



Basic Needs Annual Report

Reducing Food Insecurity |
Building Strong Communities |
Providing Basic Needs

2022

Table of Contents

Our Mission	2
Executive Director's Letter	3
Board of Directors	4
Serving our Community	5
Voucher Program	6
Food Market	7
Going Green	8
Our Volunteers	9
Financial Information	10
Donors	11



Our History

Basic Needs is a non-profit organization established in 1996 to aid disadvantaged individuals within our community. A community-based thrift shop was opened, where the general public donates their gently used goods for resale, which helps support programs to help the community and offers affordable shopping. Basic Needs created a voucher system so that individuals experiencing poverty can receive emergency access to needed supplies through our Thrift Shop. In addition, Basic Needs provides barrier free access to food in the community through our stocked free food shelves.

Our Mission

Our mission is to support the basic needs of those in our community, such as housing, food, clothing and coordinated services.



A Message from Our Executive Director

From our start in 1996, Basic Needs' focus was on representing thousands of individual low-income community members who walked through our thrift shop doors. Today, our work extends beyond the thrift shop. We are a larger and more mature organization that has continued to evolve and progress in directions that result in the most impactful services to those in need.

In the years since, we have provided basic needs such as clothing, household items, hygiene kits, diapers, and emergency support (such as gas cards, hotel vouchers, and car repairs). Our six little free pantries throughout the community provide short term support for those experiencing food insecurity.

In the summer of 2023, Basic Needs will expand again by opening the Basic Needs Food Market, a free service in Cottage Grove supplying fresh foods to people struggling with food insecurity. This new program will provide low-barrier access to meat, fish, poultry, fruits and vegetables and dairy without limitations or eligibility requirements. By leveraging consistent supplies of fresh foods available through relationships with local retail partners and food banks, the Basic Needs Food Market will incorporate elements of anonymity and convenience which will appeal to people struggling with food insecurity but who are not currently engaging with the hunger relief sector through "traditional" channels.

This annual report celebrates Basic Needs' evolution over the past 25 years, and highlights stories of resilience and innovation. From our early beginnings as only a thrift shop to our current state as an organization supporting those going through homelessness, food insecurity, or emergency crisis, we are here to help support our community by providing basic needs. We recognize that due to a collective effort, we would not be where we are today without your support. Thank you to all of our funders, donors, staff, volunteers, and community partners for supporting our critical efforts to grow to the organization we are today.

Vickie Snyder
Executive Director



Board of Directors and Staff



President

Traci Leffner



Vice President

Meenu Howland



Briget
Fields



Mary
Maruska



Whitney
Harvey



Jennifer
Abraham



Executive
Director

Vickie Snyder



Thrift Shop
Manager

Joanna Doctor
Harris

Serving our Community in 2022

- Monthly participation with Heading Home -Washington County group meetings- an initiative to end homelessness.
- Working with Hy-vee, Tinucci's Restaurant, and Supermom's bakery to rescue food for the community. Work started in January 2022. Rescued 61,403 pounds of food.
- Providing monthly food to the Next Steps program that is part of School District 833 (12 Students from Jan-May and 18 students from August - December)
- Monthly Senior Social to provide a networking opportunity for seniors in the community (Total of 76 participants).
- Working with SoWash Cares, transitioned the Fairytale Fashion for Food: Dress Shop & Swap for a Classy Cause to the Basic Needs office location selling prom/formal wear at discount prices to support food programs.
- Partnered with SoWash Cares to provide Saturday Suppers the first Saturday of each month. We served 1,500 meals
- Partnered with Washington County to become the sponsor for the Food Pilot Collaboration at Park Grove Library (new Free Little Pantry)
- Partnered with Sharing and Caring Hands and Feeding St. Paul to provide \$1,800 of in kind donations.
- Partnered with Girl /Boy Scouts, 4-H, and seniors to sponsor the Community Garden-Growth for Good. Increased from 20-34 beds in 2022. Almost 700 pounds of vegetables were harvested and distributed to the community.
- Offered a Free Little Pantry food give away at the office location and distributed over 2,000 pounds of food.
- Started discussions with the Executive Director of Today's Market (run by the Christian Cupboard) to discuss potential partnership for 2023.
- Worked with the Minnesota Dept. of Health to offer a vaccinations clinic at the office location for COVID.
- Partnered with Title 1 schools in District 833 (3) to supply 1,322 lbs of school supplies.
- Provided 379 hygiene kits to School District 833.
- Partnered with SoWash Cares to provide four Skoolie events in the summer feeding 350 people.
- Finalized the installation of a fifth Free Little Pantry: one in Newport, two in Cottage Grove, and Two in St. Paul Park.
- In partnership with the Washington County Families services, the St. Paul Park Lions Club, and the Cottage Grove Lions Club, provided 54 Families/251 Individuals a Thanksgiving meal.
- Partnered with the Beyond the Yellow Ribbon and the Cottage Grove Lions to provide 150 holiday food kits to veterans in the local senior facilities in Cottage Grove (2).
- Partnered with SoWash Cares, Washington County Family Services, Beyond the yellow Ribbon, the St. Paul Park Lions Club, and the Cottage Grove Lions Club to sponsor 87 families for the holidays.

