Together, we can end hunger in Northern New Mexico
Looking back at 2021, I remain in wonder and gratitude for the many ways that The Food Depot provided hunger relief to our nine-county service area. Our ongoing mission is to provide healthy food in respectful and dignified ways to the diverse range of people experiencing food insecurity; however, the pandemic spurred an evolution in our idea as a food bank, to more than 50% direct service.

This next chapter of our service includes our traditional food banking methods, but also novel and innovative approaches that seek to honor our clients and our the most vulnerable New Mexicans with hunger-relief options using different distribution models based on the communities they serve. A Food Mobile that meets them in their neighborhood; staff members or volunteers that greet them in their native language; wraparound services that may one day allow them to no longer need the food bank’s services.

**The impact where our communities thrive together – and everyone has the opportunity to reach their full potential – is the impact The Food Depot is striving to accomplish.**

In the pages of this 2021 Annual Report you will hear from clients, partners, donors, volunteers, board members, and staff. We will be highlighting statistics about hunger in New Mexico, but also the accomplishments of our programs, and the amazing community support.

We continue to thank you for your food donations, volunteer hours, monetary support, and advocacy. Due to our efforts in food rescue, bulk purchasing, and 900 volunteers, one dollar can purchase four meals. The Food Depot’s acute hunger relief efforts provided 12.5 million pounds of food in 2021.

With gratitude,

Sherry Hooper
Executive Director
Our vision is simple:

Healthy, hunger-free communities in Northern New Mexico.

Who’s hungry?

They are the working adults trying to decide whether they should pay their heating bill or buy groceries with their meager wages.

They are the seniors struggling to make ends meet on a small monthly stipend.

They are those suffering from domestic abuse.

They are men and women living without shelter.

They are our community’s children.

“One customer, who lives without electricity or running water, told us that the food we take him on Fridays is the only source he has for the entire weekend. He does not have access to a vehicle, and it is a three-mile trip by foot to the nearest grocery store using a cane.”

– Partner Story
Partner Agency in Las Vegas
How The Food Depot Works

The Food Depot is part of a national network of 200 food banks affiliated with Feeding America.

The donors and partners of both Feeding America and The Food Depot include generous:

- Individuals
- Businesses, Corporations
- U.S. Department of Agriculture

Who provide FOOD 🥗 and MONETARY $ donations to The Food Depot

With financial donations, The Food Depot is able to purchase, procure, and TRANSPORT FOOD through its network of providers at a cost that is less than food purchased at retail prices

Food goes to

HUNGER-RELIEF PARTNERS

Food Pantries, Homeless Shelters, Onsite Feeding Programs, Senior Centers, Tribal Communities and Youth Programs

The Food Depot’s DIRECT DISTRIBUTION PROGRAMS

- Diaper Depot
- Food 4 Kids
- Food 4 Pets
- Kids Kitchen
- Mobile Food Pantry
- The Food Mobile
- Drive-thru / Walk-thru Pantry

Where food is provided to those facing hunger in Northern New Mexico

In New Mexico, hunger affects 1 in 6 adults and 1 in 4 children
Food banks prevent food waste by salvaging slightly damaged goods, products produced in excess, and items nearing their sell date.

The Food Depot collects donations of these types of food items from over 100 local product donors.

With this effort, food that would usually end up in a landfill ends up in the hands of people in need.

**Food Donors Include:**

- Albertsons - Zafarano
- Albertsons - Zia
- Auto Angel Drives
- Big Lots
- Bountiful Cow Cheese Co
- Food King
- Just the Best Produce
- La Montanita Co-Op
- Market Street - Guadalupe
- Natural Grocers – Santa Fe
- Panera
- Sage Bakery
- Sam’s Club
- Smith’s - Cerrillos
- Smith’s - Los Alamos
- Smith’s - Pacheco
- Smith’s - Taos
- Smith’s - White Rock
- Sprouts - De Vargas
- Sprouts - San Isidro
- Super Walmart - Las Vegas
- Target
- The Chocolate Smith
- Trader Joe’s
- Walmart - Herrera Drive
- Walmart - Cerrillos
- Walmart - Taos
- Whole Foods

**Thank you!**

Any food that is no longer suitable for people is used by local hog and chicken farms, or composted.
The Food Depot continues to partner with a network of other nonprofit organizations. This network is composed of partners with a mission that incorporates hunger-relief. An investment in The Food Depot’s hunger-relief work is simultaneously an investment in the work of more than 80 nonprofit organizations.

