

The Vermont Foodbank (VF) is seeking \$5 million total in FY26 from the State of Vermont:

- \$1.75 million in base funding for Responsive Readiness
- \$3.25 million for food purchase and distribution

State funding is required to address the sustained, increased need for access to food in communities throughout Vermont and to support our 215+ network of partner food shelves and meal sites who are doing this work on main streets across the state.

Responsive Readiness

Vermont Foodbank has supported the State of Vermont in addressing the food security of people in Vermont impacted by local, regional, and statewide challenges for decades. Neighbors visit Vermont Foodbank and our partners when they suffer personal setbacks like a job loss or a multi-day power outage, or widespread issues like pandemics or floods.

Vermont Foodbank seeks to formalize an agreement with the State with a \$1.75 million base budget appropriation through Vermont Emergency Management. This will ensure that our warehouses are stocked, our fleet is ready, and that we and our network are resourced to meet challenges today and ready to help people recover.



Food Purchase and Distribution

Vermonters continue to experience food insecurity at a rate that has increased in recent years. We know the State of Vermont can make policy choices that will ensure food security for everyone who lives here. Some of those policy choices will take time to pass and implement. **The State can support neighbors with the food they need today, including food from Vermont farms with the Vermonters Feeding Vermonters program.** Through this program, the Vermont Foodbank purchases Vermont-grown food directly from farms and distributes it throughout the Vermont Foodbank network of food shelves and meal sites, and program partners like housing sites, hospitals and schools.

IMPACT

More Than



72,000 People Served Each Month, on Average

More Than



14.5 Million Pounds of Food Distributed

More Than



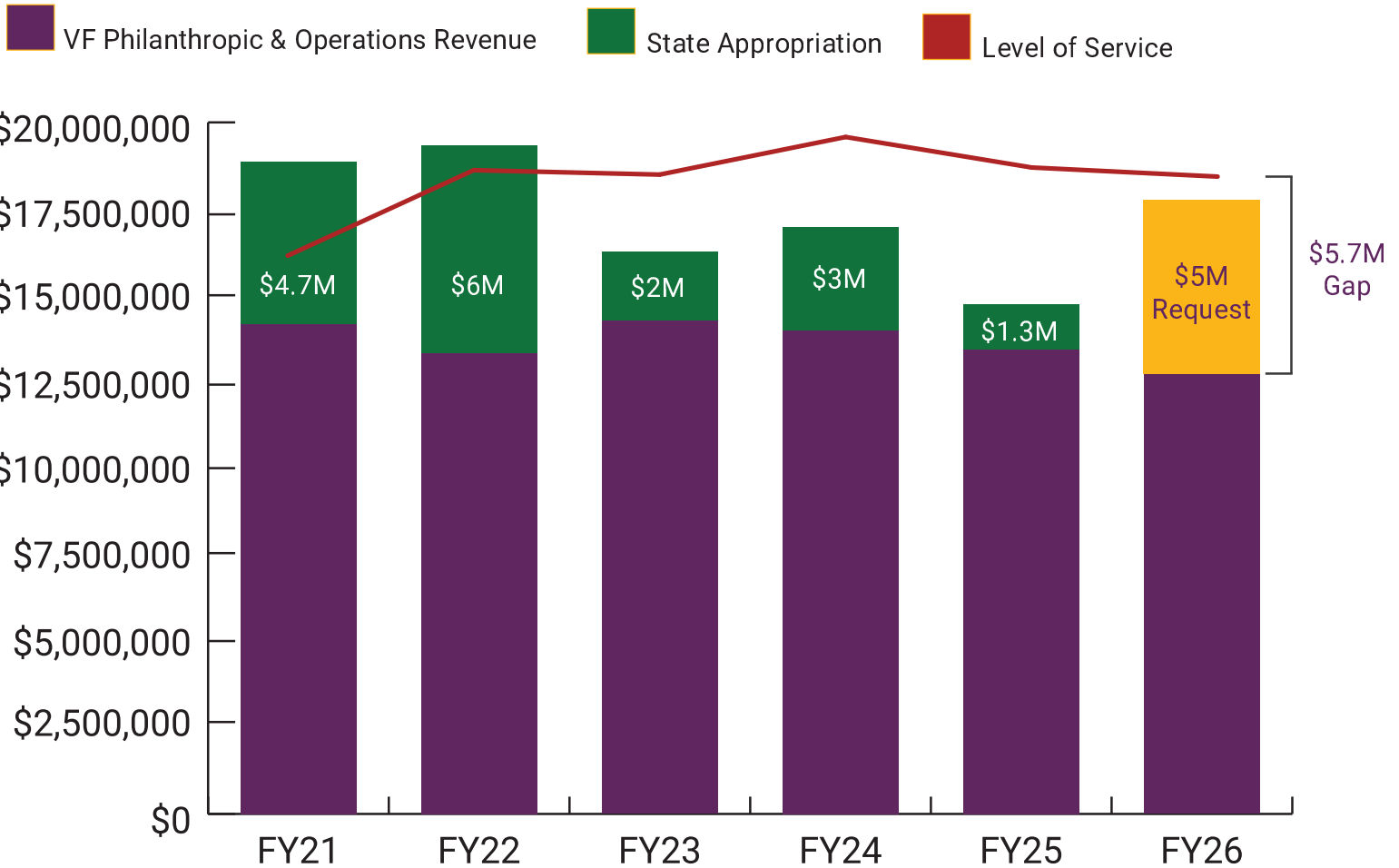
299 Vermont Farms Supported

More Than



215 Network Partners Shared Food with Neighbors

Revenue Versus Level of Service



How Lawmakers Can Help:

Vermont Foodbank has been working informally with the State of Vermont to support Vermonters for years. The State of Vermont must formalize and fund an agreement with Vermont Foodbank to support the long-term recovery of people experiencing food insecurity in all 14 counties and all regions of our state. This agreement needs to include \$5 million in funding:

- **\$1.75 million in base funding for Responsive Readiness**
- **\$3.25 million for food purchase and distribution**

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