

FOODSHARE

Annual Report
2017



**Weaving a
patchwork for
our future.**

A Note From Our President & CEO

Jason Jakubowski



Jason and his family at Foodshare.

2017 was a year of tremendous accomplishment at Foodshare.

Having lived in Connecticut for my entire life, I certainly knew of the stellar reputation and work of Foodshare... but it wasn't until I began my work as President and CEO in July that I realized just how special our community food bank is.

From the first time I rode along on a Mobile Foodshare truck to my very first Turkey and 30 event, I was in awe again and again – of both the passion of our supporters and the genuine need of the people we serve. Connecticut is the richest state in America... and the fact that 127,000 people in Hartford and Tolland counties don't have access to enough food is wholly unacceptable. I believe we have a moral obligation to end hunger in our community... and that is what drives all of us here at Foodshare.

2017 was a year of transition and transformation, and also tremendous accomplishment. All of this work sets the stage for the future. We are changing what it means to be a food bank, and the impact of Foodshare has never been more important.

Thank you for making 2017 a successful year!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jason".



Our Mission

We will lead an informed, coordinated response to hunger in our community.

Over the past year, Foodshare has refocused our mission to help us achieve our full potential and sharpen our work.

Providing food for people who are hungry has been at the heart of who we are for over 35 years. With food assistance as our cornerstone, we will continue this work for as long as there are people in need.

But it takes more than food to end hunger.

Hunger is just one piece of a patchwork of social issues, and it requires solutions that address the root causes and consequences. This is the work that lies ahead.

We will continue to distribute food to people who need it today, and we will prioritize healthy, nutritious food. We will also work with multiple partners including anti-hunger organizations, policy makers, and the broader community to build effective solutions to end hunger.

Foodshare plays a leadership role with one end goal: securing a hunger-free Greater Hartford as our legacy to future generations.

We are under no illusions about the challenge we are embracing.

Hunger is indeed big. We believe the Foodshare community is bigger.



2017 Highlights

In 2017, Foodshare collected and distributed nearly 12 million meals to our neighbors who struggle with hunger through our network of 300 partner food pantries, meal programs, and Mobile Foodshare sites. And we did much more than that, because it takes more than food to end hunger.

THE POWER OF COMMUNITY

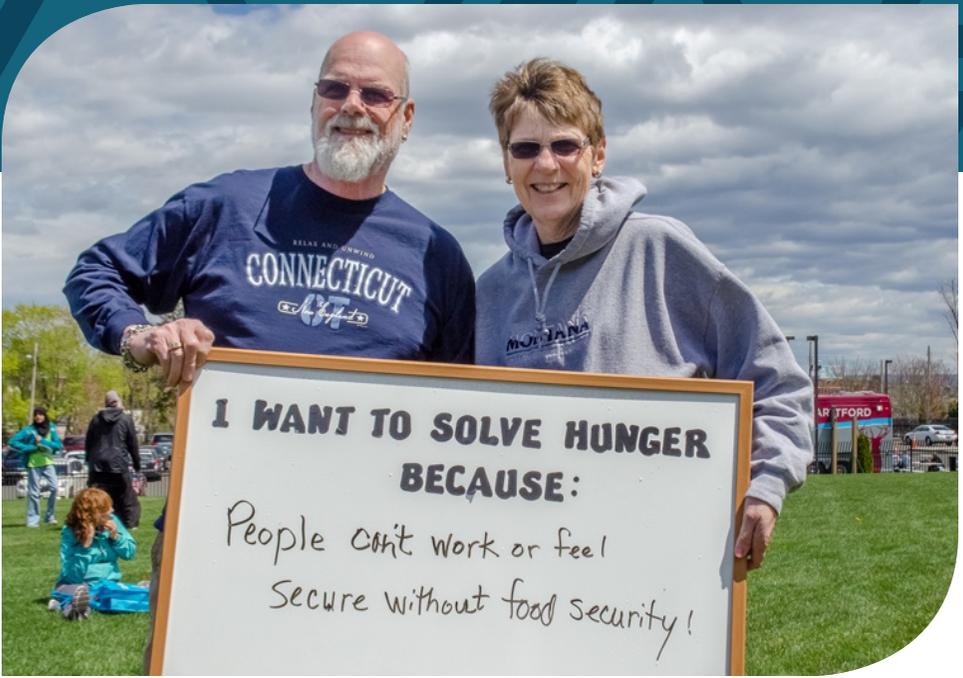
When people join together for a common cause, we can make an incredible difference.