The food bank’s coordination of food acquisition, warehousing, and delivery to each of its partners enables those organizations to focus their time and resources on their primary mission and serve those experiencing food insecurity firsthand.

In 2021, our partner agencies were able to serve an incredible 84,633 individuals!

They offer food security services across nine counties in northern New Mexico.
“The most meaningful aspect of partnering with The Food Depot is that it was great to provide supplemental food, pet food, and diapers to help families get through a difficult time during the COVID closures.

– Partner Agency in Truchas

“When the opioid crisis struck, our community suffered silently. Then, when the pandemic hit, we all knew that we were not going to suffer silently again. I am very proud to collaborate with such a charitable organization as The Food Depot!”

– Barrios Unidos, Chimayó
Direct Service Programs

The pandemic spurred an evolution in our idea as a food bank, by providing more opportunities to offer food in diverse ways to our communities.

The Food Depot’s direct distribution programs are described below:

1. **DIAPER DEPOT**

   In the U.S., 1 in 3 families struggle to provide an adequate supply of diapers for their child. In 2021, 15 partner agencies provided more than 1,700 packs of diapers to their clients.

   Through The Food Depot’s Resource Navigation program, 3,148 packs of diapers & wipes were distributed to more than 500 families.

2. **FOOD 4 KIDS**

   The Food Depot’s Food 4 Kids program currently works with 13 public schools in Santa Fe County and one in Rio Arriba County to host school-based food pantries. The Food Depot staff provides support to these partners to provide access to food, resulting in a resource youth and families can rely on consistently. The pantries can supply pantry staples, in addition to fresh and healthy produce and proteins, depending on their food storage capability. In 2021, the program was able to provide food to more than 2,350 families.

   Food 4 Kids School-Based Pantries with Communities in Schools:
   - Aspen Community Magnet School
   - Capital High School
   - Carlos Vigil Middle School
   - Cesar Chavez Elementary School
   - El Camino Real Academy
   - Milagro Middle School
   - Nava Elementary School
   - Nina Otero Community School
   - Ortiz Middle School
   - Ramirez Thomas Elementary School
   - Salazar Elementary School
   - Sweeney Elementary School

3. **FOOD 4 PETS**

   For many, a beloved dog or cat provides priceless companionship and joy to daily life. Families surviving on a tight budget often share their meager food supply with a companion. Individuals and families receiving food assistance through The Food Depot’s Mobile Food Pantry program in rural communities are eligible to register for pet food assistance through Food 4 Pets.

   Food 4 Pets program served 7,000 pets in northern New Mexico in the rural communities of Bernal, El Rito, Ojo Caliente, Pecos, Santa Cruz, Truchas, and Vallecitos.

   Amount of dog and cat food provided each month through the Food 4 Pets Program:
   - 10,000 lbs
   - 1,400 lbs
Community and Residential Sites Served by The Food Mobile:

- Cerrillos
- Kearny Elementary
- Pojoaque
- Sangre de Cristo
- Santa Fe Apartments
- Soleras Station
- Stage Coach
- Southside Library

4 KIDS KITCHEN

In the first semester of the 2021-2022 school year, Kids Kitchen provided 65,427 meals to 15 Santa Fe Public Schools, and three Boys and Girls Clubs.

The majority of the meals are offered through the Santa Fe Public Schools 21st Century Grant program. The program offers a prepared meal to students after school, ensuring that children have access to a third meal each school day. During the summer months when school is out, Kids Kitchen steps up to the plate and offers meals as part of the Summer Feeding Program at sites throughout Santa Fe.

