

# Growing to Feed Our Community



Food Bank of the Hudson Valley





# Join Us

## Mission & Vision

The mission of the Regional Food Bank of Northeastern New York is to lead a network of partners to alleviate hunger, prevent food waste, and nourish the communities we serve.

Our vision is that all people have the nutritious food they need to thrive.



Dear Friends,

We live in challenging times. Despite the abundance of food grown and available in our community, some of our neighbors lack the basic necessities needed to live healthy lives. Children without nutritious food at home look to the programs which provide them with breakfast and lunch at school. Seniors who lack transportation are provided access to meals. And families struggling to afford the rising cost of food look to their local food pantry to fill the gap.

Our community is in a unique position to help. Your support is vital to the success of a Capital Campaign to expand the facilities of the Regional Food Bank of the Hudson Valley. This will enable the intake and distribution of larger quantities of food to feed those experiencing food insecurity throughout the Hudson Valley.

You can be part of our efforts to raise the final funds needed to construct the Regional Food Bank's new distribution facility in Montgomery, New York. The project is already underway. The Food Bank, with the assistance of the Town of Montgomery, has secured a \$10.7 million Community Development Block Grant. Coupled with funds raised to date there remains a gap of \$6.5 million to complete the project.

With the new distribution facility, the Food Bank will be able to address the current and future needs of our neighbors in the Hudson Valley. This facility will serve people in the six counties of Orange, Ulster, Dutchess, Rockland, Putnam, and Sullivan. Expanded freezer and cooler space will enable a greater intake of nutritious fruits and vegetables. The new location creates a more economical and efficient distribution of the food to **more than 300 partner food pantries, schools, and senior sites**. Increased dock space will enable greater food acquisition from food partners. In short, the new facility will resolve current space limitations and provide more efficient delivery of **over 20 million pounds** of food to those in need.

We have undertaken the role of assisting the Food Bank in reaching its financial goal. We ask you to join us and the campaign committee members in the challenge to alleviate hunger in our community by lending your financial support.

Thank you for your consideration and interest.

Sincerely,  
John F. Rath, Chair and Derrik Wynkoop, Honorary Chair

## Capital Campaign Committee

**John F. Rath, Lakeland Bank**  
Chair

**Derrik Wynkoop, Walden Savings Bank**  
Honorary Chair

Dan Ahouse, Stockade Strategies  
Amanda Baxter, Baxter  
Alex Betke, Brown & Weinraub, PLLC  
Michael Blustein, Esq., Blustein, Shapiro, Frank & Barone, LLP  
Jeffrey Crist, Crist Bros. Orchards  
Marc Devitt, Devitt Management  
Nick Fitzpatrick, Aden Brook  
Michael Gilfeather, Orange Bank & Trust Company  
Jason Giordano, CPA, PKF O'Connor Davies, LLP  
Sara Gunn, Food Bank of the Hudson Valley  
Paul Hoffner, John Herbert Company  
Marcia Jacobowitz, Esq., Jacobowitz & Associates Law Firm LLP  
Harold King, The Council of Industry  
Michelle Barone-Lepore, Michelle Barone Consulting  
Tom Nardacci, Regional Food Bank of Northeastern New York  
Mike Oates, Hudson Valley Economic Development Corp.  
Father Mark O'Connell, San Miguel Academy  
Joe O'Connor, O'Connor & Partners, PLLC  
James Ottaway, Former Chairman of Ottaway Newspapers  
Nick Preddice, The Affinity Group, LLC  
Jonathan Rouis, RBT CPAs  
Lauren Rowley, Town of Montgomery  
Rich Rowley, Rowley Development Corp.  
Jack Smith, William A. Smith & Son  
RJ Smith, Rand Commercial  
Greg Sousa, Orange Bank & Trust Company  
Mike Turturro, RBT CPAs

# Our Programs

## Mobile Pantry Program

Not every community we serve has a pantry, which makes it hard to provide equitable access to our neighbors. Our Mobile Pantry Program provides food pantry distributions to residents in communities that lack brick-and-mortar food pantries and nearby grocery stores. We deliver nutritious food to centralized locations where participants choose the items that meet their household's needs.

## Children's Programs

The Food Bank's BackPack Program, School Pantry Program and Summer BackPack Program provide more than 2 million meals a year through weekly food bags to thousands of children and teens across our service area.

## Just in Time Delivery Program

Many of our partner pantries must limit the amount of fresh food they provide due to lack of space to store or transport these products. The Food Bank's Just in Time Delivery Program brings produce, dairy, and other perishable food to pantries 'just in time' for distribution, without them having to transport or store it.

## Senior Food Delivery Program

Low income seniors without their own transportation face a unique barrier to accessing fresh food. In partnership with low income senior housing sites, the Food Bank's Senior Food Delivery Program delivers nutritious food to low income seniors at their housing facilities every other week, ideally during weeks when transportation to a grocery store is unavailable.

