



Aunt Dot's Place

A Community Food Shelf

Essex • Essex Junction • Jericho • Underhill • Westford

ANNUAL REPORT

2023



A WORD FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Kaki McGeary
KAKI MCGEARY
Executive Director

As I write this note, I am just in my second month as the new Executive Director of Aunt Dot's Place. Our previous coordinator, Amy Boudreaux, accepted a new position at Vermont Foodbank in July. We are grateful for her excellent leadership and wish her well!

2023 was another year of record growth for Aunt Dot's Place. We continued to see rising need amid a dramatic increase in the cost of food.

With 2 in every 5 Vermonters facing food insecurity, visits to our food shelf increased by 16% in 2023. As we enter our 8th year of operations, we will be working on a strategic plan to ensure that we can continue meeting the needs of our diverse community.

Whether you supported us as a volunteer, a donor, or perhaps both, thank you for your generosity. Thank you for helping us fight hunger and feed our community.

OUR MISSION

A community of volunteers who will provide a safe and welcoming place where individuals and families from Essex, Essex Junction, Jericho, Underhill and Westford can obtain help with food, personal care items, and community resource guidance with the assurance of being treated with dignity and respect.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Susan Miyamoto • *President*

Frank White • *Vice President*

Julie Palmeiri-Anderson • *Secretary*

Jennifer Lovell • *Treasurer*

Anna Cadmus • *Assistant Treasurer*

Tara Amato

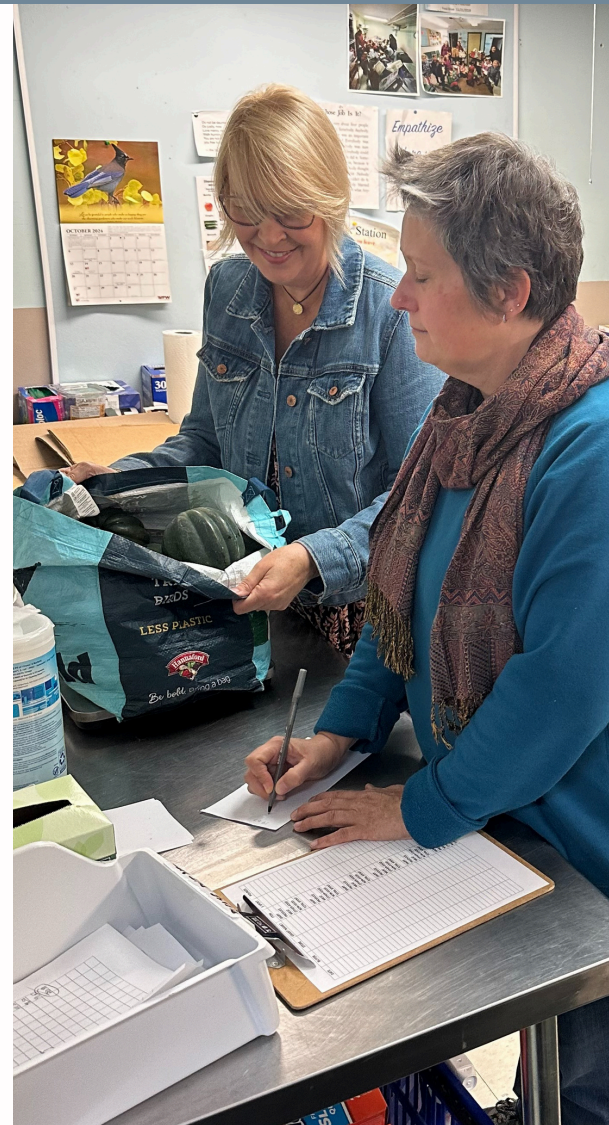
Len Bates

Richard Hosking

Max Seaton

STAFF

Kaki McGeary • *Executive Director*



OUR IMPACT

Aunt Dot's Place is a client-choice food shelf where community members can select their own groceries to meet their personal needs and preferences. In addition to non-perishable food, we offer fresh produce and bread, frozen meat and a selection of dairy products. We also have items for those with food allergies or dietary restrictions.

