



Wakefield Food Pantry Fact Sheet – FY 2023

WHAT

We are a food pantry whose **mission** is to provide a variety of food, household necessities, and support to those in need. We strive to offer a welcoming environment and to serve others with respect, dignity, and compassion.

- We served approximately 575 families, visiting us 5,296 times
- Families and individuals accessed 20,165 bags of food weighing 235,258 lbs.
- Households took home an average of 4 bags per visit providing more than one week's worth of food
- Our Senior Distribution Program delivered food to two of our low-income senior housing facilities
- We also stocked a grab and go "Quick Stop" at the Senior Center
- Additional food for families with children was provided by our Kids First Program during summer
- We stocked a mini pantry at the Galvin Middle School to provide food to those families that are in need
- Our Veteran's Program supplemented food given at the veterans' monthly food distribution
- Emergency food bins were provided to churches and the police dept for those in immediate need

WHO

The people we serve:

- 23% Senior Citizens
- 21% are families with children (264 total children)
- 57% are single person households
- 30% are disabled

WHY

People visit us for a number of reasons including:

- Job loss, stagnant wages or low paying job
- Health issues and the high costs associated with an illness
- Disability or elderly, living on a fixed income
- Single parent households
- Mental health issues

HOW

Through food, funding, manpower and other resources provided by:

- A caring community
- Dedicated community and business partners
- A wonderful group of over 90 volunteers
- A committed Board of Directors and
- The Greater Boston Food Bank

HUNGER FACTS

- One in three people in Massachusetts are food insecure
- One in three children in Massachusetts are food insecure
- A full-time job at minimum wage earns only \$31,200
- Most of those making minimum wage earn too much to qualify for government assistance
- SNAP benefits (food stamps) are too low to allow people to purchase enough food
- Massachusetts is at a higher hunger risk because of higher housing, fuel and utility costs

CONTACT US

For further information visit our website at www.wakefieldfoodpantry.org, call us at 781-245-2510 or email us at info@wakefieldfoodpantry.org.