



Hershey Food Bank

2022 Report

The Hershey Food Bank is a 501 (c) (3) *all-volunteer* organization that has served the Hershey/Derry Township community for over 55 years. In 2022, our wonderful volunteers contributed 9,318 hours of service.

The Families We Serve: At the end of the year the food bank had 243 registered families, representing 575 individuals. Some families use the food bank twice a month, some once, and some less often. The number of families changes slightly from month to month as some families become successful and no longer need our support, or move out of the area, and several new ones regularly apply to use our services.

- There are 195 children in the families we serve.
- Many clients are the working poor, underemployed, single parents, and those with disabilities.
- We serve individuals and families of many backgrounds: White, Black, Hispanic, Eastern European, Middle Eastern, Nepalese, African, etc.
- The Food Bank does not discriminate on any basis and we are committed to providing an inclusive and welcoming environment for everyone.

An average of 244 families used the food bank each month.

- **Families Served in 2022: 2,844**
- **Individuals Served in 2022: 7,464**

The Food We Provided: In 2022, food bank clients received **230,113** pounds of food.

Food Purchased:	145,920 lbs.
Food Donated:	81,807 lbs.
Food from inventory:	2,386 lbs.

We are a client choice food bank where families using a shopping cart shop for the items they need and use. Unfortunately, in the last couple of years new protocols had to be put in place due to Covid, to keep everyone healthy and safe. However, we are happy to announce that we are returning to the client shopping experience again in March 2023.

The Food We Provide:

Each family receives a variety of:

- Meats
- Frozen vegetables
- Dairy products such as milk, eggs, cheese and yogurt
- Fresh seasonal produce, such as potatoes, carrots, onions, cabbage, celery, tomatoes, cucumbers, apples, grapes, peaches, watermelon, etc.
- Non-perishable items, such as canned fruits, vegetables, pasta, cereals, juices, etc.
- Bread and dessert items.
- Paper and personal care items, such as shampoo, deodorant, tooth paste, toilet paper, tissues, laundry detergent, diapers, etc.

Additional Assistance We Provided

- Emergency utilities and rental assistance: 30 families (total of 90 individuals)
- At Christmas, 360 gift cards were given to our families' children. Many were generously donated by local churches, friends, and groups.
- Referrals to other agencies for additional services.

Our Funding Sources:

We are blessed by, and very appreciative of, a wonderful and caring community that is very supportive of our organization's mission and those we serve. Thank you!

Our financial support is received from:

- Local churches 12%
- Businesses 4%
- Individuals 27%
- Organizations 5%
- Grants 9%
- Fundraisers 43%



Our Clients' Voices:

Happily, we will no longer be using the food bank since I am now employed and fortunate to have sufficient income. I truly appreciate all you have done for us over the last couple of years. We couldn't have made it without you being there for us. I plan to give generously to the organization as soon as I am able to. We will never forget the kindness, generosity, and love that we have received.

Thank you for all you do for our family, and so many others. Your generosity is both inspiring and encouraging to those weary in spirit. We are very grateful to all of you! May the Lord bless you abundantly.

I thank you so much for the help with my electric bill. I honestly can tell you that I was so stressed and anxiety was getting to me knowing I would have the electricity shut off, and had no one to turn to. You never know how much I appreciate all you do for me and my kids.

Thank you for all you have done for me after my mom passed and even before. I will never forget how much your kindness and caring helped me through this very difficult time. You are one of God's angels on earth.

I just wanted to say thank you for the kids gift cards at Christmas time. With me being ill and not able to work as much lately, I am forever thankful to you for making their Christmas a happy time. I am also thankful for the \$50 flagship cinema gift card. Our family hasn't been to the movies in a very long time and the kids are so excited to go. Thank you for always thinking of my family during the year. We appreciate it so much! God bless you for all you do for our family.

I would like to start by saying thank you so much for your donations to my family this Christmas. It has helped a lot because this year we are going through a very hard time economically. We are behind on our bills and we didn't have anything extra for presents for the kids. Thanks to your generosity our children did have a Christmas.