5 MOBILE FOOD PANTRY

Mobile Food Pantries (MFPs) primarily serve rural communities and are operated by community members who volunteer to run and manage specific distributions.

In 2021, MFPs were held once a month at 15 locations across seven counties.

With the tremendous efforts of volunteers, the 15 MFPs distributed 1,159,468 pounds of food, or 11 percent of The Food Depot’s overall food distribution.

Mobile Food Pantry Sites:

- Abiquiu
- Chamita
- Cimarron
- Clayton
- Des Moines
- El Rito
- Raton, First United Methodist Church
- Los Alamos
- Maxwell
- Mosquero
- Ojo Caliente
- Pecos
- Roy
- Springer
- Wagon Mound

6 THE FOOD MOBILE

The Food Depot’s Food Mobile – a renovated bookmobile turned grocery store on wheels – established six locations for food distributions.

Clients are able to select which foods they want to take home with them from a menu provided upon arrival.

In 2021, more than 1,860 households were served, assisting 5,100 individuals with food including produce, meat, dairy, bread and pantry staples.

7 THURSDAY DRIVE-THRU / WALK-THRU PANTRY

At the drive-thru distributions at The Food Depot Warehouse on Siler, attendees remain in their car while volunteers place food in the trunk.

Food distributed includes non-perishable items, fresh produce, bread, meat and dairy items.

Over 127,493 individuals and 27,744 households were served at this distribution.

Total Pounds of Food Distributed in 2021

12.5 million
Volunteer Program

Volunteers play a vital role in hunger-relief efforts in northern New Mexico.

In Santa Fe
925 Volunteers served
19,572 hours, saving
The Food Depot

$558,585 in Salaries

which is the equivalent of approximately 11 full time employees!

(based on the Independent Sector’s 2021 value of a volunteer hour of $28.54)

sites serving afterschool meals

Aspen Community School
Camino De Jacobo Boys & Girls Club
Cesar Chavez Community School
Chaparral Elementary School
El Camino Real Academy
EJ Martinez Elementary School
Gonzales Elementary School
Kearny Elementary School
Milagro Middle School

Nava Elementary School
Nina Otero Elementary School
Ortiz Middle School
Pinon Elementary School
Ramirez Thomas Elementary School
Salazar Elementary School
Sweeney Elementary School
Valle Vista Boys & Girls Club
Zona del Sol Boys & Girls Club

Number of After School Meals
Volunteers Packed for Kids Kitchen
(Aug. - Dec. 2021)

60,000
55,675 Meals
50,000
40,000
30,000
20,000
10,000

for the Summer Meal Program in 2021
“I was prompted to join the volunteer team for The Food Depot because I was seeking a means to safely help others and contribute to the community during the pandemic. I will continue long after it is a memory because it has been so meaningful to know that I was helping others in a meaningful, tangible way. My fondest memory was waking up super early for a Saturday distribution during the holiday season for a mall distribution, being witness to hundreds of cars lining up, and seeing kids’ faces when they see something as ordinary as yogurt being put into their car.”

– Volunteer

“I’ve been working with The Food Depot since the early years of the Neighbor to Neighbor event. Since then, my most meaningful experience has been doing art activities with school children at the summer meal program sites. This past year, I was honored to have the design of my holiday greeting card used for The Food Depot’s donation gift drive.”

– Volunteer, SH Dillon
“A few months into the pandemic, I cried the day *we ran out of food and still had people showing up to one of the rural mobile food pantry distributions*. I volunteer with my kid, which is a meaningful experience for both of us. Feeding people has always been important to me and The Food Depot is a well-organized organization.”