346

HOUSEHOLDS SERVED

1,001

CLIENTS SERVED

2,601

TOTAL VISITS

\$53

**COST TO FEED A
FAMILY PER VISIT**

192,091

POUNDS OF FOOD DISTRIBUTED



KEY STATISTICS

Since 2021:

- 25% more visits
- 89% increase in cost per visit
- Food expenses up 141% due to higher food costs & more visits

In 2023:

- 17% more households served
- 33% of clients are children
- 18% of clients are retired or have disabilities
- 3% have special dietary needs





OUR VOLUNTEERS

Our 100+ volunteers are the beating heart of our organization. They do it all—from picking up donations, doing inventory, weighing and sorting food, to welcoming customers, assisting shoppers and delivering food to seniors. Together, volunteers make sure our shelves are stocked with essential food, fresh produce and personal care items for our neighbors facing food insecurity.

Thank you volunteers!

WHAT OUR CLIENTS SAY...

“

I didn't ever suspect I would be in my current situation. I heard about Aunt Dot's Place, called them up and was immediately invited to stop by which I did same day. I was promptly greeted and welcomed, the whole experience was top shelf and everyone was helpful and courteous. Definitely [one] of my better decisions.

-Gary, *Google Review*

“

This place is so amazing. The staff is so friendly and nonjudgmental.

-Robin, *Google Review*

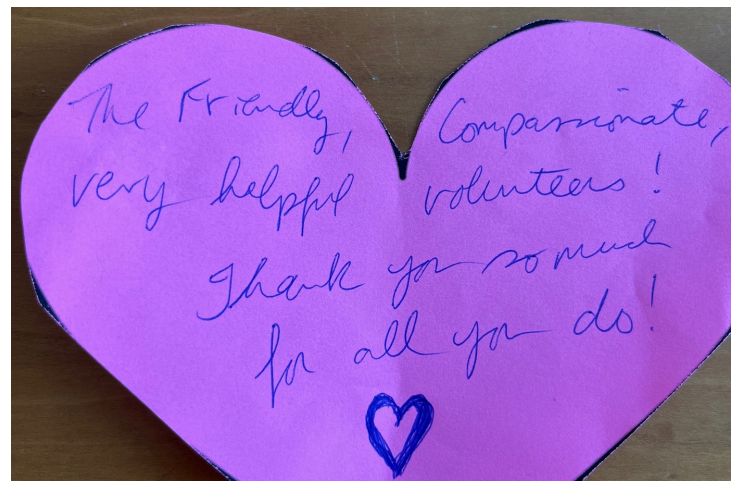
“

Very caring staff, friendly as well, and very helpful in your time of need.

