

Annual Report 2017-2018



 Channel One
Regional
Food Bank

 FEEDING
AMERICA
A member of

Our Mission

To work in partnership
with others to help feed
people in need.

The last year has been a year of transition for Channel One – I became the Executive Director mid-year, Vince McCoy retired after 29 years of establishing and growing Channel One’s food rescue operation, and several staff members were promoted internally, creating openings for excited new team members. What has struck me the most during my first year at Channel One is how it brings both food and people together – from the caring volunteers that come to Channel One Food Shelf weekly, dedicated staff members, people organizing the food shelves and meal programs in communities across the 14-county region, the food donors from big box stores to farmers to student food drives, and the clients who need us – from seniors to elementary school children.

I have spent my first months at Channel One learning about the communities that Channel One supports – from Cannon Falls and Red Wing to La Crosse, Austin, and east to Blue Earth. Channel One is an important part of many communities – and while each community that Channel One touches is unique, they all have one thing in common: people passionate about helping their neighbors. Many food shelves in the region are completely run by volunteers – and those that do have staff rely on volunteers for many of the day-to-day operations. Many food shelves in the region are also the place that people in need go to first, serving as an entry point to programs that help people meet other basic needs. Food brings people together to take care of each other in many ways. Spring 2018 Channel One began a year-long strategic planning process. We’re bringing people together – clients, volunteers, food shelves, meal programs, partner programs, University of Minnesota Extension, social services providers, nutritionists, community members, staff, and volunteers to ask what the communities we serve want and need from us and to create a common vision for a hunger free region. Thanks to all of you who have given your time to plan with us – we cannot wait to share the new strategic plan with you this fall and to continue to learn from you and grow with you!

From Alden to Winona, thank you for helping your neighbors in need. Over the coming year, I hope to visit with as many of our partners as possible and work with you to end hunger! On behalf of the entire Channel One staff and board, thank you for helping Channel One to achieve our mission across the region! --Virginia Merritt, Executive Director



Board of Directors

Susan Ahlquist, Chair

Community Volunteer

Nick Leimer, Vice-Chair

Kraus-Anderson Construction Company

Jerad Faudi, Corporate Officer

Sterling State Bank

Karna Hagen-Moskalik, Corporate Officer

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church

Chad DeCook, Secretary

Think Mutual Bank

Abdul Bengali, Member

Mayo Clinic, Emeritus

Joe Gasior, Member

Post Consumer Brands

Craig Koenig, Member

TG Development Expense

Laura Lee, Member

KAAL TV ABC 6 News

Courtney Logli, Member

Dunlap & Seeger, P.A.

Stanley Osuagwu, Member

Hormel Foods, LLC

Marty Putz, Member

Kwik Trip, Inc.

Christopher Rock, Member

Mayo Clinic

Sharon Rosen, Member

Mayo Clinic



Who We Serve

Channel One distributes food to low-income families and individuals in partnership with area food shelves, meal programs, group homes, and shelters throughout a 14-county service area in Southeast Minnesota and Western Wisconsin.

Volunteers

Helping Channel One feed people and change lives

2,803

Total Volunteers

34,249

Total Hours Volunteered

16.47

Full-Time Employee Equivalent

Kelly Hain (pictured above) has volunteered at Channel One since November 2017. Her volunteer journey at Channel One began when a friend asked her to join her, and she thought, "I have the time. I can volunteer and help out." What Kelly didn't expect was how much she would enjoy volunteering at Channel One. "The first night I volunteered I was so nervous! I didn't know what to expect," said Kelly. "Now I feel like I am helping out at a little grocery store. I did not expect to enjoy it as much as I do. Great people!" What is Kelly's favorite part of her volunteer experience at Channel One? "I do feel like I make a difference," said Kelly. "I like how I feel after I have helped out. Very rewarding for the soul!"

