“What a blessing! The food was amazing and a wonderful variety. I could never imagine such bounty. It takes my breath away.”

- Client from Blessed Tech

SERVING OUR NEIGHBORS IN ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY

111 - Food Pantries
13 - Baby Pantries
13 - Homeless Shelters
8 - Backpack Buddies Programs
6 - Soup Kitchens
4 - Senior Pantries
2 - Pet Pantries
2 - Clothing Banks

Member agency volunteer from Heritage Baptist Church in their food pantry.
Message from our CEO and Board Chair

Dear Friends of the Food Bank,

While the pandemic continued to turn life upside down for all of us this past year, it also renewed our deep commitment to our most central purpose: ensuring that people have the nutritious food required to thrive, especially during difficult times.

The demand for food assistance across Anne Arundel County over the past twelve months was unprecedented, making it challenging for our 114 member agencies to keep up with the requests for food and other basic necessities. Our food insecure neighbors now found themselves facing the difficult choice between keeping a roof over their heads and putting food on the table.

Over half (52%) of the residents receiving our services this past year were seeking help for the first time. At the height of the pandemic, our member agencies assisted five times the number of households each month than they did prior to the pandemic; up from an average of 5,600 households to 34,000 households.

We mobilized our resources, teaming up with community partners and county government to ensure that our under-resourced residents had access to free, healthy food. The Pantry on the Go program, a collaboration with Anne Arundel County’s Partnership for Children, Youth, and Families fed 163,703 households through 550 distributions.

Through collaboration with amazing partners, the generosity of donors, and our staff and volunteers’ dedication and ingenuity, we developed new and better ways to support our neighbors. We give thanks to all who share in our commitment to end food insecurity.

With sincere gratitude and appreciation,

Leah Paley
CEO

Bappa Pal
Board Chair

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our impact
Fighting hunger, feeding hope

$7.1 MILLION
Worth of food and basic necessities distributed

62,500 PEOPLE FED
Each month (individual food pantry visits)

5.8 MILLION POUNDS
of food distributed

1.2 MILLION POUNDS
of fresh produce distributed

PIVOT! RESPONDING TO THE PANDEMIC
There was no more business as usual during the first year of the pandemic. Anne Arundel County Food Bank, alongside our partner agencies and community partners, worked tirelessly to ensure no one in our county went hungry, as demonstrated by these impacts:

PARTNER AGENCY PANTRIES
70,260 households served

PANTRY ON THE GO
550 distribution sites fed 163,703 households

FRESH FOOD FRIDAYS
25,200 senior households received fresh produce

Volunteers load boxes of fresh vegetables during the weekly “Fresh Food Fridays” food distributions for Seniors held in partnership with the Department of Aging and Disabilities.
Every partnership creates a stronger, more healthy community.

**MEMBER AGENCIES**
Thank you to our 114 Member Agencies who give their all every day to provide the much-needed food and other essential resources to those who need them most.

**PARTNERS**
Thank you to our 30+ county, community, and civic organization partners that refer clients in need and work to ensure that everyone has enough to eat.

**VOLUNTEERS**
While the pandemic halted much of our volunteer workforce, we still recorded 2,580 volunteer hours in FY2021.
**FY2021 vs FY2020**

How we acquired the food we distributed underwent a transformation. The resulting drop in food drives translated to purchasing 74% ($2.93M) of the food we distributed in FY2021 compared to 1% ($185K) of the distributed food in FY2020.

**RESULTS:**
We purchased more food this past year than total distribution in FY2020.

**STRONGER THAN EVER**

We are consistently focused on improving our operations for greater efficiency, effectiveness, and impact. Thanks to support from The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP, a United States Department of Agriculture program), Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, and the Deerbrook Charitable Trust (a private foundation), we accomplished these important efforts and more:

- Developed a robust two-year Organizational Improvement Plan;
- Upgraded infrastructure including computers, phones, office space, and food storage capacity, as well as our accounting and other software systems;
- Purchased three vans for food distribution and built three ADA-compliant pantry ramps;
- Hired additional staff including fund development, marketing and communications, and warehouse professionals;
- Continued our goals of implementing the performance benchmarks and measures required to obtain the Standards for Excellence® Accreditation.

Overall, this support strengthens our ability to accomplish our mission effectively now, and in the future.
WITH GRATITUDE

During the pandemic, AACFB lost the majority of its volunteers and warehouse workforce. Last fiscal year our small team put in heroic efforts to meet the food needs of our county with a little help from our friends at Anne Arundel County Parks and Recreation, Anne Arundel County Office of Emergency Management, and AAACERT (Anne Arundel-Annapolis Community Emergency Response Team) who coordinated and sent volunteers to help us make sure that no one in our county went hungry during the pandemic.

MISSION

To fight hunger, ensuring all those in need throughout Anne Arundel County have access to food and basic necessities.

VISION

No one in Anne Arundel County goes hungry.