

# Food for Thought

The Newsletter of The Food Bank of Siouxland, Inc.

SPRING 2024



## FOOD BANK



### OF SIOUXLAND INC.

Leading Siouxland in the fight against hunger.

DISTRIBUTION PARTNER OF  
**FEEDING AMERICA**

Food Bank of Siouxland, Inc.

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[www.siouxlandfoodbank.org](http://www.siouxlandfoodbank.org)



Check us out on  
Facebook, Instagram,  
and LinkedIn!



## Dear Friends,

Happy Spring! After the winter we've had, we're looking forward to warmer weather and outdoor fun. We here at the Food Bank of Siouxland have seen an uptick in pantry visits in the last few months. With that said, we have also seen an incredible outpouring of support from our community and we couldn't be more grateful. Some have asked how to get more involved — let us refer to the 3 T's: Time, Talent, and Treasure.

#### Time.

Volunteering your time to the Food Bank of Siouxland helps us tremendously. You can help in many ways, including: sorting and boxing canned goods, cleaning up some office data, or staffing an event, just to name a few. We just ask you to call ahead at 712-255-9741 so we can ensure we have things set up for you.

#### Talent.

Similar to time, you can use your talents to help us advance our mission. **We're always looking for individuals who are passionate about fighting food insecurity.** Some ways our supporters exercise their talents include: creating a donation basket for a silent auction, soliciting sponsors for an event, advocating for legislation, and more. We have ways of enabling our supporters to use their talents as well — contact us for more information.

#### Treasure.

Our donors are some of the most gracious throughout Siouxland. It never ceases to amaze me how our community rallies together for our neighbors experiencing food insecurity. \$1=5 meals based on the wholesale cost items we are able to purchase. Unless specified otherwise, any funds donated to the Food Bank of Siouxland go towards the cost of purchasing food for our neighbors.

**As it still stands, 1 in every 10 neighbors and 1 in every 5 children don't know where their next meal is coming from.**

We are working towards lessening those numbers, but we still have a ways to go. I truly believe the generosity between our community's time, talent, and treasure has the power to do so.



Gratefully,

Jake Wanderscheid  
Executive Director  
of the Food Bank  
of Siouxland

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# Fiscal Year 2023 Accomplishments



## A Network of Food Donors

Hundreds of retailers, manufacturers, and farmers contributed to a total of **3,476,941 pounds of food** received in fiscal year 2023.

### SOURCES OF FOOD (IN POUNDS) FY 2023

Local Donations*	2,214,821	64%
Purchase Price	654,391	19%
IA USDA TEFAP Product	529,581	15%
NE USDA TEFAP Product	78,148	2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,476,941</b>	<b>100%</b>

\*Local donations include individual donors, food drives, retail store donations, manufacturer, and corporate donations.

## A Network of Volunteers

A total of **5,567 hours of service** were provided by hundreds of volunteers

- 3,367 hours helping in the warehouse and office
- 2,200 hours assembling food sacks for the Backpack Program: *Food for Kids*

**1,023,342 pounds of food** distributed across Siouxland via the **Mobile Pantry Program: *Food to You***

- Served 14,778 households
- Served 40,877 individuals
- Including 15,837 children

**45,548 pounds of food** distributed across Siouxland via the **Mobile School Pantry Program: *Food for Families***

- Served 1,147 households
- Served 4,657 individuals
- Including 2,825 children

**62,364 food sacks** distributed to students in **11 area schools** through the **Backpack Program: *Food for Kids*** in the 2022-2023 School Year





## A Network of Agencies & Direct Service Programs

### AGENCIES BY TYPE

Emergency Food Pantries	52
Soup Kitchens	2
Emergency Shelters	1
Residential	8
Day Care	3
Senior	8
Rehabilitation	8
Youth Programs	3
Multi-Service	6
BackPack Schools	11
<b>Total</b>	<b>102</b>

A network that *distributed 3,347,652 pounds of food* in fiscal year 2023 serving **82,790 households (or families)**; representing **317,935 individuals** in food insecurity, which includes **119,020 children**. **211,714 meals** and **154,649 snacks** were provided by agencies serving meals.

