

Vermont Foodbank is seeking a \$5 million total in FY27 appropriation to:

- Fully fund the Vermonters Feeding Vermonters Program (\$2 million)
- Support Vermont Foodbank network food shelves and meal sites (\$2 million)
- Support for Ready Response for food access in emergencies (\$1 million)

Vermont Foodbank's request for \$5 million assumes that there will be full support for 3SquaresVT FY27 administrative funding to maintain 3SquaresVT as a robust backstop supplemental food assistance program for neighbors across Vermont.

Local Food Purchase & Distribution

The State can support neighbors with the food they need today, including food from Vermont farms, by fully funding the Vermonters Feeding Vermonters program with \$2 million. This investment in Vermonters Feeding Vermonters will create \$3.6 million in economic activity in Vermont while supporting neighbors and the economic viability of local farms.

“We are able to leverage so much in fresh, local and healthy foods for the children and families we work with that otherwise we would never be able to afford.”

~ Family Center of Washington County



Support for Vermont Foodbank's Network Partners

Economic, social, and environmental changes and uncertainty continue to make it difficult for people in Vermont to meet their basic needs. Neighbor visits to our network of food shelves and meal sites are more frequent and people are seeking more food each visit. **\$2 million in funding will support food purchasing and distribution to continue to keep shelves stocked across the state.**

“The need in our community has been steadily increasing over the past 2 years. We rely on the Vermont Foodbank to help us source food to offer in our community,”

~ Greater Bennington Community Services

Ready Response

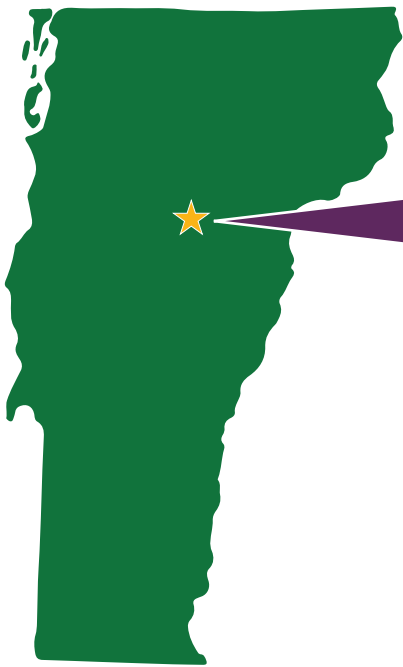
Vermont Foodbank seeks to formalize its relationship with the State of Vermont through financial investment in both general operational readiness and a specific response role in emergencies like floods, ice storms, and other emergencies. **\$1 million in year-over-year funding will allow for planning and collaboration to create a system where Vermont Foodbank and our partners, in collaboration with VEM, are resourced and prepared to address acute and ongoing food security needs of people in Vermont who are impacted by an emergency.**

“I live in an RV and don't have much space to store surplus food. The place where I do store the food got wet. When rice gets wet, you can't bring it back. We also lost power and our refrigerated food went bad.”

~ Northeast Kingdom community member who experienced flooding in 2024

Each month, Vermont Foodbank and our partners serve
an estimated **70,000 people** across Vermont.

Since the pandemic, more people have accessed the charitable food system to meet their basic needs. Vermont Foodbank has continued to support neighbors' access to food but requests the State's investment to sustain this impact. \$5 million in FY27 continues support for neighbors and partners, invests more in local farms, and formalizes the Foodbank's collaboration with the State to support communities in emergencies.



HOW CAN LAWMAKERS HELP?

Fully Fund Vermont Foodbank's
\$5 million total FY27 Request:

- \$2 million for the Vermonters Feeding Vermonters grant program
- \$2 million to support Vermont Foodbank network food shelves and meal sites
- \$1 million Ready Response food access in emergencies

OUR IMPACT

More Than



**14 Million Pounds of
Food Distributed**

More Than



**222 Vermont Farms
Supported**

More Than



**217 Network Partners
Shared Food with
Neighbors**



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