut  
butters



4,320  
yogurts



920  
pieces  
of fruit  
a week

17,129  
bags  
delivered,  
equaling  
119,903  
meals



600  
kids served  
from 20  
Seattle  
Public  
Schools

## Message from Food Access Coordinator, Ysabel Diaz

*With our Weekend Food for Kids Program, the goal is to provide students with healthy food for the weekend. Our menus are designed with nutrition in mind, as well as with a creative flair to expose kids to new food combinations. I work in partnership with schools and organizations to offer this program to local students as well as students throughout Seattle Public Schools. The program is self-identifying, meaning that kids have the agency to opt into the program if they feel like it would be helpful for them. Participants are anonymous; however, I have started a dialogue with the students through a program survey given out December 2020. The students were asked to circle photos of the foods they enjoyed receiving in their bags and were asked to share any feedback they had for the program. Many students asked for more fresh fruits and vegetables! In response, we have increased the amount of fresh fruit in the bags. I am so grateful to be able to work with these students and create a partnership in their nutrition – if only for the weekend.*

# Community Resource Hub

The Community Resource Hub looks a little different with the pandemic, but we are continuing to help our neighbors in need and connecting them with service partners to get them back on their feet. In 2020 we were still able to safely help our community with flu and other vaccines, ID/license vouchers, and much more outside in our parking lot. With many of our neighbors facing financial hardships, we increased the amount of financial assistance for rent and other bills. No one should have to choose between basic necessities.



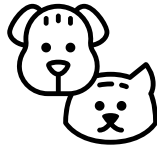
**\$148,759**  
in financial  
assistance to go  
towards rent or  
utilities



**400**  
households  
helped with  
financial  
assistance



**64**  
vaccines  
given out



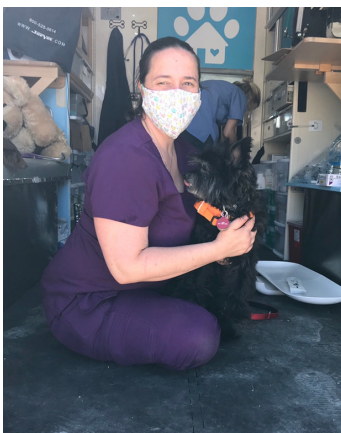
**83**  
clients  
connected to  
veterinary  
services



**211**  
ID/ license  
vouchers  
given out



**719**  
clients  
receiving mail  
service using our  
address



## Message From the Community Advocate and Resource Hub Program Manager, Nathaniel Lyon

*The services available through the food bank and the resource hub aim to address systemic issues of economic instability and homelessness in our community. Our unique place at the intersection of different governmental, personal, and neighborhood service sectors allows us to approach these issues in a unique and holistic way.*

*In addition to our regular services, we have been able to help clients with SNAP enrollment, stimulus checks, vaccines, enhanced insurance benefits, and navigation to shelters.*

*It is our goal to maintain and expand these services offered as we move to our new home. We believe that our commitment to personalized responsive service, combined with the greater capacity of our new location, will transform us into a true hub for the Ballard community.*

# Our New Home

In 2020, Ballard Food Bank launched the Hope Beyond Hunger campaign to raise funds for the construction of our new home and hub for food distribution and vital community resources. Thanks to the generous support of individuals, foundations, businesses, and government, we raised \$11.8 million towards our goal of \$13.9 million. Now, we are counting on the broader community to help us reach the finish line.

As a vital resource for the community, the new Ballard Food Bank and Community Resource Hub will serve more households per week in more communities. Coming in at double the size of the current “Big Blue Building,” our new home will include a bigger grocery-store-style food bank, a community garden, a significantly larger warehouse, a café where visitors can share food and community, new accessibility features, signage in multiple languages, and more. We expect to open our new doors to the community in fall of 2021.



## Why I Give

*We have people in our community who have to decide between different basic needs. There are people out there who need help and the food bank is there to support them. With this new building, I'm hopeful to be able to help even more people who need assistance.*

-Mardi Leslie,  
Capital Campaign Committee Member  
and Donor

For more information or to make a gift, visit  
[www.ballardfoodbank.org/ournewhome](http://www.ballardfoodbank.org/ournewhome)





