



# Together *for* Maryland

MARYLAND FOOD BANK FY2025 ANNUAL REPORT



In the 2025 fiscal year, the Maryland Food Bank distributed

**43.5 million** meals through

**764** community partners and

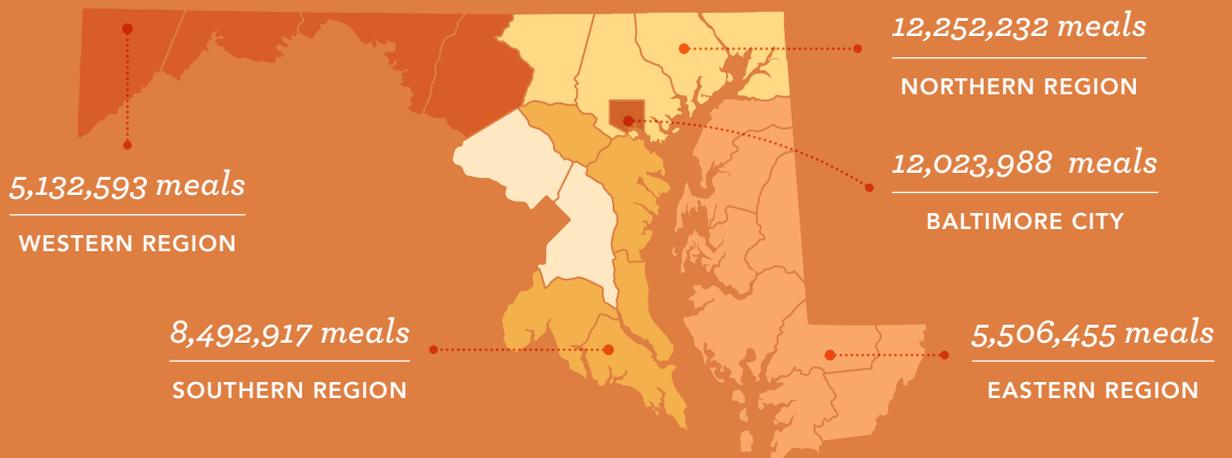
**Over 1 million** neighbors served

**6% Nutritious Food for Youth**  
*(Summer/Supper Clubs and School Pantry)*

**22% Pantry on the Go and Other Partners**

**2% Mobile Markets**

**70% Partner Network**  
*(includes Network Partners and Government-Funded Programs)*





A LETTER FROM  
MEG KIMMEL  
**PRESIDENT & CEO**

# Writing the next chapter, *together.*

*Our immense thanks to Carmen Del Guercio, outgoing CEO, and Terry Squyres, outgoing Board Chair, for their transformative leadership of our organization. MFB's creativity, strength, and impact today are a testament to your talents and your commitment to our mission.*

*Incoming CEO Meg Kimmel and Board Chair Mike Blair, who began their respective positions in July 2025, have served MFB for years: a smooth leadership transition ensuring continuity of strategy, mission, and dedication to a food-secure Maryland.*

At the Maryland Food Bank, fiscal year 2025 was a year of high demand, fierce determination, and seamless performance. As we faced uncertainty with creativity and resolve, we showed ourselves and communities across Maryland what is possible when we come together around a shared purpose.

When the state and federal landscape rapidly shifted, our staff, our partners, and the broader food ecosystem stepped up to continue distributing nutritious food to our neighbors, while also strengthening programs and partnerships designed to end hunger for more Marylanders. Last spring, we made bold decisions to bolster our operations and strengthen our food purchasing in preparation for impending federal funding cuts. We leaned into programs that address the root causes of hunger: FoodWorks, which creates pathways into good-paying jobs; our Speakers' Bureau, which brings the voices of neighbors into our advocacy efforts; and our Community Navigators program, which invites community leaders to be the trusted face of connection to benefits. We also found new ways to leverage the data from our Maryland Hunger Map to fuel our efforts for a food-secure Maryland, and continued to make grants to other nonprofits whose work tackles the systemic drivers of food insecurity.