### POUNDS OF TOP 5 CATEGORIES OF FOOD DISTRIBUTED IN FISCAL YEAR 2023

- **541,959** pounds of Fresh Produce
- **462,614** pounds of Meat (including fish and poultry)
- **438,083** pounds of Dairy
- **197,125** pounds of Complete Meals/Entrees
- **177,109** pounds of Grains

*\*\*The fiscal year numbers provided are from internal reporting, which is not audited.*



# Annual Report

Fiscal Year 2023

10/1/2022 - 9/30/2023

(from pre-audited documents)

## Statement of Financial Position

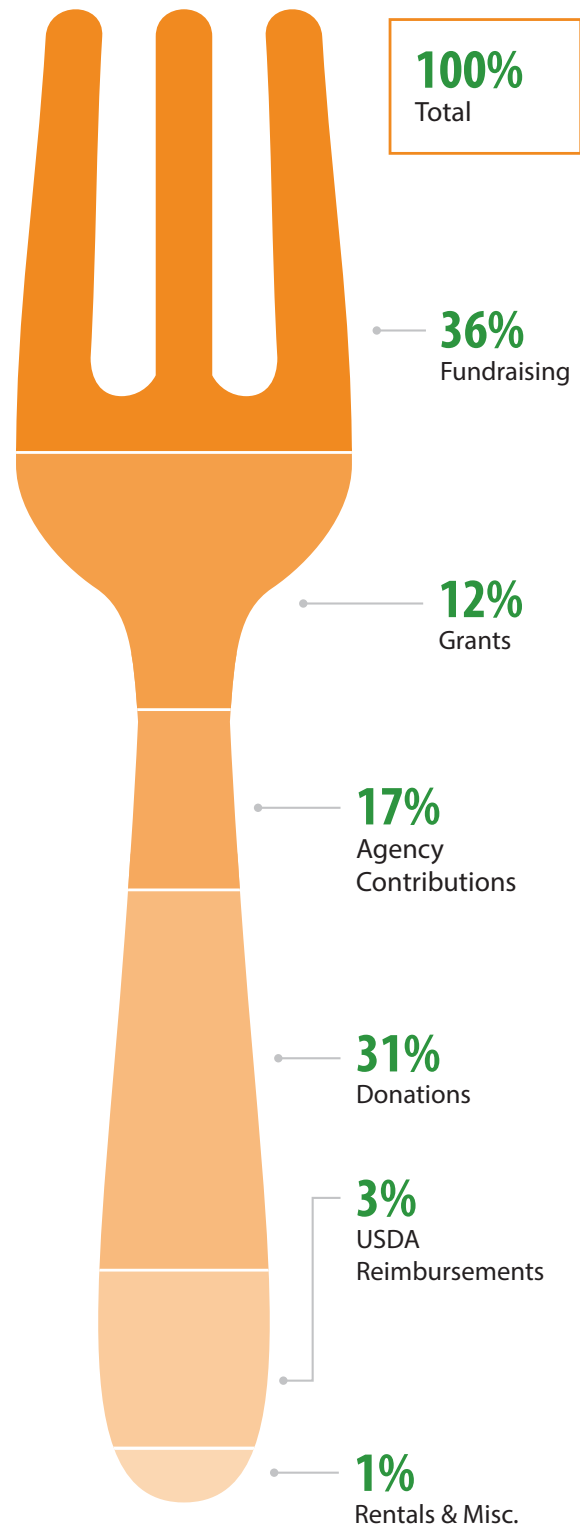
### ASSETS

	2023	2022
<b>Current Assets</b>		
Cash	\$1,007,035	\$1,075,224
Receivables	-\$1,223	-\$14,931
Prepaid Expense	\$2,509	\$2,243
Product Inventory	\$1,128,907	\$851,057
	<b>\$2,137,228</b>	<b>\$1,913,593</b>
<b>Property and Equipment</b>		
Less Accumulated Depreciation	(\$955,319)	(\$890,971)
	<b>\$638,015</b>	<b>\$696,487</b>
<b>Investments</b>	<b>\$826,547</b>	<b>\$741,860</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$3,601,790</b>	<b>\$3,351,940</b>

### LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

	2023	2022
<b>Current Liabilities</b>	<b>\$39,276</b>	<b>\$28,232</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>		
Unrestricted	\$3,256,556	\$3,027,322
Temporarily Restricted	\$420,045	\$194,162
Total Net Assets	\$3,676,601	\$3,221,484
Change in Net Assets	-\$114,037	\$232,458
<b>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</b>	<b>\$3,601,840</b>	<b>\$3,482,174</b>

## Sources of Income





Pictured left to right  
Anne Cvrk – Radiant Life,  
Jake Wanderscheid  
and Valerie Petersen

## Agency Spotlight: *Radiant Life Church*

With much appreciation and excitement, we would like to highlight Radiant Life Community Church as our Agency Spotlight! Located on Sioux City's Westside, Radiant Life is a food pantry and meal provider known for their kindness and mission to get their neighborhood fed. Anne Cvrk, Radiant Life Pantry Lead, has demonstrated her commitment to this mission, distributing more than 84,000 pounds in 2023. That is nearly double the amount that they distributed in 2022. Since opening their pantry doors in 2014, Radiant Life has distributed over 468,000 pounds of food. The past year alone totaled about 29,000 meals served.

**Congratulations to Anne and Radiant Life Community Church for being the 2023 Food Bank of Siouxland Agency of the Year Award Winner! We are so thankful for your partnership and your continued commitment to the neighbors that you serve.**

**The Brightest Stars Are Those Who Shine for The Benefit of Others**

# Board Member Spotlight:

## Lester Wilt

Meet Board Member Lester “Les” Wilt. Les was born and raised in Lyons, NE. After graduating from Lyons-Decatur Northeast, he attended one year of college at the University of Nebraska before deciding to join the United States Air Force in 1989.

While serving in the Air Force, Les spent his years learning and working on aircraft mechanics on fighter jets. He was awarded Airman of the Year for the 3246 AGS Test Wing in 1992.

After his service, Les returned to the Siouxland area and began working at Wis-Pak Plastics, where he started as an operator. As his career continued, he held several other positions, including maintenance manager. After the company closed, Les continued his maintenance career with Jebro in 2002. Beginning as a maintenance supervisor, growth and opportunities have led him to his current position as Director of Operations.

He resides with his wife, Charity, outside of Hinton, IA. They enjoy traveling, spending time with their three dogs (Sid, Rena and Baloo), and working on restoring his classic Mustang.

Les said, “I am honored to be a Board member of the Food Bank of Siouxland. It’s a great organization doing good work to help fill the needs in our communities.”



**“I am honored to be a Board member of the Food Bank of Siouxland.”**

**— Les Wilt**



## Food Bank Vocabulary

Do you know what these terms mean? In the world of food banking, there is a set vocabulary that is normal in our daily operations that some individuals might find confusing. Here is a list of words/phrases that are commonly misconceptualized.

**Food Bank:** A non-profit organization that safely stores millions of pounds of food that is distributed to local agencies and food programs, like a food pantry (ex. of food bank: Food Bank of Siouxland).

**Food Pantry:** A distribution center where individuals and families in need can receive food, commonly supplied with food from a food bank (ex. of food pantry: Radiant Life Church).

**Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP):** Previously known as Food Stamps, SNAP is a state-run federal program that provides food benefits to individuals and families to help supplement their grocery budget.

**The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP):** Individuals can receive TEFAP food from their local food pantries by qualifying for the program. TEFAP is a federally funded program that helps supplement individuals’ diets by providing them with emergency food assistance at no cost. (ex. A food pantry receives TEFAP cheese and distributes it at their next pantry).

**Food Insecurity:** The condition where an individual does not have the resources to access sufficient food of an adequate quality, to meet one’s basic needs.