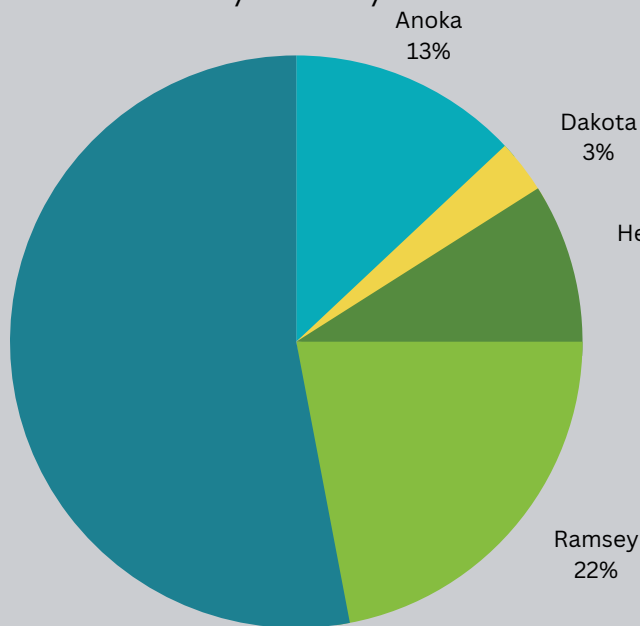


Basic Needs Voucher Program

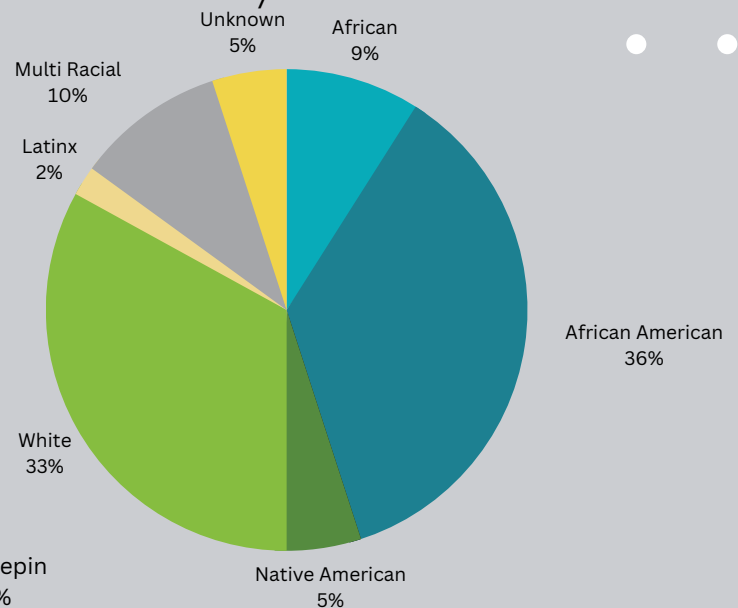
In 2022, Basic Needs distributed vouchers to 32 households to assist with:

- Clothing
- Hygiene Products
- Diapers
- Food
- Furniture
- Other

Voucher Distribution by County



Voucher Distribution by Race



Basic Needs Food Market

We are opening a new market in Cottage Grove during the summer of 2023 that will mirror the work that is done at Open Cupboard - Today's Harvest in Oakdale. We have support from the city officials, county staff, and other community businesses.

Our objective is to:

- Provide low-barrier access to the items most requested by MN food shelf clients.
- Prioritize a welcoming and choice-focused customer service centered shopping experience.
- Leverage consistent supplies of fresh foods available through food rescue relationships with retail partners, restaurants, farmers, and food banks.
- Incorporate elements of anonymity and convenience that appeal to people struggling with food insecurity, yet were not engaging with the hunger relief sector through traditional channels.

These objectives are all key because many brick-and-mortar food pantries require an application, have long wait times, and can only be seen by appointment. Anyone will be able to access the food rescue market.

The future location of the market is within a quarter mile of three senior living facilities. Seniors have been one of the largest groups using our Free Little Pantries. In a recent survey completed at the Park Grove Library about the Free Little Pantry there, 58% of the surveyed were over 55. Of the total surveyed, 76% use the pantries to offset other expenses or don't have enough money.

8475 E Point Douglas Rd, Cottage Grove, MN 55016.
Hours: Mon- Fri- 11-6PM and Sat 10-2PM

- We plan on serving 200 families a day
- We will not be taking TFAP



By focusing on food rescue, we can save food that would have been thrown in the garbage. Food rescue helps by getting good food to people who can use it, and by reducing food waste.