The fall 2025 government shutdown was a glimpse of the pressure the United States' charitable food network will experience in the months and years ahead. Soon, we will begin to fully feel the impact of last spring's federal funding cuts, and millions of Americans will start to experience significant changes to their SNAP benefits. We are developing our FY27-FY29 strategic plan with this future in mind—preparing not only to meet the need, but to continue to bring innovative approaches and solutions to the challenges we will face. Doing so means listening deeply to our neighbors, partners, and communities, and continuing to learn from our own successes. It means integrating these insights into our plans for the future, and working strategically to address hunger today and to change the systems that hold it in place. And above all, it means continuing to offer strong support to our partners and keeping our abiding promise to our neighbors: to put the people of Maryland first and to build a future where no one goes hungry.

This work will take all of us: our dedicated partners, staff, volunteers, and you—our visionary champions and steadfast friends. Thank you for your trust, your hard work, and your support; now, and in the fight ahead. Together, *we will.*

Warmly,  
*Meg Kimmel*

# Together *for*

# Maryland



## OUR PARTNERS MAKE IT POSSIBLE

Our partners—the organizations that distribute food to neighbors and create sustainable pathways out of food insecurity—are the lifeblood of the Maryland Food Bank (MFB). They meet our neighbors where they are, listening deeply and learning about their needs, their challenges, and their hopes and aspirations. They build enduring relationships and go the extra mile. This way of working is far more than a feel-good idea—it's where the best ideas come from. Nourishing Maryland's communities takes more than food: it takes smart people, united, to solve problems and create lasting connections and change.

Starting in 2019, MFB has invested in our partners with Capacity Grants, Hunger Hotspot Grants, and Neighbor Impact Grants to expand their services. Organizations receiving Capacity Grants report an average **38% increase** in their capacity—measured by households served, meals served, or pounds of food distributed. Many of our partners have used MFB's support to transition to choice-based pantries and to expand their storage of fresh foods.



In FY25, our partners played a crucial role in expanding wraparound services that help neighbors improve and protect their health, such as community health screenings. One powerful example is Catherine's Youth & Family Services. For a decade, they've been providing a lifeline of support for Baltimore City that goes well beyond food assistance: offering essential kidney, liver, cholesterol, and blood pressure checks along with mental health support, household goods, clothing, diapers, and other essentials. As prices skyrocketed and federal funding cuts loomed, Catherine's Youth & Family Services doubled their services and vendors in just two years to keep pace with increased visits. Since becoming an MFB partner in 2022, they've provided more than half a million meals to neighbors in Baltimore City, and they're not slowing down.

## Partner Spotlight: Upward Thrive Academy

Since 2010, Upward Thrive Academy, Inc. (UTA)—a 2025 recipient of the NBC Local Impact Grant Award—has lived its commitment to advancing food security, education, and community wellness for under-resourced families throughout southern Maryland. Its reach is deep, its programs and services are broad, and its impact is wide: all amplified by UTA’s relationships with community members and with other mission-driven organizations.

With support from MFB’s Capacity Grant program, as well as fresh food donations, technical assistance, and retail partnerships, UTA has expanded the capacity and reach of its food access initiatives. What began as a small pantry operating from a basement has grown into a 3,100-square-foot facility with a dedicated kitchen and refrigeration space, enabling UTA to operate Neighbor’s Choice pantries, mobile food distributions, and hot meal programs with dignity and efficiency. UTA now serves approximately **333 households weekly**, provides mobile food deliveries to neighbors experiencing homelessness and homebound older adults, distributes hot meals to residents, and supplies weekend backpack meals to students experiencing food insecurity when school meals are unavailable.

Beyond food access, UTA runs a full slate of Youth Health and Wellness programs that foster physical, emotional, academic, and creative growth, including theater, journalism, youth-led media platforms like Get Up and Goal magazine and Upward Thrive 365 Radio, and health



UTA exists because our community told us what it needed. By working alongside schools, health agencies, and organizations like the Maryland Food Bank, we’re able to reach more people and create sustainable solutions.

— Alicia Hadley, Executive Director, Upward Thrive Academy

initiatives designed and executed in collaboration with the Charles County Department of Health.

