



ANNUAL REPORT

2024
2025

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Friends of the Cochrane Food Bank Society,

It is my honour to present this year's Annual Report on behalf of the Board of Directors. This past year has been one of remarkable transformation and resilience for our Food Bank as we took bold steps to strengthen our organization while continuing to serve our growing community in the face of significant challenges.

A major milestone was the formal incorporation of our Food Bank as a registered Society with charitable status in Alberta. This critical step affirms our independence and sustainability, while enabling us to expand our services and enhance accountability to our donors, partners, and the community we serve.

With incorporation came the establishment of a brand-new governance structure. I am proud to be working alongside a dedicated, diverse, and capable Board of Directors. This team brings fresh energy to guide our strategic direction and ensures strong oversight as we move into the next phase of our development.

We also unveiled a new visual identity that reflects our renewed mission and values. Our updated branding includes a fresh new logo, a new domain name and the launch of a user-friendly website, helping us better connect with our supporters and reach those who need our help. These tools are essential in raising awareness and building a stronger sense of community around our mission.

While we celebrate these significant achievements, the year was not without its challenges. Donations of both food and funds were lower than expected, partly due to external factors beyond our control. A postal strike disrupted our annual fundraising campaign during a critical giving period, and ongoing economic uncertainty — including rising grocery prices, inflationary pressures, and the impact of global tariffs — made it more difficult for many to give. At the same time, the needs in our community continued to grow, driven by a rapidly increasing population and widening food insecurity.

Despite these headwinds, our team of volunteers, staff, and community partners worked tirelessly to ensure that no one in need was turned away. The spirit of compassion and collaboration remains the heart of everything we do.

Looking ahead, we remain focused on building strong community partnerships, diversifying our funding sources, and seeking new ways to address hunger in our community. We are confident that, with your continued support, we can meet the growing demand and create a more food-secure future for everyone.

On behalf of the Board, thank you for your unwavering support and belief in our mission.

With gratitude,



Brenda Mottle
President, Board of Directors
Cochrane Food Bank Society



MISSION, VISION & VALUES

MISSION

We believe that access to nutritious food is a basic human right. We are committed to responding to the needs of our neighbours by feeding the hungry to provide short term relief in the area of food insecurity and delivering programs and services that promote long-term food security and improve the social well-being in our community.

VISION

A community where no one goes hungry in Cochrane and surrounding area.

OUR VALUES

Our guiding values of commitment, integrity, service, diversity and inclusion govern the manner in which we work.

HISTORY

The Cochrane Food Bank is a registered Canadian charity and incorporated as a Society in the province of Alberta. It operates under the management of the Food Bank director and the governance of the Board of Directors.

In 1995, the Cochrane Activettes began operating a food bank as one of its community service programs. What started with humble beginnings in a church basement, evolved in the purchase of a bay at the Griffin Industrial Point location in 2008 and expanded into the purchase of second bay in 2019. In August 2024 the Cochrane Food Bank Society was officially established as an independent registered charity.

The Cochrane Food Bank attributes its success to the dedication and vision of the Cochrane Activettes, who have steadfastly supported the provision of food bank services in our community. Their commitment was instrumental in shaping the Food Bank into what it is today.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

In the spirit of Truth and Reconciliation, we acknowledge and respect histories, languages and diverse cultures of the First Nations, Metis, and all First Peoples that have taken care of this land.