- More than 5,500 volunteers donated enough hours of service to equal 23 additional full-time employees.
- Hunger Action Teams (HATs) leveraged community passion to develop local solutions to hunger, with 19 teams involving over 1,500 people. Teams from across the region joined together for the HAT Symposium to build our collective impact - sharing successes, lessons learned and inspiration.
- The Greater Hartford community pulled together for the Turkey and 30 campaign - helping 15,334 local families celebrate Thanksgiving and raising funds to fight hunger year-round.
- Foodshare collaborated with our friends at Connecticut Food Bank and End Hunger Connecticut! to host the first annual Hungry for Change conference as we work towards a hunger-free Connecticut together.

PRIORITIZING NUTRITION

We continue to seek out new ways to make healthy food and information available for the people we serve.

- Retail Rescue volunteers used their own vehicles to collect an all-time high of 2 million pounds of donated food from local grocery stores – ensuring that safe, perishable food gets to the people who need it most.
- Supporting Wellness at Pantries (SWAP) – a stoplight nutrition ranking system – was introduced at Foodshare and piloted at four partner programs to promote healthy choices for visitors and volunteers at food pantries.



RAISING AWARENESS

The first step to ending hunger is raising awareness about the issue and knowing we can all make a difference.

- The Foodshare Walk Against Hunger brought thousands of people together to take a stand against hunger and raise support for this important cause.
- We offered a range of education programs – including Hunger 101 activities and a Food Justice curriculum for high school and college students – to highlight the experiences of people who face hunger and inspire action.

INCREASING ACCESS TO FOOD

People who struggle with hunger shouldn't struggle to find help.

- SNAP Outreach volunteers helped 470 households apply for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) at local community sites – making it easier for more of our neighbors to access this vital nutrition resource.
- Mobile Foodshare collaborated with 70 community-based organizations to increase access to fresh produce and other food in high-need areas – serving an average of 4,000 people a week.
- We helped more kids access the food they need when school is out through Summer Meals Outreach. Working with community partners we raised awareness and provided fun activities to boost participation.

Thank You

One of the most important highlights from 2017: our accomplishments are only possible with the support and dedication of the community. Foodshare could not do our work without you. Over 96% of our budget is from financial and food donors like you.

Foodshare is grateful for every gift and we extend a heartfelt thank you to each one of our supporters. Whether you donate money, time, or food – or provide service directly to our community – every action makes a difference. With each act of generosity, we are inspired to do this work.

Many of you have expressed the desire that Foodshare spend precious dollars on people and programs rather than creating lengthy lists of names in our Annual Report – and we listened. We invite you to continue to share your thoughts and ideas with us.

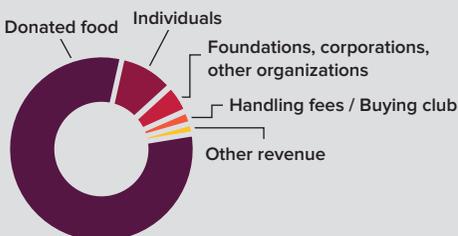
Thank you for helping us ensure that everyone in Greater Hartford has access to enough healthy food.

2017 Financial Report

REVENUE

● Donated Food.....	\$26,078,703
● Individuals.....	\$3,167,250
● Foundations, corporations, other organizations.....	\$1,573,513
● Handling fees / Buying club.....	\$655,829
● Other revenue.....	\$597,724

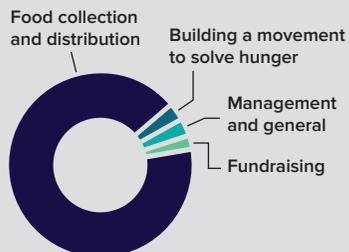
Total Revenue **\$32,073,019**



EXPENSES

● Food collection and distribution.....	\$28,962,780
● Building a movement to solve hunger.....	\$983,143
● Management and general.....	\$982,918
● Fundraising.....	\$754,402

Total Expenses **\$31,683,243**



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David Yandow

Statement of Financial Position

DECEMBER 31, 2017

ASSETS

Current assets \$7,937,491

Land, building and
equipment, net..... \$4,689,389

Total Assets \$12,626,880

LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS

Total liabilities \$732,586

Net assets

Long-term investments and other reserves... \$4,439,581

Designated - land, building, equipment..... \$4,148,416

Designated - food distribution \$3,060,892

Temporarily restricted \$245,405

Total net assets.....\$11,894,294

Total Liabilities and Net Assets \$12,626,880

Note: Information based on preliminary, unaudited financial results.

FY17 audited financial statements available on request or at www.foodshare.org after June 30, 2018.

HUNGER IS BIG.
OUR COMMUNITY IS BIGGER.



FOODSHARE

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MEMBER OF
**FEEDING
AMERICA**