UTA exemplifies what MFB seeks in a partner: they offer food and wraparound services rooted in the needs and preferences of Charles County; they meet immediate needs and help individuals and communities create pathways out of food insecurity and toward greater financial security; and they are eager to collaborate—with neighbors, and with other nonprofits. We are honored to work with this incredible organization, and thrilled to see what the future holds for our partnership.

# Together *for* Progress



MFB is working to create a food-secure Maryland—not just by providing food assistance, but through innovative programs that address the root causes of hunger. In FY25, we expanded our commitment to a broad, forward-looking strategy for Maryland. We deepened our investment in core programs that nourish communities and help set Maryland on a course toward greater prosperity. Together, these programs do more than meet immediate need: they generate insights, partnerships, and momentum that inform systems-level change.

## Creating Opportunity

FoodWorks is a transformational, 12-week intensive culinary skills program that prepares trainees for food service careers. This year, we celebrated **FoodWorks' 15-year anniversary.** A special highlight included hosting an Alumni Career Fair for trainees and graduates, creating the opportunity for them to showcase their skills and make valuable connections. FoodWorks is integral to our mission and to the relationships we build. This year included exciting partnerships with organizations such as The Ugly Duckling Café, the New Psalmist Baptist Church, SECU Credit Union, the Salisbury University

## BUILDING A HUNGER-FREE FUTURE

Entrepreneur Center, and many others. Through these collaborations, FoodWorks students gain exposure to both career pathways and hands-on experience—and MFB is a crucial part of Maryland's workforce development ecosystem.

## Inspiring Curiosity

Our nutrition education program helps young people learn where their food comes from and how to plan and cook healthy meals. In FY25, we launched two new youth nutrition programs. Our In-Class Youth Nutrition Workshops teach children about healthy eating, inspiring curiosity while equipping students with the skills to make food choices that support lifelong health. Our Garden Youth Nutrition Workshops take place in the Maryland Food Bank's Education and Demonstration Garden, where children learn by doing: planting, harvesting, and preparing food from the garden. As of Fall 2025, we have completed **77 In-Class Youth Nutrition Workshops and nine Garden Youth Nutrition Workshops,** reaching students from pre-kindergarten through high school.

## Raising Our Voices for Maryland

On a bright and cold day in January 2025, staff and volunteers of the Maryland Food Bank arrived in Annapolis for the first-ever Maryland Food Bank



Advocacy Day with a message for state lawmakers: we need you in the fight to end hunger. Throughout the morning, 20 MFB staff members and volunteers met with legislators, sharing our 2025 Legislative Agenda and discussing food insecurity in each legislative district. It was a productive and energizing experience—one that builds on the incredible work our advocacy team has done to date, and serves as an inflection point for the growing importance of advocacy work moving forward.

### Speaking Out for Food Security

The second half of FY25 brought a series of shocks to the U.S. charitable food system, including cuts to critical and high-performing programs such as the Local Food Purchase Assistance (LFPA) Cooperative Agreement Program. MFB was at the forefront of our sector's response. CEO Meg Kimmel penned op-eds for Maryland Matters and appeared in many local and national media interviews, helping to inform and reassure our partners and the public. These efforts highlighted how MFB is innovating to meet emerging challenges—and how individuals and organizations could support that work. As the impact of federal cuts begins to be felt on the ground, we continue to leverage our insights and share our solutions with other food banks who are facing the same challenges nationwide, as well as our partners within Maryland.

## Partner Spotlight: Bria Evans

OWNER | FRESH START MOBILE SERVICES



*FoodWorks gave Bria Evans a fresh start after she lost her job in physical therapy. Now she is giving others the same opportunity as the founder of her own nonprofit organization, Fresh Start Mobile Services. Each week, interns come to Fresh Start to learn from Bria what she first learned at FoodWorks: hands-on culinary skills and experience catering for Johns Hopkins University and other organizations in the region. As the Director of Operations and Head Chef for the Requity Foundation by day and founder and trainer by night, Bria's schedule is full—and when she sees students thrive, give back to the community, and build positive relationships through Fresh Start, her heart is just as full.*

# Together **we** Will

## PREPARING FOR THE ROAD AHEAD

What the Maryland Food Bank offers is simple, but vital. Food is critical for us to survive—but for every Marylander to thrive, we need policies and systems that support and nourish us. The through-lines that link today's reality and tomorrow's promise of flourishing communities? Working together for the greater good.

