

MEALS
ON
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2023

ANNUAL REPORT



Ten years ago, 146 individuals made an investment in the future of a small nonprofit organization called Caritas of Port Chester, Inc.

The future vision of that organization was clear. To continue to feed the hungry in Port Chester, this organization wanted to purchase and renovate a building near the downtown church where it was preparing and serving meals and where it was offering food and clothing weekly to local residents.

The plan was to use the new space for a “choice food pantry, permanent clothes distribution, and conference/classroom space.”

The initial capital campaign approved by the board would have two phases. The first phase would be “to purchase and cover the costs of the closing with the goal of \$350,000, [and] to develop the property with a goal of \$600,000.”

I bring this up because those 146 people and 6 board members had the vision for a dedicated home office and partnership with local organizations (in this case, a church) to provide service to the community “in a dignified manner.” It is that commitment to offer support with dignity and respect that drives all our decisions.

We are blessed to have so many of you who were with us in the early days remain with us today, and overjoyed to have so many new believers in the vision who have joined to help us become even better at what we do, bringing everyone together to create opportunities to build community to share a meal and sit at table together.



Original planned headquarters building.



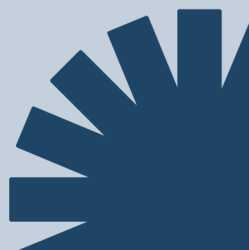
I look at 2024 as the starting line for the race that we have been preparing to run over the past 10 years.

Finally, we will have a headquarters building we can be proud to call home. We can prepare for whatever challenge the future brings by staying committed to meeting the needs of those who come to us for help. Everything we do needs to be implemented with the understanding that the future organization is not what we envision today but what we create together along the way. Your support is what got us here.

Our goal is to make sure that the investment you made in this amazing organization is something you will continue to be proud of for years to come. If you have any questions, drop me a line at Director@MealsOnMainStreet.org, and we can talk about it over coffee.

Bill Cusano
Executive Director

**FEEDING NEEDS.
FOSTERING HOPE.**



MEALS ON MAIN

VISION

BUILD COMMUNITY THROUGH FOOD

Our combination of custom-designed mobile pantry trucks and portable food hubs allow us to supplement the work of local pantries and soup kitchens to deliver recovered food and farm-fresh produce to families in need where they live.



New Headquarters building nearing completion.

GOAL: PROVIDE ACCESS TO HEALTHY MEALS, BETTER FOOD CHOICES, AND FARM-FRESH PRODUCE FOR ALL IN NEED.

IN 2023 WE...

- Expanded our distribution coverage within the village, from 6 to 18 locations with two mobile pantry trucks.
- Continue to provide meals from our kitchens and distribute them through our pantry partners.
- Expanded our food recovery program by 55%, collecting over 50,000 pounds per month and making the logistics of gathering and distributing food a major part of our ongoing operations.
- Fundraised to acquire over 59,000 pounds of food direct from local farms.
- Today, nearly three-quarters of all the food we distribute is donated from local supermarkets, organizations, businesses, schools and individuals, allowing us to apply our resources to providing jobs and training within the community we support.





2023 BY THE NUMBERS

783,306

Total Meals provided
Up 37% from 2022

596,716

**Donated and Recovered
Pantry Food**
Up 55% from 2022

647,295

Pantry Meals Provided
Up 54% from 2022

\$2.54

Average meal cost
Down 10% from 2022

136,011

**Restaurant & Kitchen
Meals provided**
Down 7% from 2022

694,000

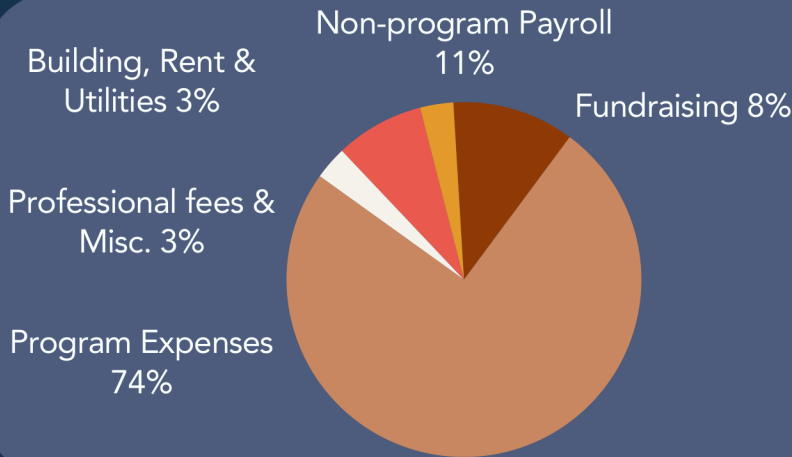
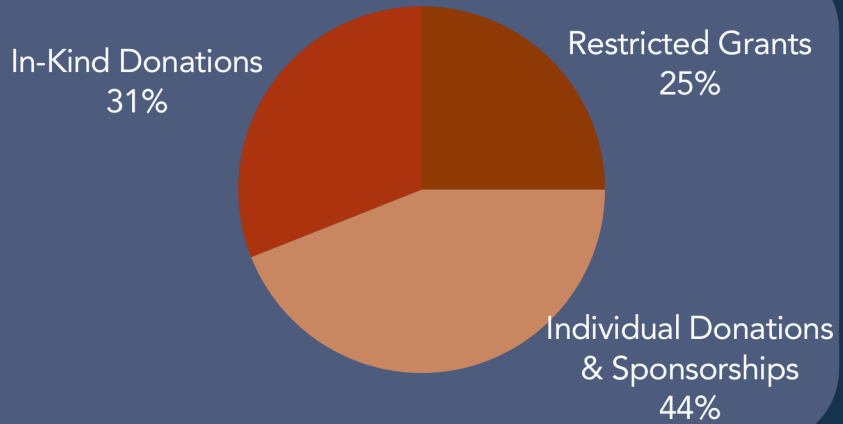
**of 777,000 pounds of food
distributed in 2023 donated by
local businesses.**