Nutrition Assistance Program for Seniors

Helping end hunger for our seniors in need through monthly deliveries of pre-packed nutritious food boxes

62

Distribution Sites

1,650

Individuals Served

14,608

NAPS Boxes Distributed





Backpack and School Pantry Program

Fighting childhood hunger by providing backpacks of food on weekends, snacks, and school pantries for children in need

23

Schools

1,302

Students Served

137,941

Pounds of Food Distributed

“In my job, I work with a variety of underserved populations - special education students, low-income families, minorities, and those with substance abuse and mental health issues. I have come to greatly value the support that Channel One provides to these groups. Initially, Channel One provided backpacks filled with food for families who would otherwise run short over a weekend. With the collaboration of local churches, the backpacks were delivered to the schools at the end of the week for distribution to those in need. Students and families often expressed appreciation for the backpacks, and told our teachers and other staff how much it meant to them. The food program has evolved and changed over the years to accommodate more students and families, and Channel One has gone so far as to implement food shelves at the secondary schools in our district. They continue to look for ways to reduce stigma and to remove barriers that still exist to providing food to those who need it, both at school and in the broader community. I am pleased when the students I work with openly talk about how they have used the food shelf at school, taken a backpack home, or accompanied their families to the Supplemental Food Shelf. It is a tribute to those who have supported the partnership between Channel One and the school system through food donations, labor and monetary contributions; and I can only hope that these organizations will have the resources to continue this collaboration in the years to come. It is very important that they do.”

-- Nikki Hansen, LICSW, Rochester Public Schools

Green Gardens

Empowering families to supplement their food budgets with the ability to grow their own fresh produce

113

Households Served

392

Individuals Served

116

Garden Plots Used



Supplemental Food Shelf

Providing Olmsted County residents in need food security through a monthly, five day supply of food

42,275

Total Household Visits

119,943

Individuals Served

3,884,832

Pounds of Food Distributed



*Positively
Impacting Our
Community*

“[Channel One has] exceptional staff working with clients who are down on their luck. Receptionists and intake [staff] are extremely kind and compassionate, very thorough and readily available to answer questions. Thanks, Channel One staff, for making a tough time a lot easier!”

“Such a helpful and beautiful place in the community to receive help when you need it. We’ve all struggled, and we all know how hard it is to swallow that pride to ask for help. The people here are absolutely amazing, so caring, and beyond helpful!”



Mobile Pantry

Helping end hunger through the delivery of nutritious food to underserved areas

6

Distribution Sites

3

Counties Served

465,765

Pounds of Food Distributed

Food Bank

Collaborating with our partners to end
hunger for over 100,000 individuals
in need in our region

179

Agency Program Partners

2,010,780

Healthy Produce Pounds Distributed

10,413,136

Total pounds of Food Distributed



Our Donors are Inspirational

“A few years back, Channel One asked me, ‘Would you be willing to tell the story of why you donate to Channel One almost every week?’ Recently I was asked again. Rather than just say no, which is what I usually do, I asked, ‘To what end?’ The answer surprised me, ‘To see if your reasons would inspire others to do the same.’ To me, the reasons for my regular giving seem simple and uncomplicated. If sharing some thoughts inspires at least one person to join me in quiet, consistent giving, maybe it is worth sharing after all. So... for what it is worth, this is what drives me.

It does not matter how much money you make, what color you are, where you go to church or if you go to church, what your politics are, what your gender is, what your orientation is, where you were born, where you currently live, or how you think or feel about anything... there are four things you NEED: Food, water, shelter, and clothing. In my mind, donating to a good organization that provides any of these four items to people in need is the most inclusive way I can help my neighbor. Hunger does not discriminate. Hunger does not care about race, political views, geographical borders, gender, religious affiliations, or any of the thousands of ways people find to separate themselves into groups. When I give to Channel One, all I see are hungry people... and I want to help.

As silly as it may sound, I insist on forcing myself to go to the Channel One website every week to make my donation. It is important to me that I remind myself there are people in need. I must never forget that, and I must help with no strings attached. In my mind, when I hit the submit button, I am saying: At this moment, I set all my human weakness and biases aside. No matter who you are, what you think, or how you got here, please, let me get you some food!