In FY25, everywhere we looked, we saw the power—and impact—of partnership.

### For a Stronger MFB

Operation Innovate, a recently-implemented systems overhaul that has transformed MFB's operations, began with one simple question: *How can we leverage technology to better support our network of partners?*

From ideation to implementation, Operation Innovate was a two-year journey. We assembled a cross-functional team to explore opportunities across customer relationship management, partner online ordering, finance, operations, inventory, and warehouse systems, drawing on insights from sister Feeding America food banks and guidance from expert consultants.

In February 2025, that work culminated in a comprehensive technology overhaul—modernizing our core systems to be more efficient and user-friendly. The result: faster access to timely, actionable insights that empower teams to make better decisions. And as icing on the cake,

our consultants called it the smoothest go-live they'd ever seen.

We're so proud of how we approached Operation Innovate: from leadership creating time and space to prioritize this work, to the depth and breadth of our research and preparation, to the expansiveness of our vision, to what it will ultimately set us up to do: offer our partners a better experience by connecting us all with the information systems we need to act quickly, with confidence, and with the right information at our fingertips.

The success of this project is a testament to the power of partnership—within the organization, and with our generous donors. Operation Innovate would not have been possible without the **\$5.75 million gift from the Clark Foundation:** the largest private gift in MFB's history.



### For the Fight Ahead

In March 2025, the USDA cut more than \$1 billion in funding to the LFPA—and, a few weeks later, announced a \$500 million cut to The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP). For years, these programs had been cornerstones of the Feeding America network’s food supply, making it easier and more affordable for the nation’s charitable food system to offer fresh, healthy food to neighbors, and supporting U.S. farmers and food producers. For the Maryland Food Bank, these cuts meant a **loss of \$4.4 million** (or about 4% of our budget) in both financial support for food purchasing and in direct food donations through TEFAP.

In the wake of these cuts, the Maryland Food Bank team mobilized, immediately. Our leadership team began to strategize about how to meet historic levels of need with reduced resources. We spoke out publicly about the risks of operating at less than full potential, and how we might mitigate it. And we clearly and quickly communicated program changes to our statewide network of partners, so that they, too, understood the impact of these federal cuts on their ability to access nutritious food from MFB.

### For A Brighter Future

As we look toward a future of known and unknown challenges for federal funding and increasing pressures on the charitable food system, the Maryland Food Bank remains steadfast in advocating for Maryland communities. We are grateful to you, our donors and friends, for standing with us and for generously sharing your time, treasure, and tenacity with us—and we are glad to know we can count on you as we take on the work ahead of us.

Our community stepped up in myriad ways throughout FY25. From our tireless volunteers to our forward-looking partners and our visionary donors, your commitment helped ensure that MFB was able to keep our promise to be where our neighbors need us, no matter what.

We have a long way to go. But together, we will get there. Together, we’ll build a future that works for **all of us**.



# Financial Summary



A LETTER FROM  
SUE ZAVOYNA  
CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

For me, the most gratifying accomplishment of FY25 is how clearly you can see our mission in our financial results.

In FY25, 68% of MFB's total expenses were associated with food acquisition, including purchased food and in-kind contributions. Another 22% of MFB's total expenses went toward program design and execution, including the work it takes to get nutritious food into our neighbors' hands and homes. Collectively, **90% of our expenses** directly support our mission: an incredible testament to our commitment to ending food insecurity, and to working in ways that prioritize the health and dignity of our neighbors.

Expenditures for purchased food are among the highest in MFB's history. When I first began my tenure as CFO in 2019, MFB's food purchasing budget was \$6 million. In FY25, it was \$22 million. This is an intentional investment in the health of our state: purchasing more of our food allows us to offer neighbors fresh, nutritious, high-quality, and culturally-preferred foods.

