



Thurston County Food Bank 2006 Report to the Community

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Year in Review

For the Thurston County Food Bank, the arson fire in June 2006 will clearly be the most memorable event of the year, due more to the frustrations and expenses related to the repairs than the event itself. The staff and volunteers dealt with many facility challenges as we continued uninterrupted service to our clients during the repairs.

We did take this event as an opportunity to upgrade our facility and improve its fire safety. The primary changes include draft stops in the attic, upgrading all exterior doors to a higher fire rating, and replacing the wood siding with hardi-plank (a concrete product). Circumstances required us to upgrade the fire alarm system with new equipment and made it prudent to move the phone system. Unrelated to the fire, but important to the continued operation of the Food Bank, was the replacement of the cooling units for the walk-in cooler.

The number of clients we served increased in 2006 in all categories. The most notable increase was in the number of unduplicated households, an increase of 34%. This represents the number of families that were assisted during the year (counting only their first visit). The total number of client visits increased by 9% over 2005. This is well above state wide averages, due in part to our satellite system which was expanded by four sites. The first two additions early in the year focused on reaching more seniors, and the latter two were partnerships with churches and focused on geographic or other access barriers. Through this system we were able to expand our evening hours to include every Thursday from 4 – 6 p.m.

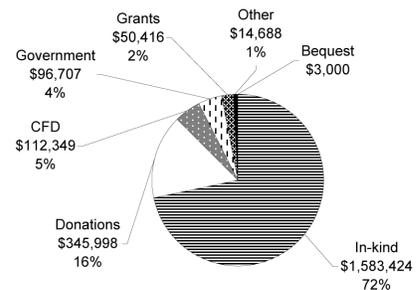
The number of Thanksgiving Baskets distributed reached a new high, serving almost 1,500 families (5,990 individuals). We also distributed food baskets at other times of the year to assist families in preparing meals for other special occasions. This holiday season we also distributed Christmas meal baskets through our satellite food banks. It is a new effort we coordinate with other social services agencies in the community.

The food resources available to the Food Bank increased by 37% in 2006. I am still getting used to this pleasant surprise. One big success is the support we are receiving from Northwest Harvest and Food Lifelines Grocery Rescue Program. Both provide ongoing monthly in-kind food donations throughout the year. Other notable gifts included a large donation from Albertsons during the Postal Workers Drive, and we were blessed with a strong holiday giving season.

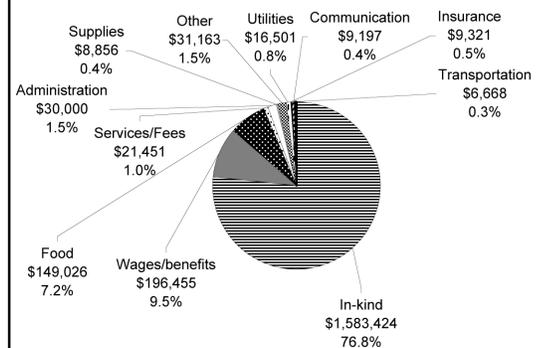
Our gratitude to all those who join us in our efforts to feed the hungry.

Robert Coit, TCFB Executive Director

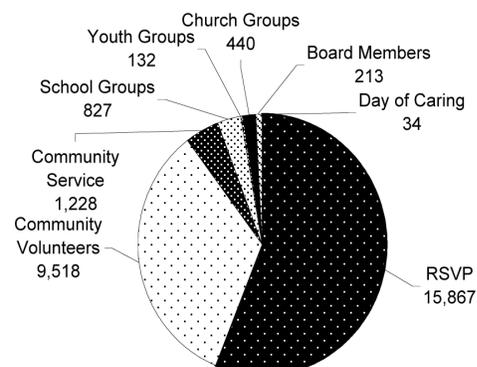
2006 Revenue - \$2,206,582



2006 Expenses - \$2,062,062



2006 Volunteer Hours - 28,259



2006 Benchmarks

Client Distribution

The number of families served in 2006 increased by 34% over 2005. The number of visits by individuals to the Food Bank increased by 9% in 2006. A total of 451 households used the satellite food bank system. Of these 334 accessed our services for the first time.