For me, it is that simple. I'm sure others do the same thing for pretty much the same reasons. I do hope others join the list of frequent givers. Even small gifts like mine seem to help.”

-- *Anonymous Regular Donor*

Ending Hunger, Improving Nutrition

Our numerous partners who have chosen to take a stand against hunger allow Channel One Regional Food Bank to continue feeding people and changing lives throughout our region. One of these many partners is Featherstone Farm (pictured on the right), a certified organic farm that grows around 75 varieties of fruits and veggies for Community Supported Agriculture members and wholesale customers throughout Southeastern Minnesota and the Twin Cities. With 22 years of experience, Featherstone Farm is committed to sustainable farming practices, fair labor, and green energy use to provide local consumers with the freshest, healthiest produce possible.



A partner for over 15 years, Featherstone Farm participates in the Farm to Food Shelf Program and has generously donated over 145,000 pounds of food to Channel One Regional Food Bank to help us end food insecurity and increase our clients' access to fresh, healthy produce. The Farm to Food Shelf grant was approved by the Minnesota Legislature to help offset Minnesota growers' costs to harvest and package donated fruits and vegetables that would otherwise go unharvested or be discarded. The food is then donated to participating food banks to help ensure all people struggling with hunger have access to healthy foods.

Channel One Regional Food Bank appreciates Featherstone Farm's commitment to feeding people in need and values each and every partner that works beside us to help end hunger for our neighbors in need!

2017-2018 Food Donors

Aldi
Bimbo Bakeries
Birdseye Foods
Bisek Gardens
Boy Scouts Food Drive
Brakebush Wells
Bread Baker
Brownberry Bread
Burt's Meats & Poultry
Bushel Boy Farms
Byron Marketplace
Cargill
Caribou Coffee
Cashwise Store
Coca Cola of Owatonna
Costco
Cub Foods
D & R Vending
Department of Natural Resources
Eagle Transport
Fareway Foods
Faribault Dairy
Faribault Foods
Featherstone Farm
Firefly Berry Farm
Fireside Orchard
Federal Medical Center
Food Service Specialties
Frito Lay

Gardens of Eagan
Girl Scouts
Great Harvest Bread Co.
Great Lakes Cheese
Green Machine Farm
Greenwood Plants
Haven School
Heartbeet Farms
Hill & Vale Farms
Hilltop Farm
Holiday Stations
Hormel Foods
Hy-Vee
IBI Data
Jenny's Greenhouse
Jimmy's Dressings
Jirek Produce
J.R. Watkins
K.B. Poultry
Kathan's Orchard
Kemps
Kwik Trip
Lakeside Foods
Lee's Apples
Master Gardeners
McLane Minnesota
Merrill's Merri Bees
Mrs. Gerry's Kitchen
National Letter Carriers

Natural Grocers
Nelson's Apple Farm
Northwoods Orchard
Old Dutch
Olmsted County Dairy Assoc.
Olmsted County History Center
Pace Dairy Foods
Panera
Peatland Reds
Pepin Heights Orchard
People's Food Co-op
Pepin Heights Orchard
Pepperidge Farm
Pepsi Rochester
Peterson Farm
Post Holdings
Potato King
Real Hope for the Hungry
Reichel Foods
Reinhart Food Service
Revol Greens
R-Four Meats
Riverland Distributing
Rochester Farmers Market
Rochester Meats
Rochester Youth Hockey Assoc.
Sacia Orchard
Salvo Farms
Sam's Club

Seeds Farm
Sekapp Orchard
Seneca Foods
Sno Pac Foods
Sogn Valley Orchards
Southwind Orchard
Stellphlug Farm
Straight River Farm
Sturdi Wheat
Sweet Harvest
Target
Thoreson Farm
Treasure Island
Trump Orchard
Upper Lakes Foods
Van Erkel Farms
Van Lin Orchard
Ventura Foods
WAFER
Walgreens
Walmart
Wescott Orchard
Witzell Farm
Whitewater Gardens
Wholesale Distribution Service
Wit
Witzell Farm
Whitewater Gardens
Wholesale Distribution Services

