

HELPING HARVEST FRESH FOOD BANK ANNUAL REPORT

FISCAL
YEAR
2025



Hunger continues to be a serious issue throughout our country, and our Berks & Schuylkill County communities are no exception. Over the past several months, significant funding cuts for critical programs have put those of our neighbors who rely on us in a precarious position, and we have become more reliant on the support of community members, organizations, and businesses than perhaps ever before.

Helping Harvest isn't backing down from these recent challenges. We're actively working to close the gap between diminished resources and growing need through innovation and determination. For one, we have a renewed, focused effort on our food sourcing efforts and are working to strengthen bonds with existing retail partners and to form relationships with new ones.

Additionally, our newly opened Helping Harvest Community Kitchen in downtown Reading provides new opportunities for addressing food insecurity. With this facility, we are able to rescue bulk food and transform it into nutritious heat-and-eat ready meals prepared by our culinary team or repackage it into family-friendly portions.

Jay Worrall
President

Jeanne Boyer Porter
Chair, Board of Directors



OUR MISSION
*Feeding the hungry in
Berks & Schuylkill County*



WHO WE ARE



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jeanne Porter, Ret. Boyers Food Market, Chairwoman

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Debra Pook, Pook & Pook, Inc.

Courtney Powers, Tower Health

Chef Tim Twiford, Redner's Markets

LEADERSHIP TEAM

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David Delozier, Chief Development Officer

Val Harkless, Comptroller

Deb Mest, Chief Product Sourcing & Advocacy Officer

Jess Umbenhauer, Chief Operations Officer



helpingharvest.org

610-926-5802

marketing@helpingharvest.org

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FIND US



Helping Harvest Fresh Food Bank

117 Morgan Drive

Reading, PA 19608



Helping Harvest Community Kitchen

229 Washington Street

Reading, PA 19601

PARTNERS & PROGRAMS

We have a number of ways we serve our neighbors experiencing food insecurity. Many of these programs are in coordination with our robust network of approximately 350 agency partners, but some are direct service programs executed by our own staff and volunteers.



STRENGTHENING BONDS WITH AGENCY PARTNERS

We couldn't serve anywhere near the number of neighbors we do without our **agency partners**. They are the backbone of our distribution system. Partners include food pantries, shelter programs, and meal & snack programs. In FY2025, we spend a lot of time strengthening our relationships with our partners, including holding our first agency conference in years, at Penn State Schuylkill in May.

SENIOR PROGRAMS

Helping Harvest programs also support another vulnerable population: senior citizens. The **PA Senior Food Box Program** provides a box of food every month to more than 2,100 low-income seniors, distributed at over 100 sites. We also deliver fresh and frozen perishable foods to low-income senior housing facilities. The primary recipients of meals from the Community Kitchen are seniors, too.



MOBILE MARKETS

Perhaps one of the most visible programs is our direct service **Mobile Market** program. Helping Harvest runs 24 Mobile Markets, which provide a variety of nutritious produce, dairy and meat items along with shelf-stable products to neighbors in need, once per month at most locations. These Mobile Markets take place throughout our service territory.

YOUTH PROGRAMS

The **Weekender Program** provides over 4,200 students each week with a bag of easy-to-prepare meals and snacks to eat over the weekend. **Healthy Sprouts** provides a bag of fresh foods to children in need. The **School Pantry Program** is directed towards middle and high school students. Our **Maternal Health Program** provides a box of nutrient-dense foods to pregnant and postpartum individuals.



HELPING HARVEST COMMUNITY KITCHEN

Our newest and perhaps most ambitious endeavor is the **Helping Harvest Community Kitchen**. The Community Kitchen rescues bulk food from a variety of sources and produces heat-and-eat ready meals and repackages bulk food ingredients into family-friendly portions. Meals are then distributed to neighbors through our agency partners and programs.

ADDITIONAL SUPPORTS

We also provide neighbors in need with a number of additional supports. Several referral staff members are available daily to connect neighbors with services that may be helpful for them, and Helping Harvest also employs a bilingual SNAP & Outreach Coordinator to assist neighbors in **applying for SNAP benefits**, among other things.



FY 2025 FINANCIAL REPORT

INFORMATION FROM 2025 AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2025

Revenue, Gains and Other Support

Direct private support, monetary	\$3,914,549
Private support, in-kind contributions (including donated food)	\$12,365,180
Government grants, monetary	\$2,134,796
Government grants, in-kind contributions	\$3,007,806
Program services	\$128,468
Community kitchen contributions, monetary	\$2,402,441
Community kitchen contributions, in-kind contributions	\$2,081,991
Net investment return	\$261,968
Loss on disposal of property and equipment	(\$17,716)
Miscellaneous income	\$5,604

Total Revenue **\$26,285,087**

Expenses:

Food distribution (including value of food)	\$21,749,899
Community Kitchen program	\$2,387,208
Management and general (administration)	\$563,459
Fundraising	\$328,375

Total expenses **\$25,028,941**

Change in net assets	\$1,256,146
Net assets, beginning	\$10,110,594
Net assets, ending	\$11,366,740