**Food Desert:** An area that has limited access to affordable and nutritious food (ex. A rural area where a grocery store is more than 30 minutes away).

# Food Sourcing

The Food Bank of Siouxland is always looking for ways to provide as much fresh, healthy food as possible to our friends and neighbors in need. Food banks and pantries are typically associated with canned and boxed items. While we do provide those, our most requested and most provided categories of food are produce, protein and dairy. You may be wondering: how do we provide more of those items?

In late 2023, we were able to add a Food Sourcing Associate to the Food Bank of Siouxland staff! Having a dedicated food sourcer on staff is important because it allows us to be proactive in sourcing, rather than just reactive. It allows local retailers, producers and processors a more personal connection to the food bank, and establishes a clear line of communication and gratitude.

The process of food sourcing provides a second life to food that may be at the end of its retail life cycle, but is still safe to consume. It also allows for increased utilization of enabled pounds of food through The Enabled Program: foods donated from local retailers picked up by our agency partners on behalf of the food bank. The Enabled Program is ideal for agencies located in towns outside of Sioux City, as well as many of our partners within Sioux City. It helps the Food Bank delivery drivers better manage their time, and helps agencies and retailers to directly form a relationship. This relationship also ensures that the retailer's donations stay in their community.

**Please welcome Calvin Grage as the Food Bank of Siouxland's Food Sourcing Associate! Calvin is originally**



**from South Sioux City, Nebraska and joined us most recently from Lincoln, Nebraska. Since beginning in late September, Calvin has placed multiple agencies with local retailers in our Enabled Program and provided guidance to local retailers on food that can be given to the Food Bank of Siouxland, instead of being thrown away.**



## 2024 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Kelli Meister, *President*  
Dave Washburn, *Vice President*  
Chris Osborn, *Treasurer*  
Jessika Evans, *Secretary*

Tracey Akins  
Doug Fisher  
Alejandra Flores  
Mary Helen Gibson  
Mike Gormally  
William Hale  
Jessica Harms  
Brad Krommenhoek  
Colby Lessmann  
Ross Rocklin  
Diane Schoenrock  
Les Wilt  
Dan Witten

## FOOD BANK STAFF 2024

Jacob Wanderscheid  
*Executive Director*

Valerie Petersen  
*Associate Executive Director*

Jamie Bockelmann  
*Operations Director*

Calvin Grage  
*Food Sourcing Associate*

Tiffany Kissinger  
*Program and Administrative Manager*

Sidney Marks  
*External Development &  
Communications Associate*

Liam Parry  
*Agency Relations Manager*

Devyn Reilly  
*Internal Development &  
Communications Associate*

Royce Atkinson  
*Driver / Warehouse Assistant*

Keisha Byrne  
*Warehouse Assistant*

Tom Kuchera  
*Warehouse Assistant*

Chris Oliver  
*Warehouse Assistant*

Jake Schoening  
*Warehouse Assistant*



## Save the Date

### Siouxland Food Festival – Seaboard Triumph Foods Expo Center

**Saturday, June 15, 2024**  
**11 a.m. – 3 p.m.**

The Food Bank of Siouxland is proud to present the 2nd Annual Siouxland Food Festival, presented by Seaboard Triumph Foods. Mark your calendars as we showcase local restaurants, caterers, bakeries, and more. Admission is \$10 with kids 12 & under free! In an effort to be more inclusive to the entire community, the Food Bank of Siouxland is inviting everyone to join in on all the family fun at a reasonable cost.

**New This Year:** Bocce Ball tournament. Grab a partner and get registered for the Bocce Ball tournament going on during the Siouxland Food Festival! Sign up today at: [www.siouxlandfoodbank.org/bocce-ball-tournament](http://www.siouxlandfoodbank.org/bocce-ball-tournament).

**Come and try out the food at the 2024 Siouxland Food Festival and leave with your new favorite dish or restaurant! For more information and to pre-purchase your tickets, visit [www.siouxlandfoodbank.org/food-fest](http://www.siouxlandfoodbank.org/food-fest).**