## Culturally Responsive Food Initiative

Food pantry guests from different cultural backgrounds may have different food preferences, experience language barriers, or feel uncomfortable going to pantries. We conducted research to determine which foods are most desirable throughout our network, added them to our inventory, and provided "Food & Culture" trainings to our network to increase awareness of culturally sensitive diets.

## Retail Store Donation Program

The Retail Store Donation Program enables the Regional Food Bank to increase our emergency food distribution by collecting food from participating grocers that would otherwise be thrown away like meat, dairy, and produce.

## Food as Medicine

Social determinants of health, such as access to healthy foods, play an important role in disease prevention, health status and health outcomes. Food as Medicine partners with health care agencies to develop onsite pantries that distribute meal packages tailored to food insecure clients' chronic diseases.

## Just Say Yes to Fruits & Vegetables (JSY)

JSY helps individuals and families gain the knowledge and skills needed to make healthy food choices. JSY nutritionists provide practical fruit and vegetable nutrition education sessions at various community sites emphasizing frozen, canned, and dried products, as well as fresh fruits and vegetables. They provide easy, low-cost recipes, and tips for planning and preparing delicious, healthy meals.



## Partner Agency Network

The Regional Food Bank and Food Bank of the Hudson Valley work with a strong network of more than 850 partner agencies to distribute food. Partner agencies include food pantries, soup kitchens, emergency shelters, and other agencies feeding our neighbors in need.

# Looking Ahead

The Regional Food Bank of Northeastern New York and Food Bank of the Hudson Valley have launched a five-year strategic plan to ensure equitable food distribution across the 23-county service area. The plan focuses on five strategic areas:

## 1. Serve

Working with our partners, we will provide equitable access to the nutritious food required to meet the needs of the individuals and communities we serve.

## 2. Strengthen

We will build and sustain the Food Bank and partner capabilities required to meet our community service objectives.

## 3. Engage

We will develop relationships, facilitate conversations, and provide experiences that unify & mobilize communities and the public around the issues of hunger and food waste.

## 4. Steward

We will utilize the resources entrusted to us in a manner that reflects our values and respects our employees, donors, and stakeholders.

## 5. Innovate

We will continuously explore new business models, partnerships, and services in pursuit of advancing our community impact and realizing our vision.



***By 2027, the Regional Food Bank, in collaboration with our network partners, will ensure equitable access to the nutritious food required to fully meet the needs of people struggling with hunger in all parts of our service area.***



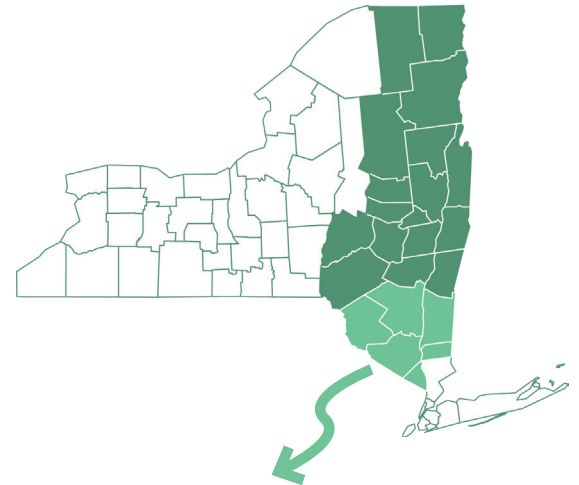
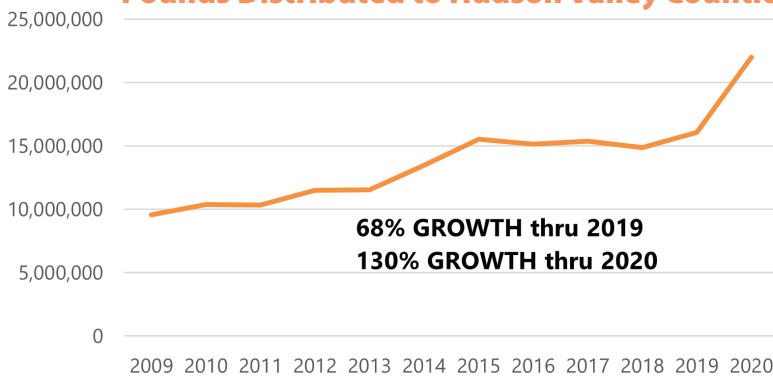
# The Need

Even before the COVID-19 crisis, the Food Bank was experiencing an increase in the need for food assistance year over year. Additionally, food donations are now comprised of greater amounts of fresh, frozen, and perishable food versus bulk staples, resulting in a need for additional cooler and freezer space. The small product sorting area in the current Hudson Valley facility restricts the number of volunteers the Food Bank can host. We are constrained by our inability to move fresh product through our warehouse and service the number of agencies that rely on us for their food. To successfully implement our strategic plan and improve product acquisition and distribution in the six Hudson Valley counties we serve, a new, larger facility is required.