FINANCIAL REVIEW

REVENUE

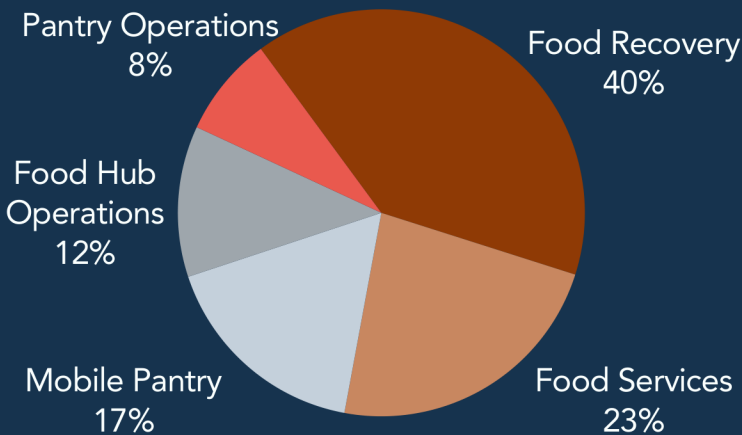
Total operating revenue:
\$2,342,483



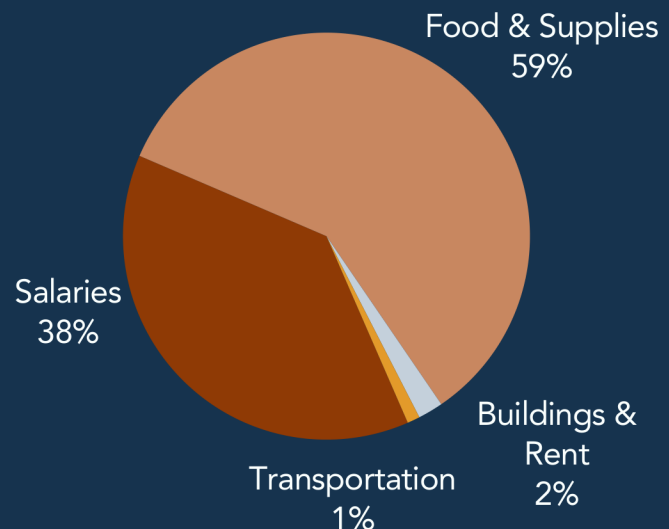
EXPENSES

TOTAL OPERATING
EXPENSES
\$2,445,491

PROGRAM EXPENSES BY BUSINESS LINE



PROGRAM EXPENSE DETAIL



NO ONE NEEDS TO GO HUNGRY IN WESTCHESTER

Our four methods of delivering food to families in need make it possible for anyone to have access to healthy food choices.

MOBILE PANTRY TRUCKS ROUTINELY VISIT 18 LOCATIONS

HOME DELIVERIES PROVIDE MEALS AND GROCERIES TO 50 FAMILIES WHO DO NOT HAVE ACCESS OR TIME TO VISIT A PANTRY SITE.

THE PROVISIONS PANTRY IS AN EXAMPLE OF ESTABLISHING OUTPOSTS OPERATED BY LOCAL VOLUNTEERS.

KITCHEN PROVIDES MEALS TO THE CARVER CENTER AND THE SALVATION ARMY FOR DISTRIBUTION TO THEIR PANTRY CUSTOMERS.

OSSINING: OUR NORTHERN WESTCHESTER HUB

With financial support from Westchester County, Westchester Community Foundation and Mother Cabrini Health Foundation, we maintained a food hub in Northern Westchester to serve the local communities and receive fresh produce from local farms during the growing season.