Going Green

Thrift Shop

The benefits of thrift stores on the environment starts with decreasing the amount of clothing or other household goods that end up in landfills. With children's clothing alone there are so many items that are no longer usable by one person simply because they outgrew them, or style preferences changed. These clothing items are still in great condition and someone else will be able to wear them and keep them out of the trash.

There are instances where Basic Needs will receive a donated item that is too well loved, and therefore not in a condition for us to sell it. Instead of throwing it in the trash, we have a special collection bin where we can recycle items such as clothing or shoes. We recycled 85,279 pounds of items in this way throughout 2022.

Food Rescue

According to Feeding America, over 119 billion pounds of food is wasted in the US each year. By working with grocery stores and restaurants, we were able to save 61,000 pounds of food that would have ended up in the trash. By rescuing this food we are decreasing the waste in the landfills while providing food assistance to those in our community who would benefit from the support.

Organic Recycling

A byproduct of food rescue that includes fresh produce is that it can turn bad on us quick. To prepare for this happening more at the market, we looked into organic recycling options.



Our Volunteers

So much of what we do is because of our volunteers. Basic Needs would not be what it is without the help of our 285 and counting active volunteers. In 2022, we logged over 7,000 volunteer hours. This is an increase of 41% from 2021!

Volunteers help out in a variety of ways such as:

- Sorting and pricing donations
- Stocking shelves at the thrift shop
- Picking up food from partners
- Repackaging food
- Weeding and harvesting produce in our community garden
- Stocking pantry shelves
- Represent Basic Needs in local parades, at fairs, and helping with fundraising events



Organizing the thrift shop shelves



Restocking the Park Grove Library pantry



Testing donated electronics

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Balance Sheet (\$)

Assets	
Cash	105,520
Investments	15,864
Inventory	35,044
Prepaid Expenses	21,100
Land, Buildings, and Equipment	7,035
Total Assets	184,563

Liabilities

Accounts Payable	800
Total Liabilities	800

Net Assets

Without Donor Restrictions	183,763
With Donor Restrictions	0
Total Net Assets	183,763

Total Liabilities & Net Assets	184,563
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Income Statement (\$)

Revenue & Public Support

Grants	438,402
Investment Income	202
Other Revenue	7,665
Total Revenue	446,269

Total Revenue & Public Support	438,402
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Expenses

Program Service Expenses	303,764
Management and General Expenses	99,537
Fundraising Expenses	24,024

Total Expenses	427,325
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Change in Net Assets	18,944
Net Assets Beginning of Year	164,819
Net Assets End of Year	183,763



2022 Donors

\$0-\$99

Laura Erickson
Joan Decker
Julie Hohenstein
Courtney Ruiz (New York Life)
Lori Anderson
Marlys Schmit
Sarah Stumer
Gretchen Carlson
Mike Boland
Gospel Lighthouse
Wendy McCoy
Cottage Grove Chamber
Joan Behnke
Sue Johnson
Women in Business-CG
Martin Strauss
Anonymous
Eileen Weber
Darrin McCawley

\$100-\$249

American Donor Services
Anna Gross
CompuCare-urgent Care
MN Tool
Oasis Chiropractic
Renee Hailburton
Women of All Saints
City of St. Paul Park's Parks and Recreation
City of Newport
Marie Elmer

Ramona Westerburg
Network for Good
TC Martin, LLC
Neon Donors
HoliDay Craft

\$250-\$499

Dan Myers
Merchants Bank Deposit
Steve & Joan AxDal
VSP Investment
Two Bald Guys
Sandra K. Fuller
Old National Bank
John & Catherine Schmit

\$500-\$999

Brave Soul Counseling
Custom Charities
Dana Williams
Kirsten Sersland
Laura Bofelli
Rumpka Service
Van Meter
Rose Toussaint
American Legion Post 98

\$1,000-\$4,999

3M
James Kivel
St Lukes
Warren Samuelson
Vickie and John Snyder
Cash
Ship Washington County
St Paul Festival and Heritage Foundation
Morgan Stanley Gift Fund
VFW
Cottage Grove Lions

\$5,000-\$10,000

BNSF Railway
Andersen Foundation
St Paul Park-Newport Lions

\$10,000+

Hugh J. Anderson Foundation
Saint Paul & Minnesota Foundation
F. R. Bigelow Foundation
Marathon Petroleum Corporation





Volunteer With Us!

Where can you volunteer?

- Basic Needs Thrift Shop
- Food rescue
- Community Garden

Contact our Volunteer Coordinator for more questions:

Call 651-321-2040 or email volunteer@basicneedsmn.org

CONTACT US



651-207-8656



Office: 445 Broadway Ave, St Paul Park, MN 55071

Thrift Shop: 6990 80th St S, Cottage Grove, MN 55016

Food Market: 8475 E Point Douglas Rd, Cottage Grove, MN 55016



execdir@basicneedsmn.org



www.basicneedsmn.org