Hunger is a reality for 1 in 10 people and 1 in 7 children in the Food Bank's service area.

## Pounds Distributed to Hudson Valley Counties



*Due to lack of capacity at Food Bank of the Hudson Valley's current site, 57% of the 20 million pounds distributed yearly in the six Hudson Valley counties must be transported from the Regional Food Bank's Latham headquarters.*

*The Food Bank of the Hudson Valley serves the southern six counties of the Regional Food Bank's 23-county service area.*



## Constrained spaces include:

- limited racking space
- lack of cooler and freezer space
- not enough docks for distribution
- limited space for product acquisition
- small product sorting area
- no training kitchen for agency education
- extremely limited parking for staff and volunteers
- inadequate office space

# The Plan



ANDERSON  
DESIGN  
GROUP

The needs of our community demand that we grow, so the Food Bank of the Hudson Valley is embarking on a \$6.5M Capital Campaign for a new facility that will resolve current space limitations and position us to meet the demand for the foreseeable future.

The new, 40,000sf distribution center will be centrally located in the Town of Montgomery close to transportation routes and provide long-lasting benefits, lower overall transportation costs, improve operational efficiencies, and reduce environmental impact.



increased dock space  
for distribution  
and acquisition

four times the  
racking space of  
the current facility

a dedicated  
product sorting  
area for volunteers

additional cooler  
and freezer space

a training kitchen  
to increase agency  
education

a larger display  
cooler to move  
perishables quickly

adequate office  
space with room  
for growth

# How You Can Help

**Overall project cost: \$22.5 million**  
**Funds committed: \$16 million**  
**Remaining funds to raise: \$6.5 million**

The Food Bank of the Hudson Valley has begun construction of its new facility with an expected opening in the third quarter of 2024. Your support for this project will greatly assist our hungry neighbors in the Hudson Valley.

If you would like to support the Food Bank of the Hudson Valley's Capital Campaign, you may:

- make an outright gift in cash, stock, IRA distribution, or other financial assets
- pledge support now and make payments over three years
- choose from the naming opportunities listed below
- provide support in other ways such as paving, technology, lighting, office furniture, and landscaping

## Naming Opportunities

<p>\$500,000</p> <p><b>Outside Entryway</b></p>	<p>\$250,000</p> <p><b>Reception Area</b></p>	<p>\$100,000</p> <p><b>Demonstration Kitchen</b> Reserved</p>	<p>\$100,000</p> <p><b>Volunteer Entrance</b> Reserved</p>	<p>\$100,000</p> <p><b>Distribution Dock</b></p>
<p>\$100,000</p> <p><b>Receiving Dock</b></p>	<p>\$100,000</p> <p><b>Volunteer Center</b></p>	<p>\$50,000</p> <p><b>Elevator</b></p>	<p>\$50,000</p> <p><b>Main Conference Room</b> Reserved</p>	<p>\$50,000</p> <p><b>Freezer</b></p>
<p>\$50,000</p> <p><b>Cooler</b></p>	<p>\$50,000</p> <p><b>Warehouse Storage Area</b></p>	<p>\$50,000</p> <p><b>Produce Display Area</b></p>	<p>\$50,000</p> <p><b>Display Cooler</b></p>	<p>\$25,000</p> <p><b>Staff Conference Room</b></p>
<p>\$25,000</p> <p><b>Office Area</b> Reserved</p>	<p>\$25,000</p> <p><b>Communications Room</b> Reserved</p>	<p>\$25,000</p> <p><b>Staff Kitchen</b></p>		



## Join Us!

For more information or to make a donation or pledge of support, please email [capitalcampaign@regionalfoodbank.net](mailto:capitalcampaign@regionalfoodbank.net) or call (518) 786-3691.





The Regional Food Bank of Northeastern New York, based in Latham, New York, was created by a group of food pantry coordinators and anti-hunger advocates in 1982.

The Food Bank of the Hudson Valley is a distribution location of the Regional Food Bank established in 1990 to provide a local presence and improve efficiency and food safety. Since 1996, the Food Bank of the Hudson Valley has been operating in a 20,000 square foot space within a 55,000 square foot building in Cornwall-on-Hudson.

Working in partnership with the food industry, the Regional Food Bank and Food Bank of the Hudson Valley collect large donations of food and distribute it to charitable agencies in a six county region. In 2022, the Food Bank provided more than 19 million pounds of food in Orange, Ulster, Dutchess, Rockland, Sullivan, and Putnam counties. The Food Bank is a member of Feeding America, the national network of food banks.

## Food Bank *of the* Hudson Valley



[regionalfoodbank.net/hudsonvalleyproject](https://regionalfoodbank.net/hudsonvalleyproject)