Shares in local farms are made possible by grants from Episcopal Charities and individual donors through our Community Supported Agriculture Program.

FOCUSING ON SENIORS

Mobile Pantry Trucks make 4 visits per week at locations predominantly serving seniors and we do that with support from Field Hall Foundation. The program focuses on the needs of seniors, providing them with the ability to select the food they want from a variety of fresh produce, dairy, meats and prepared meals. Neighbors are encouraged to bring food to those who are shut in.

REACHING OUT ACROSS THE COUNTY

MOMS cultivated relationships to help existing pantries, soup kitchens, and outreach organizations to ensure that food continues to flow to families in need. During COVID, many closed. Working with Feeding Westchester, we are trying to revive them and help make them sustainable. In addition, we have established new partnerships and enhanced older ones in Mount Vernon, New Rochelle, Somers, Croton-on-Hudson, White Plains, Dobbs Ferry, Tarrytown, and Ossining.

BUILDING ON SUCCESSES

- MOMS doubled its food recovery efforts in 2023, adding more drivers and pickups from supermarkets throughout the county.
- Increase volume of food by over 50%, and that volume continues to increase.
- There is approximately 3 million pounds of donated food available for pickup across the county, all it costs is the labor and fuel to go get it (source: Feeding Winchester)
- FAST TURNOVER = LESS WASTE - We have become experts at recovering and turning around thousands of pounds of food per week within 48-72 hours of receipt.

BEING THE CATALYST FOR CHANGE - TEAM WORK

What makes MOMS so unique is its willingness to take a risk, to try out new ideas, and to continue working them until they are successful. That means making changes often and with the involvement of the whole team. The ideas come from the staff, working every day within the communities we serve, getting to know the needs of the people we serve, and finding ways to meet those needs.

A NEW, MORE COST EFFICIENT MODEL

During the Pandemic, we developing a streamlined way to keep food flowing to those in need and have passed along savings to smaller pantries that don't have access to the support and talent we have.

By making it easy for volunteers and community groups to pop-up a pantry in their community, beginning with a visit from one of our mobile pantry trucks, we can plant the seeds of organic growth and support for the feeding programs of tomorrow. By supporting MOMS, you become part of a growing network that is making a real impact.

MAKING THE HOLIDAY SEASON JOYFUL

Thanks to grants from the Steven & Alexandra Cohen Foundation, home cooking by Westchester Reformed Temple, donations of food and pies from schools throughout the region, and the financial support raised at our Miles For MOMS Fun Run in October, we provided turkeys, chickens, bags of fixings and holiday meals to families throughout the county.

IN 2 YEARS...

2022

Our of custom-designed mobile pantry trucks and portable food hubs supplement the work of local pantries and soup kitchens to deliver recovered food and farm-fresh produce to families in need where they live.

MOMS opens its first volunteer-run pantry in partnership with AGWV Church and The Friendly Fridge Network. The MOMS Provisions Pantry is open Saturdays and distributes to over 100 families per week.

Partnering with Feeding Westchester, we implemented a food recovery program in August which is targeted to salvage over 500,000 pounds of perishable food which would have gone into landfills. The program grew from 6 supermarket locations to over 20 by year end and it will continue to grow in 2023.

2021

Developed an extensive food recovery network, eliminating waste and securing quality perishable goods for our clientele.

Virtual platform create for clientele to shop online for a weekly at-home delivery.

Supported New York State Contact Tracing by supplying groceries and meals to residents quarantined for Covid infection or exposure.

Secured shares in local and regional farms, providing farm to table produce.

MOMS went mobile with Pop-Up pantries, resulting in a five-fold increase of groceries going directly to food insecure neighborhoods.

First Food Hub established - allowing our partners to come to us when they need food and to give us their excess food which we distribute to other agencies within 48 hours.

Expanded pioneering project with restaurants, purchasing meals directly from them at cost and distributing them via our programs.

Collaborated with BOCES, utilizing their chefs and students to make trays of prepared foods.

**FEEDING NEEDS.
FOSTERING HOPE.**

WHAT'S AHEAD IN 2024?

With the opening of our new building, we will finally be able to get back to our roots, but in a new and exciting way!

Our volunteer program will kick off in the Spring and will be in full swing by the Summer, offering opportunities for families to get involved in fun and meaningful ways. In addition, we will be looking to invite everyone to the table with community dinners at various locations around town, and special mini-events at our headquarters.



Your support has made all this possible, so we hope to see you soon. Every year has been truly amazing and we have you to thank for that. Together we are doing something truly special, but you know that. We began growing this organization over a decade ago in the hope that we could make a difference in our community. Who could have imagined how big a difference that would become?

Together we are Meals On Main Street. And anyone who sees our logo knows they can get quality food with dignity and respect. How great is that?



FEEDING NEEDS. FOSTERING HOPE.