

FOOD & NUTRITION PROGRAMS OF HRDC

ANNUAL REPORT
JULY 1 2024-JUNE 30, 2025



HRDC
BUILDING A BETTER COMMUNITY



HRDC
BUILDING A BETTER COMMUNITY

The mission of HRDC's Food & Nutrition programs is to **improve food security throughout Southwest Montana**. Our vision is to create a healthier, more resilient, food-secure community in which all of the members are empowered and have the means to nourish themselves. **We believe no one should go to bed hungry.**

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Linda Young	Gene Townsend	Bruce Grubbs
Peter Schmidt	Kris Moos	Penelope Pierce
Jessica Willmarth	Scott Macfarlane	Pete MacFayden
Mitch Bradley	Amy Stix	Steven Klein

ADVISORY COUNCILS

GALLATIN VALLEY FOOD BANK

Dick Dowdell	Justin Varley
Judy Mathre	Mitch Bradley
Melissa Meredith	Rick Cameron
Joe Sofianek	

HEADWATERS AREA FOOD BANK

Chuck Wambeke	Kevin King
Aime'e Jones	Anne Ore
Gene Townsend	

BIG SKY COMMUNITY FOOD BANK

Jeremy Blyth	Ben Keefe
Lizzie Peyton	Diane Bartzick
Lucia Damberg	Christine Lugo-Yergenson



Photo taken by Speed Creative

LETTER FROM OUR DIRECTOR

DEAR FRIENDS,

Life is an ever-changing landscape, but this year feels different. In this state of change and uncertainty, I lean on the fact that on a daily basis, **we make a difference.**

The numbers reflect a tremendous effort by our staff and our **volunteers**, who donated nearly **30,000 hours of service**. We provide stability, reassurance, human connection, and of course nutrition through a box of groceries or a meal. Our numbers have stabilized and for this we are grateful, but this will be short-lived. Upcoming changes to Medicaid, Supplemental Nutrition Access Program (aka food stamps), and the Affordable Care Act will make our customers' lives more difficult. I lean on our **50-year history of meeting community needs** and the **resilience** of our customers, volunteers, and staff. Thank you for reading our annual report, and please share it with a friend.

Take Care,

Jill Holder

Jill Holder
Food & Nutrition Director



FIVE YEARS IN REVIEW

Gallatin Valley Food Bank (GVFB)	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025
Total individuals	8,271	7,838	9,512	11,615	11,917
Total food boxes	11,796	13,688	17,532	19,897	22,413
Total pounds distributed	1,834,867	1,519,283	1,667,276	1,720,251	1,810,735
Households receiving help for the first time	852	886	1,190	1,735	1,497
Total Kids Summer Lunch meals	40,716	31,848	22,366	33,534	19,094*
Total Healthy KidsPacks	10,104	11,407	16,552	22,652	16,345

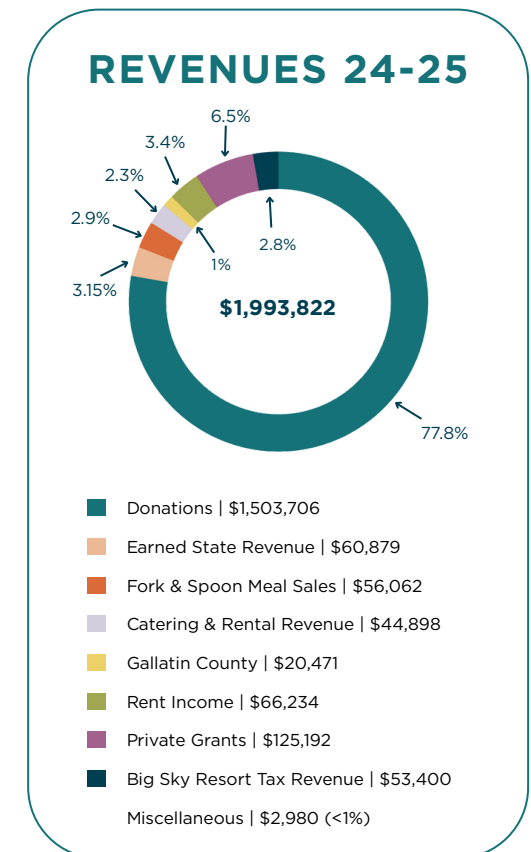
Big Sky Community Food Bank (BSCFB)	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025
Total individuals	821	883	1,908	1,938	1744
Total food boxes	1,104	1,944	3,493	3,557	3,406
Total pounds distributed	34,684	37,226	59,491	68,627	65,241
Households receiving help for the first time	111	448	627	664	615

Headwaters Area Food Bank (HAFB)	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025
Total individuals	502	520	617	715	680
Total food boxes	3,033	2,533	2,581	2,431	2,139
Total pounds distributed	108,706	95,558	84,937	84,670	82,321
Households receiving help for the first time	68	68	22	102	35

Fork & Spoon	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025
Total meals served	25,509	22,177	28,377	30,644	29,809
Average production cost per meal	\$21.02	\$17.75	\$17.92	\$17.97	\$17.43
Average contribution per meal	\$0.49	\$2.00	\$1.78	\$1.16	\$1.69

*Includes meals served in June, July, and August of 2024. This decrease is due to a reduction in eligible sites.