Our FY25 financials do not yet reflect the full impact of the significant federal funding cuts announced this spring. Those cuts are a real and pressing challenge. In response, we built our FY26 budget with the expectation of operating at a deficit. As we always have, we will meet this moment with creativity, thoughtfulness, and compassion—ensuring we are ready to serve the neighbors who will increasingly turn to the charitable food network as changes to SNAP benefits take effect in the years ahead.

Our success will be possible because of our donors, who freely give their time, their ingenuity, and their philanthropic support.

Thank you for all you do to strengthen MFB, uplift our communities, and ensure Maryland is a better place for every neighbor.

In gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sue Zavoyna". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Join us. **Together**

We will make Maryland's future one we can all be proud to share:

Make a gift



Volunteer



# REVENUE



# CONTRIBUTIONS & GRANTS

Individuals

35%

Government

33%

Foundations

17%

Corporate

8%

Organizations

7%

## Financial Activities

	2025	2024
<b>Revenue</b>		
In-kind Food Donations	\$50,040,000	\$49,831,000
Contributions & Grants	43,878,000	37,483,000
Other	13,855,000	14,568,000
<b>Total Support &amp; Revenue</b>	<b>\$107,773,000</b>	<b>\$101,882,000</b>
<b>Expenses</b>		
Program Services (90%)	\$93,952,000	\$90,735,000
Management & General (5%)	5,536,000	4,031,000
Fundraising (5%)	5,656,000	5,108,000
<b>Total Expenses*</b>	<b>\$105,144,000</b>	<b>\$99,874,000</b>
<b>Change in Net Assets</b>	<b>\$2,629,000</b>	<b>\$2,008,000</b>

## Financial Position

	2025	2024
<b>Assets</b>		
Cash, Cash Equivalents & Investments	\$35,372,000	\$31,679,000
Other Assets	12,060,000	11,838,000
Property & Equipment, Net	21,533,000	21,005,000
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$68,965,000</b>	<b>\$64,522,000</b>
<b>Liabilities &amp; Net Assets</b>		
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$11,153,000</b>	<b>\$9,339,000</b>
<b>Total Net Assets</b>	<b>\$57,812,000</b>	<b>\$55,183,000</b>
<b>Total Liabilities &amp; Net Assets</b>	<b>\$68,965,000</b>	<b>\$64,522,000</b>

\*Total Expenses includes approximately \$2.1 million and \$1.6 million of depreciation (noncash) expense in FY25 and FY24, respectively.



FOR ME, THE GOAL  
IS SIMPLE

DIGNITY TODAY,  
**FOOD SECURITY  
TOMORROW**

MEG KIMMEL | PRESIDENT & CEO, MARYLAND FOOD BANK

## FY25 *Board of* Directors

### *Officers*

**Mike Blair, Board Chair**  
Johnson, Mirmiran & Thompson, Inc

**Robert Thomas, Vice Chair**  
Anti-Hunger Champion

**Derrick Dickens, Secretary**  
BGE

**Mary Kate Federico, Treasurer**  
Ernst & Young

**Terry Squyres, Past Chair**  
GWWO Architects

### *Directors*

**Bill Dockman**  
Anti-Hunger Champion

**Nancy Haines**  
Allegis Group, Inc.

**Dyani Hanrahan**  
Giant Food

**Senator Shaneka Henson**  
Maryland State Delegate

**Alia Kemet**  
Shipt

**Namaan "Gary" Miller**  
Perdue Farms

**Rachel O'Neill**  
Travelers Insurance

**Melanie Perreault**  
Towson University

**Dawn Rhodes**  
University of Maryland, Baltimore

**Lori Amos Robinson**  
McCormick & Company, Inc

**Michael Roden**  
CBRE Industrial Logistics

**David D. Schriver, Jr.**  
Ellin & Tucker

**Bob Waldman**  
Venable

**Teresa Woodard**  
T. Rowe Price Associates

### *Ex Officio*

**Meg Kimmel**  
Maryland Food Bank  
President & CEO



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