



Vermont Foodbank

| VT Foodbank Request Detail | Amount Requested | Amt in House Budget | Location in House Budget |
|--|-------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Emergency Response | \$1.75 million base | \$500k base | B.211 - DPS |
| Local Purchasing (Vermonters Feeding Vermonters) | \$2 million base | \$500k one time | B.1100(t)(2) – VAAFM - Ag development |
| Network partner capacity | \$1.25 million one-time | \$0 | Previously has been through DCF. |

Emergency Response/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.

Local Purchasing/Vermonters Feeding Vermonters (H.167)

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. Our request for this is \$2 million. H.167 contains policy which would formalize the program through VAAFM.

Network Partner Capacity

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. In the meantime, VTFB supports our network partners food shelves and community meal sites to supplement their local donations. In the past, funding allocated for this support has gone through DCF. We are asking for \$1.25 million to support the anticipated need in FY26.