Food Gatherers has earned Feeding America’s Advocacy Hall of Fame status for 2021!

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Since the Great Recession, Food Gatherers has strategically invested in the capacity of our diverse network of partners. Last fiscal year, we provided food, deliveries, trainings, and cash grants valued at more than $14 million to our network. With pantries and programs located throughout the County, groceries are available somewhere every day of the week, including weekends and evenings, and even by delivery!

As we face yet another COVID winter, we are still inspired to learn more and do more. Last fall, Food Gatherers convened an Agency Advisory Group, reflective of the diversity of our network, to contribute valuable insights into the design, implementation, and evaluation of our efforts. As a result of their work, Food Gatherers recently launched a new Outreach Partner/Ambassador program. This program invites community members to connect neighbors to existing resources in the community and provide feedback to Food Gatherers about the barriers people face when trying to access services. Specifically, we are seeking partners who are bilingual, are BIPOC community members, or work with specific populations. To learn more about being an Outreach Partner/Ambassador, please visit www.foodgatherers.org/outreach.

Food Gatherers’ partnerships are truly the backbone of hunger-relief work in Washtenaw County. It is only through working together that we can drive collective change and meet the challenges and opportunities ahead to build a resilient community served by an equitable food system.

We look forward to the innovative solutions this year will bring!

See a complete list of our partners at www.foodgatherers.org/partners.

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Annual food and fund drive hosted by local Rotary clubs. To learn more visit www.foodgatherers.org/rotary.

Stamp Out Hunger
Saturday, May 14
The nation’s largest single food drive sponsored by the National Association of Letter Carriers. Look for details in your mailbox.

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Sunday, June 12
Save the date and stay tuned for all the details!

Food Gatherers is committed to sound fiscal management, accountability, and transparency. For the 17th year in a row, Food Gatherers received a four-star rating from Charity Navigator, putting us in the top 1% of charities nationwide. We also earned the Platinum Seal of Transparency from GuideStar.

Food distribution volunteers and guests at partner programs in Washtenaw County. Photos courtesy of Jewish Family Services, U-M Maize and Blue Cupboard, Food Gatherers.

Food Gatherers Main Office
1 Carrot Way, Ann Arbor, MI 48105
Phone: 734-761-2796
Website: www.foodgatherers.org
Email: info@foodgatherers.org
Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, @foodgatherers

Your support matters. Give now to share food and hope this year: www.foodgatherers.org/WNL22
Food Gatherers Annual Report
FY2021: July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021

Fighting Hunger Together

Thank you for joining us for another year of fighting hunger where we live! As donors, volunteers, and compassionate neighbors, you are making a difference in the lives of our neighbors facing hunger. As you read the annual report, please take a moment to celebrate the power of our shared commitment to building a healthy and food-secure community. We also invite you to view the extended digital report online at www.foodgatherers.org/FY21. Thank you for driving this important work!

In fiscal year 2021, Food Gatherers distributed more than 9 million pounds of food — the equivalent of 7.5 million meals!
- More than 60% was fresh produce or protein.
- On average, Food Gatherers and our network distributed about 20,607 meals per day.
- Rescued food accounted for 21% of the total food distributed.

Welcome New Partners

In fiscal year 2021, our hunger-relief network expanded to include:
- Berea City of Hope
- Creekside Court (Community Action Network)
- Cross Street Village
- FedUp Ministries
- Masjid At-Taqwa
- U-M Maize and Blue Cupboard, North Campus
- VA Ann Arbor Healthcare System
- Whitmore Lake High School
- Ypsilanti Evangelical Friends Church

Program Highlights

- Food Gatherers’ Community Kitchen served 65,456 meals at the Delonis Center in Ann Arbor.
- The Healthy School Pantry Program distributed 646,000 pounds of fresh produce and healthy groceries during the 2020-2021 school year, serving 1,300 families (including 1,336 children) each month, at 14 local schools.
- The Summer Food Service Program (2020) served 75,343 meals to children at 24 sites in Ann Arbor, Ypsilanti, Milan, and Whitmore Lake.

Volunteers

At our warehouse and Community Kitchen, 1,281 volunteers and National Guard members inspected, sorted, and packaged food, and prepared and served meals. They provided 43,487 hours of service!

Board of Directors

Simon Whitelocke, Chair, Vice President, ITC Holdings Corporation
Frank Carollo, Vice Chair, Retired, Zingerman’s Bakehouse
Jim Lee, Secretary, Altarum Fellow, Altarum Institute
Christopher Tressler, Treasurer, Senior Director of Finance and Asset Accounting, Wacker Chemical Corporation
Eileen Spring, President & CEO, Food Gatherers

Susan Aaronson, Didactic Program Director, U-M School of Public Health
Felicia Brabeck, Michigan House of Representatives, 55th District; Psychologist/Social Worker
Gary Bruder, Attorney, Bruder PLC
Tony Denton, Senior Vice President and Chief Operating Officer, U-M Health System
Kevin DiCola, Regional Director of Communications, St. Joseph Mercy Health System

Neil Dority, Chief of Staff, Vice President for Government Relations, U-M
Mary Ken, President & CEO, Destination Ann Arbor
Cindy Leung, Assistant Professor, Department of Nutritional Sciences, U-M School of Public Health
Carla O’Connor, Arthur F. Thurnau Professor, U-M School of Education; Director, U-M Wolverine Pathways
David Rhoades, Vice President, Digital Operations, Dawn Foods
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Upcoming Events