

The stories behind the numbers



We often use numbers to measure the impact we have providing food to neighbors in need. But numbers don't fully describe the human impact that results from the collective effort of all who join in the mission of Helena Food Share. There is a real person, an actual family behind every number we count. Their stories describe the real impact.

Bob is a father who lost his house after becoming a single parent and working to pay all the family's bills alone. He came to Helena Food Share, not for himself, but to feed his young son. Like many, he did not want to be in the position of needing to ask others for food. Bob and his son are one of the **3,859** families served each year by Helena Food Share.

Sarah is a mother of two with her Master's degree, yet came to Helena Food Share three times after she lost her job. Sarah quickly secured a good job working for the state and immediately became a monthly Helena Food Share donor. She is one of the **8,235** people we served in 2016. Sarah is one of many customers who receive help from Helena Food Share when they need it and give back when they are able.

Then there's **Betty**, a senior citizen who attended our cooking class in the fall and donates her own perennials to help us plant the Helena Food Share garden. Betty lives on a small, fixed monthly income. She comes to Helena Food

Share so she can afford heat in the winter. Betty is one of the **2,172** senior citizens who received a senior commodity box of essential foods in 2016.

We can't forget the two elementary-school children, **Owen** and **Nola**, who receive Kid Packs each week and take them home to share with their family. The children's mom, Annie, splits the two plain oatmeal packets that come in the Kid Packs between the entire family. The family calls the simple breakfast cereal "a luxury," because it means they get to eat on the weekends. These children are two of the **1,050** who receive a Kid Pack each week.

Each customer we serve has a distinct and powerful story. At Helena Food Share, we work to end hunger through a number of strategic approaches including programs to feed children, families, senior citizens and every individual in between.

We often hear customers say, "We are so thankful you're here," or "I don't know what I would do without Helena Food Share." Thank you for helping ensure our neighbors in need have a place to go when they are hungry. Together, we can end hunger in our community.

Until All Are Fed,

Bruce Day, Executive Director



26,321

lbs. of fresh fruit and vegetables were donated to Helena Food Share in 2016.



1 in 3

people served by Helena Food Share is a child under the age of 18.



1,625,393

lbs. of food was shared from the HFS pantry in 2016.



35,351

Kid Packs distributed to children at risk of going hungry on the weekend.



2,146

holiday meals were distributed between Thanksgiving and Christmas in 2016.

By the numbers

Helena Food Share | 2016



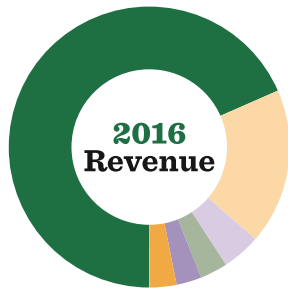
566

lbs. of produce grown in the HFS garden in 2016, including 250 lbs. of potatoes grown with seed potatoes from MSU's Extension Office.



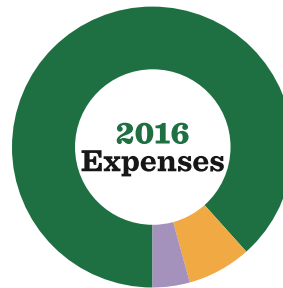
4,216

volunteers donated 20,170 hours in 2016.



- Food donations.... \$2,157,000
- Individuals..... \$565,983
- Businesses..... \$139,721
- Special events..... \$100,060
- Grants from foundations, businesses, and federal government \$97,352
- Community and church groups..... \$91,200
- Investment/other..... \$1,393

Total revenue:.....\$3,152,709



- Program..... \$2,757,431
- Communications and fundraising..... \$229,690
- Administrative..... \$133,638

Total expenses:.....\$3,120,759



2,172

Senior Commodity food boxes distributed to low income senior citizens.



43%

of families visit the HFS pantry for assistance 1-3 times per year.



276,900

pounds of food donated by the community including 218,057 dry goods.



8,235

Total number of people served in 2016.



90%

of households that access HFS programs are living below or near the federal poverty line.



29,411

food assistance services distributed to 3,859 households in 2016.



844,678

pounds of food rescued from local grocery stores in 2016.