Of note in the five-year review is the impact of COVID relief programs, including the monthly tax credit, increased unemployment benefits, and free lunch for all school children. These benefits have a direct correlation to our lowest numbers in the period (2020-2022). **Our revenue streams show that our work is not federally funded—it is based in our community.**



GROCERIES AT HRDC

HRDC food banks are all **self-choice markets** that our customers can access every two weeks. Each shopping experience is meant to provide a five- to seven-day supply of food based on recommended daily nutritional guidelines from the USDA.

GALLATIN VALLEY



We provided **22,413** food boxes.



We distributed **1,810,735** total lbs of food.



We distribute **7,576** lbs of food per day on average.

The **Gallatin Valley Food Bank** (GVFB) primarily serves customers from Bozeman and Belgrade. Around **20%** of GVFB customers are children and **21%** are seniors.

THREE FORKS



The **Headwaters Area Food Bank** (HAFB) serves customers in Gallatin, Madison, Broadwater, and Jefferson counties. **Serving the most rural areas** with a focus on Harrison and Clarkston, HAFB customers tend to be families and older adults—**23%** are under age 17 and **31%** are seniors.



2,139
food boxes
provided

82,321
total lbs
distributed

BIG SKY



3,406
food boxes
provided

65,241
total lbs
distributed

The **Big Sky Community Food Bank** is a **resource hub** that provides many services, including emergency food assistance, a computer lab, and a washer and dryer. **Those served in Big Sky tend to be working.** Around **13%** are age 17 or under, and **8.4%** are age 55 and over.





MEALS AT HRDC

While some people benefit the most from a box of groceries, we understand that a meal meets an immediate need and in the moment improves food security. We provide meals through the **Fork & Spoon** pay-what-you-can restaurant and **Summer Lunch** program.

FORK & SPOON



The Fork & Spoon (F&S) serves an average of **122 scratch-cooked meals a night** to a diverse group of people. F&S is a melting pot of humans ranging from seniors, veterans, children, business groups, and those who are unhoused. **Everyone is welcome to share a table and a meal.**

SUMMER LUNCH



The Summer Lunch program provides **free, healthy meals** to kids and teens at locations throughout the Gallatin Valley. Each site offers a safe, supervised space where children can **stay active, enjoy nutritious food, and spend time with friends.**

SUPPLEMENTARY PROGRAMS

Meeting needs for vulnerable populations in creative ways.

SENIOR GROCERIES



We provided **2,405 Senior Groceries** to seniors living on a low income.



We served an average of **200 households** per month.

HEALTHY KIDSPACK



We provided **16,345 weekly KidsPacks** to children last school year.



Our in-school pantries were accessed **5,894 times.**





Photos taken by Speed Creative (1-4)



CREATIVE SOLUTIONS

FOOD RESCUE



lbs of Food Rescued



lbs of Food Distributed as Animal Fodder or Compost

Five days a week, staff and volunteers at our three food banks rescue **fresh and non-perishable food donations** from local grocery stores, bakeries, farms, and other food producers. Nothing goes to waste as food that has gone bad or has exceeded the standards for its sell-by date is composted or sent with local farmers as animal fodder. **Of all food collected, less than 1% is discarded.**

GARDEN PROGRAM



Story Mill Learning Garden is a shared community space demonstrating the joy and ease of growing your own food. We focus our efforts on bringing groups in to build community and to highlight the connection between our food and land. **Over 500 hours of volunteer labor helped our garden grow this summer!**

HRDC FOOD & NUTRITION TEAM

FOOD & NUTRITION DIRECTOR - Jill Holder

BIG SKY COMMUNITY FOOD BANK

Sarah Gaither Candice Brownmiller Laine Hegness

FORK & SPOON

Isabel Abeyta Leah Smutko
Arielle Adams Angelo Tolfa
Aaron Knoebel Jennifer Treff

GALLATIN VALLEY FOOD BANK

Jon Horn Kyla Crisp Nick Savage
Ali Thornton Margaret Davies Emma Smith
Chris Bokovoy Jess Heagler Tommy Smith
Amanda Brown Rachel Salang Laura Stonecipher

HEADWATERS AREA FOOD BANK

Bri Morin Emily Smith Kathy Thompson

Our work would not be possible without our volunteers, who donated **29,986 hours** of their time!

This list includes current and former team members from the 2024-2025 fiscal year.

EVENTS 2024-2025

Here are just a few ways our community got involved last fiscal year. Stay in touch to learn about ways to help in the coming year!

- Pack the Sack with Bozeman Schools Foundation
- Carve Out Hunger with Bridger Bowl
- Letter Carriers' Stamp Out Hunger
- Spanish Peaks Community Foundation KidsPack Packing
- Summer Lunch
- Three Forks Rodeo
- Community Harvest with Open & Local
- BSCFB Great Pumpkin Giveaway
- Crop Hunger Walk
- Can the Griz
- Thanksgiving Box Distribution
- Huffing for Stuffing
- Holiday Distribution with Salvation Army & Hope in the Holidays
- Lunch & Learn events



Learn more: thehrdc.org



For half a century, HRDC has been a **driving force for positive change in Southwest Montana.**

What started in 1975 as a small but determined effort to address local needs has grown into a cornerstone of community support, **impacting tens of thousands of lives** across Gallatin, Park, and Meagher counties.

We invite you to watch our 50 Year Flagship Film, read our 50 year publication, and explore our 50 year timeline that highlights the key milestones that have shaped our journey—moments of innovation, collaboration, and unwavering commitment to building a thriving, inclusive community.

As we reflect on 50 years of impact, we also look ahead with determination, knowing that our work is far from over. Thank you for being part of our story.

Visit thehrdc.org/50years to learn more.