I give them not 5 ★ but 10

★★★★★★★★★★

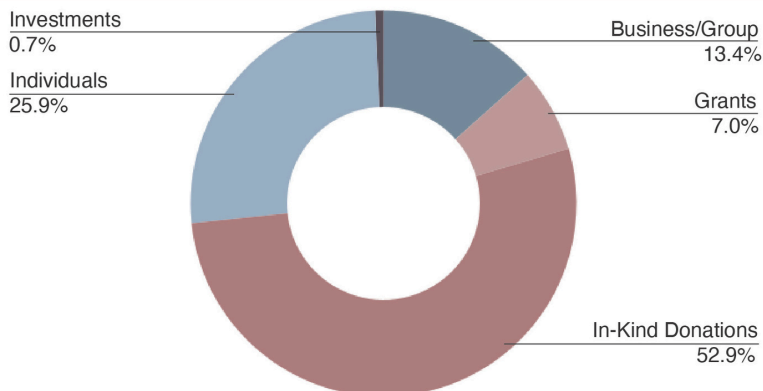
-Lorraine, *Google Review*



2023 FINANCIALS

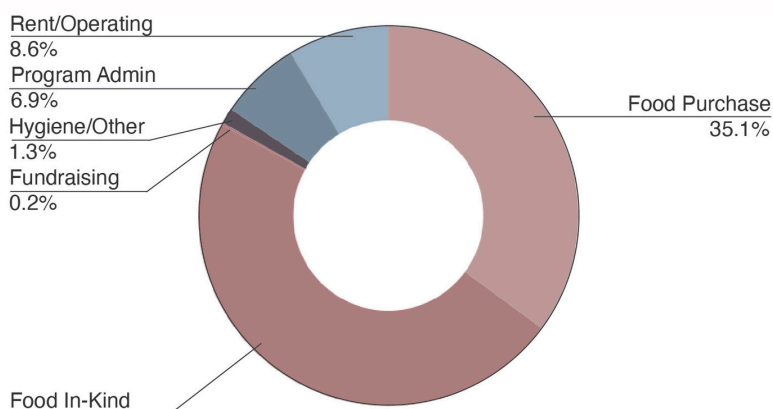
REVENUE \$368,797

- Businesses/Groups \$49,443
- Grants \$25,852
- In-Kind Donations \$195,268
- Individuals \$95,681
- Investments \$2,553



EXPENSES \$408,003

- Food Purchases \$143,099
- Food In-Kind \$195,268
- Fundraising \$768
- Hygiene/Other \$5,409
- Program Admin. \$28,285
- Rent/Operating \$35,174



12/31/2023 STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

Total Assets	\$274,325
Total Liabilities	\$12,116
Net Assets	\$262,209

MAJOR DONORS

- Essex Alliance Church
- Farrell Distributing
- Grace United Methodist Church
- Munson Family Foundation
- Louise C. Mussen Trust
- NBT Bank
- National Life

- Magic Mann
- Pennywise Foundation
- Rotary Club Charities of Essex
- SeaComm Federal Credit Union
- Vermont Federal Credit Union
- & Many More Generous Individuals, Organizations and Businesses**

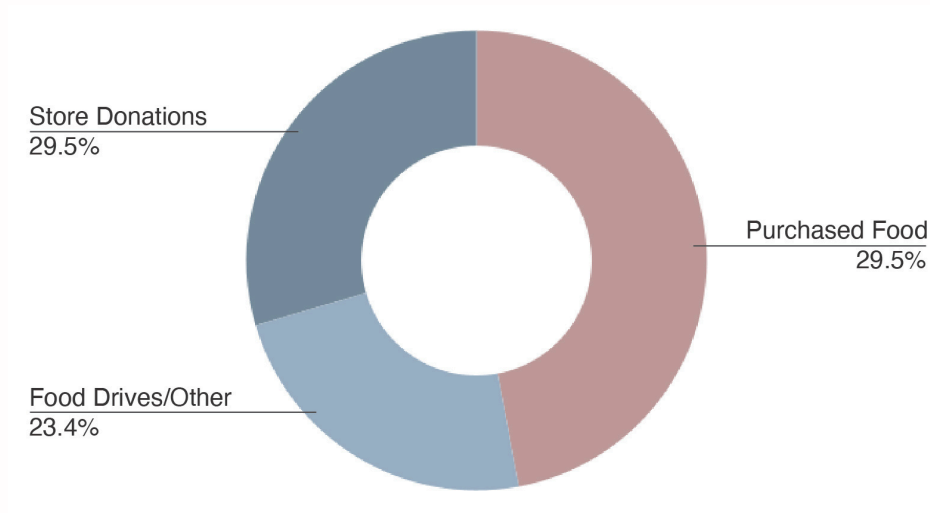
GRANTS

- Essex Human Services
- Vermont Foodbank
 - Capacity Grant
 - Mini Fresh Grant
 - Vermonters Feeding Vermonters

Did You Know? Every \$10 donated can purchase \$40 in food?

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

WHERE OUR FOOD COMES FROM



Aunt Dot's Place is a Proud Vermont FoodBank Network Partner

More than half of the food we distribute is donated.

Thank you to the many local businesses, school groups, churches and civic organizations that organized food drives.

And thank you to our Vermont FoodBank Fresh Rescue Program partners—Costco, Hannaford & Trader Joe's—who donated 57,561 pounds of food last year.

2023 Highlights

- L4 Community Garden Partnership
- Big Beautiful Life Run, Walk or Roll
- beCAUSE Craft Fair
- EJRP Pumpkin Palooza
- Essex Alliance Church Monthly Drive
- Explore Essex
- Matt Lumsden Memorial Day Parade
- National Night Out
- School Backpack Program
- Senior Living Delivery Program
- Holiday Meals & Turkeys
- Volunteer Appreciation Night

Aunt Dot's Place



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