– Volunteer

From packing to loading cars with food, and many other tasks, The Food Depot could not accomplish all it does without volunteers.
"The Abram and Ray Kaplan Foundation has awarded grant funds to The Food Depot for over ten years. During that time, we have been pleased to witness firsthand as programs like Food 4 Kids, Diaper Depot, and the mobile meal and pantry programs became a reality. Most importantly, though, whatever our role—when we were residents of Santa Fe, event participants, and volunteers—we have always enjoyed hospitality and friendship whenever we met with staff, the Board, and volunteers. The Food Depot is more than a food rescue organization. It is a genuinely cooperative entity and a creative force of goodwill."

- Jeanne and Nick Dowis

In a letter of thanks to Sherry Hooper with a $1,000 donation...

“Thank you for the miracle of food and love and generosity that your very large team provides …and you lead the way.”
The Food Depot relies heavily on individuals and donors to supply the much needed revenue to feed northern New Mexico’s hungry.

The coming challenge will be sustaining relationships with one-time donors that were fostered during the pandemic.

Source of Donations

Thank you to our loyal supporters!

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<th>Source</th>
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<td>Other</td>
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(Feas, Special Events, Fundraisers)

Number of Gifts

2018-2019: **11,211**
2019-2020: **32,834**
2020-2021: **24,613**
### Revenue

#### 2019-2020
- Cash Revenue: $20,103,627
- In-Kind Revenue (>99% value of food donations): $25,345,774

#### 2020-2021
- Cash Revenue: $12,446,907
- In-Kind Revenue (>99% value of food donations): $14,539,503

### Expenditures

#### 2019-2020
- Food: $14,054,347
- Programs: $397,106
- Staff: $321,215
- Fundraising: $2,297,996
- Total: $17,070,664

#### 2020-2021
- Food: $3,276,726
- Programs: $652,605
- Staff: $358,250
- Fundraising: $10,000,000
- Total: $22,409,231

- **2020-2021 Fundraising Not Shown**

- **2020-2021 Total Expenditures: $18,121,650**
The Board of Directors of The Food Depot is a dedicated, diverse group of individuals with a deep commitment to ending hunger in Northern New Mexico.

The Board meets monthly to review financial information, act on organizational business and engage on hunger issues in New Mexico.

David Barton – President, Executive Committee
Retired Attorney

Len Rand – Vice President, Executive Committee
Businessman, Retired

Thomas Jensen – Treasurer, Executive Committee
Businessman, Retired

Caitlin Smith – Secretary, Executive Committee
Attorney Law Offices of the Public Defender

Noah Berke – Board member at large, Executive Committee
New Mexico Planning Manager, Wilson & Company, Inc

Brigid Brahe
Owner, Santa Fe by Design

“The Food Depot’s mission is as clear as it is ambitious; simply put, we are determined to end hunger in northern New Mexico. **There is no mission-driven public service organization in Santa Fe better run than The Food Depot.** Every day, The Food Depot staff and volunteers work hard to provide nutritious food to our neighbors in greatest need - and when the need grows, we work together even harder. It’s truly inspiring.”

Matt Nerzig, Media Relations, The Food Depot Board Member

Scott Bunton
Consultant

Janet Clow
Consultant, Retired Attorney

V. Brian D’Andrea
Chairman and CEO TechSource, Inc.

Bridget Dixson
President and CEO SF Chamber of Commerce

Carol Johnson
Public Health Nutritionist

Jeremy Miller
Store Director, Market Street

Matt Nerzig
Media Relations

Jill Rhymes, M.D.
Geriatric Medicine

David Risser
Financial Advisor

Kristi Salazar
Program & Events Manager, SF Chamber of Commerce

Bret Smoker, M.D., MPH
Clinical Director Santa Fe Indian Hospital

Bill Sveum
Food Industry, Retired

© 4 Birds Photography
“I find it deplorable and hard to comprehend that there are people who are food insecure. Knowing people are experiencing hunger motivates me to support The Food Depot and its mission to create healthy, hunger-free communities in Northern New Mexico. The Food Depot continually adapts to provide a variety of healthy foods to those in need through innovative and respectful approaches, for instance, special distributions during COVID, support to partner agencies, mobile food pantries, Food Mobile, Kids Kitchen... The staff and volunteers have been phenomenal during these difficult times. Thanks to all for caring and for all you do.”