	Number Families		% change	Number of Individuals		% change
	2006	2005		2006	2005	
Duplicated* Jan-Dec	26,894	25,670	5%	63,226	58,055	9%
Unduplicated* Jan-Dec	9,409	7,020	34%	24,541	18,733	31%

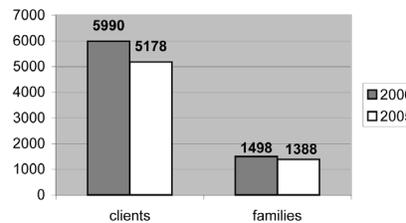
* = "Duplicated" means counted every time they use the TCFB. "Unduplicated" represents unique individuals/families.

Thanksgiving Basket Distribution

The number of Thanksgiving Meal baskets distributed by the Thurston County Food Bank increased by 8% over 2005. Almost six thousand individuals were served in 2006, an increase of 16% over 2005.

	2006	2005	% change
Clients	5,990	5,178	16%
Families	1,498	1,388	8%

Thanksgiving Basket Distribution



High School Food Drive

The largest single food drive of the year was successfully conducted by area high schools, collecting \$126,356 in food value. The in-kind gifts of food increased by 25% over 2005 when comparing the value of the food donated. Additionally, the cash gifts increased by 12% over 2005.

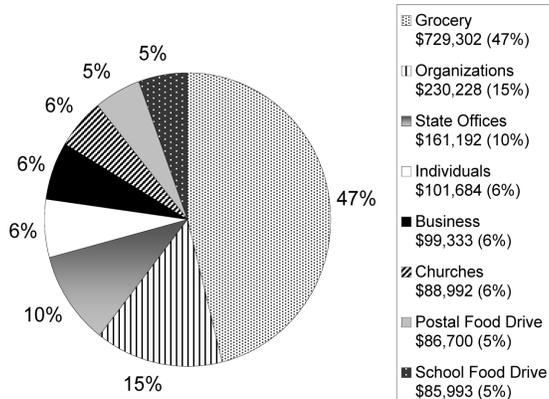
	2006	2005	% change
Total Food Value	\$137,034	\$102,775	25%
Monetary Donations	\$35,000	\$31,319	12%

Combined Fund Drive

The State of Washington's workplace campaign is the single largest donor to the Food Bank. The pledges to the TCFB declined by 6% overall, with the biggest change in payroll deductions. The two year trend represents a reduction of over 11%. This year's CFD suffered in part due to an error which caused the TCFB to be listed as an International Hunger Relief Agency in the annual catalog. Fortunately we were able to get a correction on the web based catalog.

	2005 CFD	2006 CFD
One Time Donations/Events	\$1,530	\$12,730
Recurring Payroll Deduction	\$105,231	\$92,623
Total Pledges/Raised	\$106,761	\$105,353

2006 In-Kind Donations \$1,583,424 45% Increase over 2005



Summary

Clearly the number of clients receiving food assistance through the Thurston County Food Bank continues to increase dramatically.

The most telling statistic is the number of households using the Food Bank, up 34% from 2005. This is due in large part to our continued outreach to hungry families through our satellite food bank system. The system has enabled us to offer our services three nights a week and four of seven days.

Although the Food Bank has seen significant growth in the numbers of those we serve, County statistics for hunger, poverty, and unemployment are flat. The number of those in need has not increased, but we are seeing a greater percentage of the hungry being able to access Food Bank services due to our outreach efforts.

Thurston County Food Bank Core Values

Philosophy: "We believe that the hungry must be fed in an atmosphere of neighbor helping neighbor."

Mission: "It is the mission of the Thurston County Food Bank to eliminate hunger within our community."

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Rodger Johnson
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