YEAR IN REVIEW

Spring 2024 Incorp committee formed

August 24, 2024 Incorporation date

August, 2024 New Logo & Branding

September 1, 2024 Better Impact goes live

September 27, 2024 Website goes live

September, 2024 Social media goes live

November 6, 2024 CRA name change complete

January 14, 2025 AB Charity license

COMMUNITY IMPACT

Weekly & Emergency Hampers



Number of individuals 5312
41.5% Children
58.5% Adults



Number of Volunteer Hours 2798



Value of Hamper Boxes \$503,509



Value of Grocery Gift Cards \$118,725



Value of Donated Food \$249,584

School Programs



Value of Food to School Lunches \$28,242



Value of Gift Cards for Protein \$16,000



Value of Weekend Brown Bags \$4039

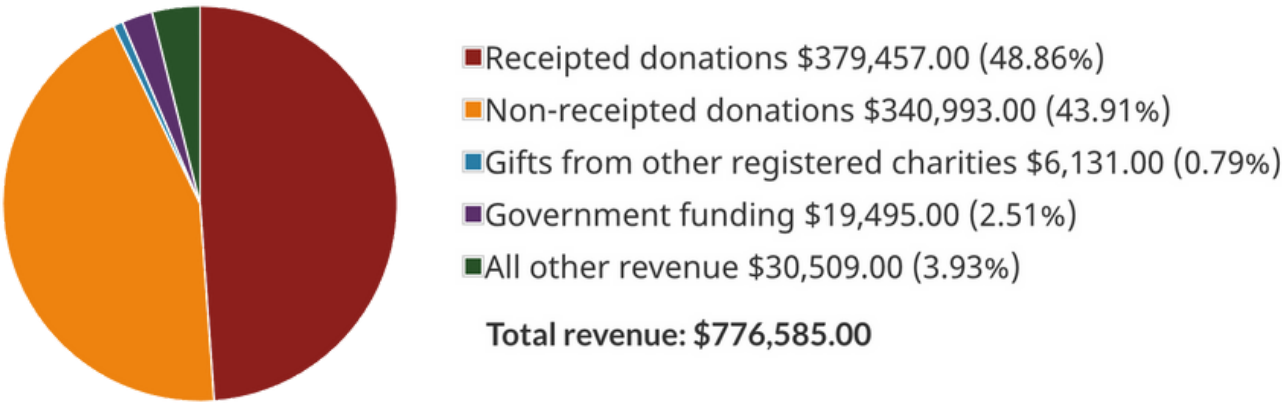


\$10,000 donated to Rockyview School district Breakfast Program

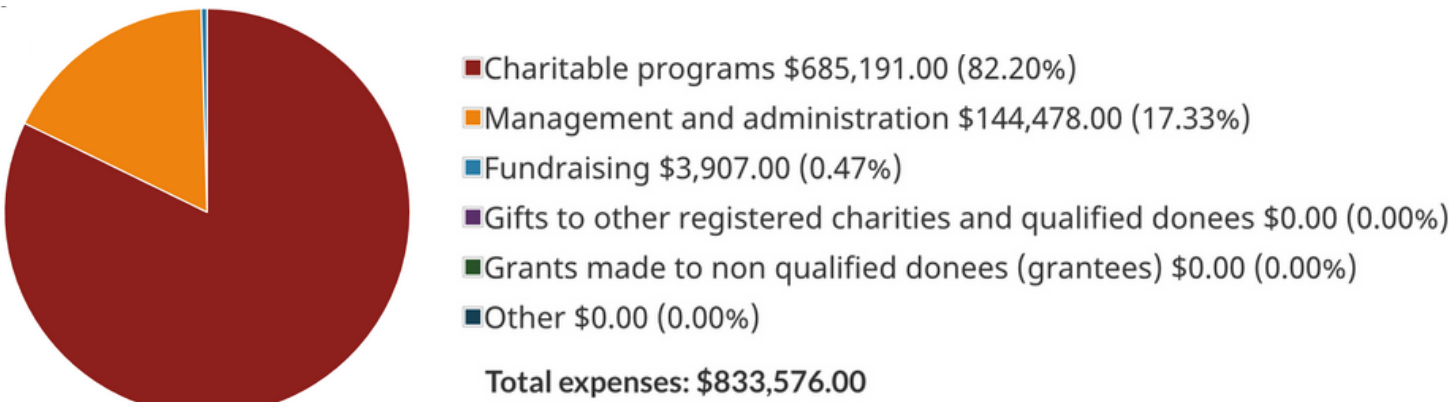


FINANCIAL INFORMATION

REVENUE



EXPENSES



YOU ARE ALL HUNGER HEROS!

THANK YOU TO OUR MANY DONORS!

We are deeply grateful to every individual, organization, and business that supported the Food Bank this past year. Your generosity has been essential in helping us meet the growing needs of our community.

donation made a meaningful difference. Every dollar and every can of food helped us provide nourishment, dignity, and hope to those facing food insecurity.

Thanks to your kindness, we were able to serve more individuals and families than ever before, expand our programs, and continue our mission to ensure no one in our community goes hungry.

From all of us at the Food Bank — thank you for standing with us.

Together, we are stronger.

A special thanks to our MAJOR DONORS

Hunger Hero Supporter

- Victory Homes

Hunger Hero Friend

- Kiwanis Club of Cochrane and Area
- Calbridge Homes
- JL Developments

A special thanks to our PROGRAM SUPPORTERS

- FCSS and FRN
- Home Treasures
- Cochrane Tim Hortons
- Safeway
- Garmin



THANK YOU TO OUR INCREDIBLE VOLUNTEERS

Your time, energy, and compassion are at the heart of everything we do. Whether you stocked shelves, packed hampers, sorted donations, delivered food, helped at events, or supported our programs behind the scenes, your dedication made it all possible.

This year, our volunteers gave **thousands** of hours to ensure that our neighbours in need received the support they deserve. You showed up in all seasons, with smiles on your faces and a willingness to help however you could. We simply couldn't do this work without you. Your generosity of spirit brings warmth and humanity to every aspect of our mission.

From all of us at the Food Bank — thank you for being the hands and hearts of our community.

YOU GAVE OF YOUR TIME IN MANY WAYS

- Client Shopper
 - Food Sorter
 - Driver
 - General Maintenance
 - Board Director
 - Committee member
-
- August 2024 Empty Bowls
 - September 2024 Food Drive
 - October 2024 Food Drive
 - December 2024 Christmas Program
 - April 2025 Food Drive





OUR TEAM: THE HEART OF OUR STORY

Behind every food hamper packed, every phone call answered, and every smile at the door is a team of extraordinary people. This past year, our Food Bank Director, Warehouse Supervisor and Administrator showed up day after day—with sleeves rolled up and hearts wide open—ready to meet whatever challenges came their way.

They juggled the unexpected, found solutions where there seemed to be none, and always kept compassion at the centre of their work. Whether lifting heavy boxes or lifting spirits, they made sure our doors stayed open and our shelves stayed full.

Because of their dedication, thousands of neighbours felt supported, cared for, and reminded that they are not alone. Our story of hope and community exists because of them—and we couldn't be more grateful.

In July 2025, we were thrilled to welcome Matt Mitchell as our new Food Bank Director. With 15 years of experience in the not-for-profit sector, Matt has a gift for building strong relationships and securing strategic funding—all with a focus on making the greatest impact while keeping things running smoothly. We're excited for the energy and expertise he brings, and we hope you'll join us in giving Matt a heartfelt welcome to the Food Bank family!

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT US!

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