V. Brian D’Andrea, Management Consulting CEO, The Food Depot Board Member

“Over the past year, I have had the honor to contribute to The Food Depot’s Board of Directors. I am pleased to see they deliver on the mission imperative to feed the hungry, how the team responsibly values and manages donations from individual contributors and government organizations, and the hope they inspire.”

Carol I. Johnson, Public Health Nutritionist, The Food Depot Board Member
The Food Depot’s Committees

ADVOCACY COMMITTEE

The Food Depot’s Advocacy Committee is the primary instrument of the organization for pursuit of The Food Depot’s Advocacy Policy as approved by the Board of Directors.

It is responsible for ascertaining when the U.S. Congress or Executive Branch, the New Mexico State Legislature or Executive Branch, or a city or county government in The Food Depot’s service area is contemplating taking actions that could provide significant help or harm to efforts to increase the food security of people in New Mexico or to The Food Depot’s ability to contribute materially to increased food security in its service area, determining The Food Depot’s perspective on those actions, and notifying appropriate officials of that perspective.

Further, the Committee will determine when various actions by the three levels of government will be advantageous and will communicate with the appropriate officials to request their assistance in realizing such actions.

The Committee will serve as The Food Depot’s primary interface with other local, state, and national organizations with similar or overlapping interests in increasing food security, and seek to maximize the impact of their efforts through collaboration, cooperation, and alignment of efforts.

Membership for the Advocacy Committee for 2021

Scott Bunton, Chairperson
Elizabeth Allen
Sharon Berman
Amanda Bregel
Ellen Buelow
Tracey Enright
Gerry Fairbrother, PhD
Ruth Hoffman
Sherry Hooper, Staff Liaison
Lilly Irvin-Vitela

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Food Depot’s Executive Committee is responsible for exercising the authority of the Board of Directors and the management of The Food Depot between meetings of the Board of Directors.

Membership for the Executive Committee for 2021

David Barton, President
Len Rand, Vice President
Thomas Jensen, Treasurer
Caitlin Smith, Secretary
Noah Berke, Member At Large
Sherry Hooper, Staff Liaison

If you are interested in joining any of our committees, please contact Executive Director, Sherry Hooper.
**FINANCE COMMITTEE**

The Food Depot’s Finance Committee is responsible for providing financial oversight for the organization. It includes budgeting and financial planning, financial reporting, the creation and monitoring of internal controls and accountability policies, overseeing the annual independent audit process, and developing an investment portfolio.

**Membership for the Finance Committee for 2021**

- Janet Clow, Chairperson
- Robyn Archuleta
- Brigid Brahe
- Thomas Cali
- Brian D’Andrea
- Katherine D’Arcy
- Sherry Hooper, Staff Liaison
- Thomas Jensen
- Sharon O’Shea
- Joyce Pohl
- David Risser

**OPERATIONS COMMITTEE**

The Food Depot’s Operations Committee is responsible for reviewing and revising all procedures. This is to achieve maximum efficiencies in warehouse and transportation operations, to support product solicitation, and to develop a manual to document all standard practices and procedures.

**Membership for the Operations Committee for 2021**

- Bill Sveum, PhD, Chairperson
- Scott Alexander
- Julie Anderson
- David Barton
- Noah Berke
- Kent Bestle
- Brigid Brahe
- Doug Gardner
- Sherry Hooper, Staff Liaison
- Jeremy Miller
- Peter Milway
- Ashlynn Montoya
- Len Rand
- Jerome Sanchez
- Salvador Sandoval
- Fred Seibel
- Jerry Wagner
2022 Leadership Team

Sherry Hooper, Executive Director
shooper@thefooddepot.org

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Director of Warehouse Operations and Procurement
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Steven Bolin
Volunteer Program Manager
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Jill Dixon
Deputy Director
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Russell Johnson
Executive Chef, Kids Kitchen
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Leanna McClure
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Sal Sandoval
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