# Financials

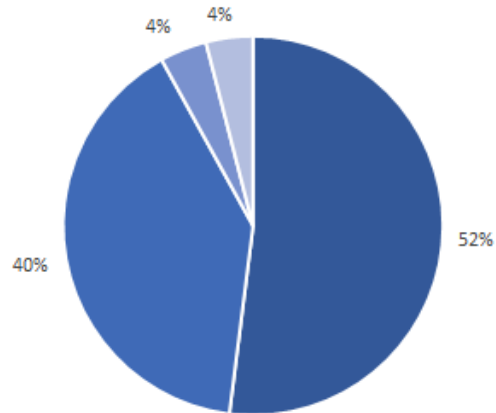
Figures below reflect the most recent October 1, 2019 - September 30, 2020 Fiscal Year

We are incredibly grateful to the groundswell of support from our community in response to the pandemic. Your donations poured in as you recognized the dramatically increased need; more of our neighbors need food and you have been here for them. Thanks to our supporters, we were able to utilize funds raised for the following: increase the number of staff, adding several positions to meet the increased need; increase our food budget as we've had to purchase more food; allocate some funds to our new home; and establish a reserve as we head into the unpredictable landscape of COVID recovery.

## Operating Revenue

\$6,998,996

- 52% In-Kind Donations
- 40% Charitable Contributions
- 4% Government Grants
- 4% Special Events



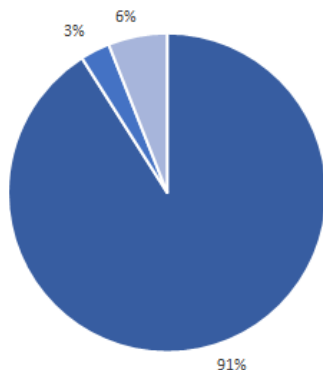
As we pivoted our Turkey Trot to a virtual event, we still received amazing support raising over **\$139,000** from our 1,514 registrations! 492 of them made additional donations equaling \$31,341.



## Operating Expenses

\$5,091,252

- 91% Program
- 6% Management
- 3% Fundraising



# Who We Are

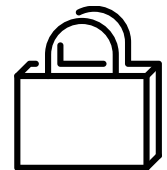
## Volunteers



977  
volunteers.  
583 are new  
for 2020



24,340  
volunteer  
hours



105,000  
bags  
packed

## Donors

5,809  
individual and  
monthly donors.  
3,403 are new  
for 2020

188  
business  
donors

57  
community  
and faith  
organizations

### Why I Give

*We're fortunate to be in a part of the world with so much abundance. Ensuring that no one goes to bed hungry is the least we can do in the midst of such abundance.*

-Jayadev Vadakkanmarveetil,  
Monthly Donor

# Staff

Executive Director: **Jen Muzia**

Assistant Director: **Kathleen Murphy**

Director of Development & Communications: **Colleen Martinson**

Community Advocate & Resource Hub Program Manager: **Nathaniel Lyon**

Individual Giving and Events Manager: **Mytett Gumin**

Volunteer Manager: **Sarah Huttula**

Food Access Coordinator: **Ysabel Diaz**

Development Coordinator: **Ciara Kuldinow**



Food Delivery Assistant: **Britt Bird**

Food Bank Assistant: **Tom Hendrickson**

Food Bank Assistant: **Barry Prickett**

Food Bank Assistant: **Laura Gunsolus**

Food Bank Assistant: **Forrest Evans**

Food Bank Assistant: **Tyler Hwang** (AmeriCorps)

Food Bank Assistant: **Ava Code-Williams** (AmeriCorps)

# Board of Directors

**Elizabeth Canizales**

**Hsiao-Ching Chou**

**Jennifer Doak**

**Jay Fathi**

**Ted Koslowsky**

**Officers**

President: **Carrie Schneider**

Vice-President: **Kathleen Owens**

Secretary: **Tom Bernard**

Treasurer: **Nathan Walker**

Past President: **Andrew Weber**

Past President: **Julia Weisenburger**

**Nina Lindsey**

**Sangeeta McCormack**

**Scotland Nash**

**David Perez**

**Ryan Stauffer**

## Message from the Board

As a board, we have been heartened by our community in a year with seemingly few bright spots. Together, Ballard Food Bank and its supporters rose to the challenges the pandemic has dealt, by providing equitable access to nutritious food and services, while simultaneously raising funds to build our new, permanent home. We know our team is ready to bring food and hope to more zip codes and households than ever before, and we cannot wait until our facility matches this ambition! As we look forward to 2021, and the years to come, we are confident in the power of our collective efforts. While donations can be counted in pounds and pallets, the true measure of impact can be found in the stories of neighbors helping neighbors. It is our Ballard Food Bank community that continues to inspire us as we all work together to take bold steps towards removing barriers ensuring all of our neighbors know they are welcome.