2017-2018 Audited Financials

Statement of Financial Position June 30, 2018

| Assets (includes value of donated product) | |
|---|---------------------|
| Cash and Cash Equivalents | \$ 776,389 |
| Certificates of Deposit | 236,229 |
| Accounts Receivable | 120,895 |
| Pledges and Contributions Receivable | 175,792 |
| Inventories | 823,617 |
| Prepaid Expenses | 35,742 |
| Property and Equipment, net | 2,790,810 |
| Beneficial Interest in Perpetual Trust | 606,063 |
| Interest in the Net Assets of The Rochester Area Foundation | 10,000 |
| Long-Term Portion of Pledges and Contributions Receivable, Net | 167 |
| Total Assets | \$ 5,575,704 |
| Liabilities and Net Assets | |
| Current Liabilities | |
| Accounts Payable | \$ 50,805 |
| Accrued Payroll and Related Liabilities | 135,837 |
| Current Portion of Long-Term Debt | 22,790 |
| Total Current Liabilities | 209,432 |
| Long-Term Liabilities | |
| Long-Term Debt | 179,981 |
| Net Assets | |
| Unrestricted | 4,246,177 |
| Temporarily Restricted | 318,084 |
| Permanently Restricted | 622,030 |
| Total Net Assets | 5,186,291 |
| Total Liabilities and Net Assets | \$ 5,575,704 |

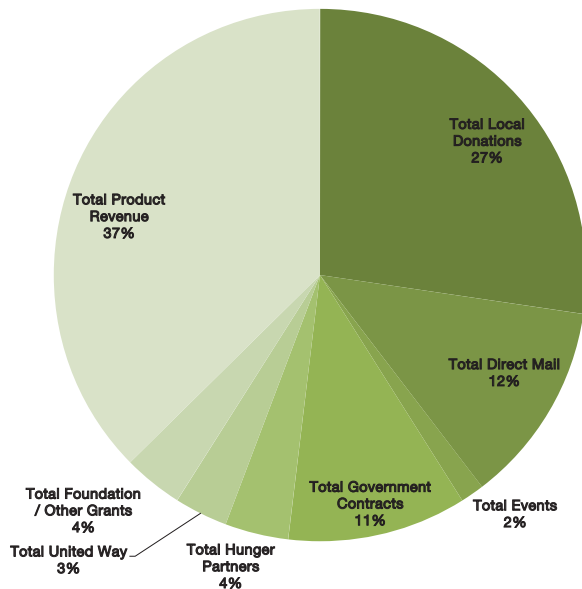
Statement of Activities For Year Ended June 30, 2018

| Public Support and Revenue | |
|---|---------------------|
| Public Support | |
| Contributed Food | \$ 14,007,062 |
| Contributions | 1,545,315 |
| United Way Agencies | 103,096 |
| Change in Value of Perpetual Trust | 7,394 |
| Government Agencies | 347,663 |
| Total Public Support | 16,010,530 |
| Revenue | |
| Program Services | 1,194,160 |
| Investment Income | 3,277 |
| Miscellaneous | 35,544 |
| Total Revenue | 1,232,981 |
| Total Public Support and Revenue | 17,243,511 |
| Expenses | |
| Program Services | |
| Food Bank | 16,001,447 |
| Commodity Supplemental Food Prog. | 398,809 |
| Supplemental Food Shelf | 290,425 |
| Back Pack Program | 123,806 |
| Other | 24,781 |
| Total Program Services | 16,839,268 |
| Supporting Services | |
| General and Administrative | 402,693 |
| Fundraising | 309,927 |
| Total Expense | 17,551,888 |
| Change in Net Assets | |
| Net Assets - Beginning | 5,494,668 |
| Net Assets - Ending | \$ 5,186,291 |

*The change in net assets is due to a \$109,042 decrease in donated inventory and a \$199,335 deficit from operations.

2017-18 Actual Revenue

*Does not include value of contributed food.



2017-18 Actual Expenses

*Does not include value of contributed food.

