



# Thurston County Food Bank 2008 Report to the Community

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## Year in Review

The Food Bank faced the same challenges in 2008 that each of us faced with many of the same consequences. The high cost of gasoline, particularly in the summer months, forced us to make changes to our donation pickup routes. Food prices went up, and remained high, making it more difficult to stretch our donor dollar. For a time we could not buy rice due to shortages.

Some programs were put on hold as we just tried to keep up with the increasing number of visits, a thirty-nine percent increase from the previous year. Unexpected expenses like replacing our sewer line took attention and money away from our core service. A winter storm that set records challenged us in different ways. Through it all the Food Bank provided food without an interruption in service, without a change in service levels and without turning away a single hungry family.

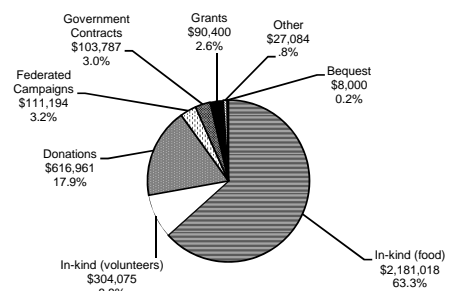
Efforts during the year included the expansion of our outreach efforts. The Forks Program (our school backpack meal program) grew to 30 elementary schools in the North Thurston, Olympia and Tumwater school districts. In partnership with the schools, the program now provides kid friendly food to over 575 children each week. Another milestone is the expansion of our Satellite Food Bank system to include service delivery on Saturdays. The Food Bank continues to partner with a broad range of organizations to provide this service including fire departments, churches, low-income housing providers, after school programs and many others.

The installation of a sprinkler system is all but complete. A task made possible by the Cheney Foundation of Pierce County and a number of individual donors. This not only brings the building up to code but paves the way for future remodeling efforts. The list of projects is long but each will enhance operations, improve the efficiency of the space, solve ongoing challenges and enhance client services.

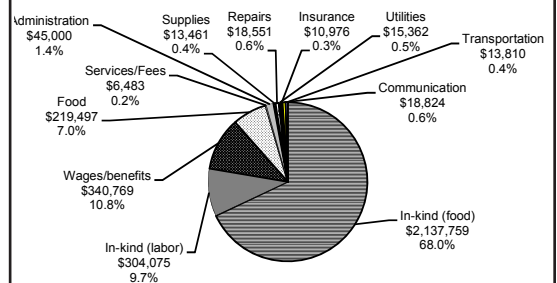
None of these things would be possible without your support. When faced with record numbers of clients and limited food resources, your gifts made it possible to help more people than ever before. The Thurston County Food Bank is a community resource supported by neighbors helping their neighbors and at no time has this been more true than in 2008. Our sincere thanks.

Robert Coit, TCFB Executive Director

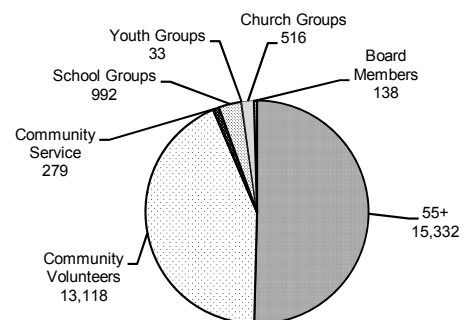
### 2008 Revenue - \$3,442,975



### 2008 Expenses - \$3,144,567



### 2008 Volunteer Hours - 29,453



# 2008 Benchmarks

## Client Distribution

The number of individuals served in 2008 increased by 39% over the previous year, while the number of visits to the Food Bank increased by 32%. A total of 919 children received food through the School Weekend Backpack Program, now called ForKs (For Kids).

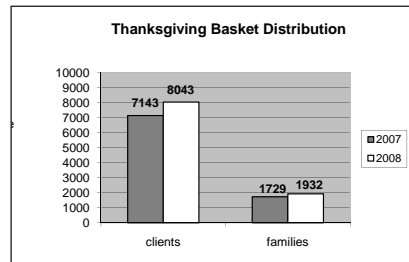
	Number Families		% change	Number of Individuals		% change
	2007	2008		2007	2008	
<b>Duplicated*</b>						
<b>Jan-Dec</b>	31,738	33,643	6%	73,056	96,932	32%
<b>Unduplicated*</b>						
<b>Jan-Dec</b>	9,828	10,022	2%	26,877	37,489	39%

\* = "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 12% in 2008. Over eight thousand individuals were served, an increase of 13% over 2007.

	2007	2008	% change
<b>Individuals/Clients</b>	7,143	8,043	13%
<b>Families/Baskets</b>	1,729	1,932	12%



## High School Food Drive

The largest single food drive of the year was successful, collecting \$129,767 in food value and growing to include entire school districts. The in-kind food gifts increased by 9% in 2008, matching previous highs. Cash gifts increased by 35%.

	2007	2008	% change
<b>Total Food Value</b>	\$118,549	\$129,767	9%
<b>Monetary Donations</b>	\$26,549	\$36,095	35%

## Combined Fund Drive

The State of Washington's workplace campaign is the single largest donor to the Food Bank. These pledges and one time gifts to the Food Bank increased by 12% overall when compared to gifts from 2007.

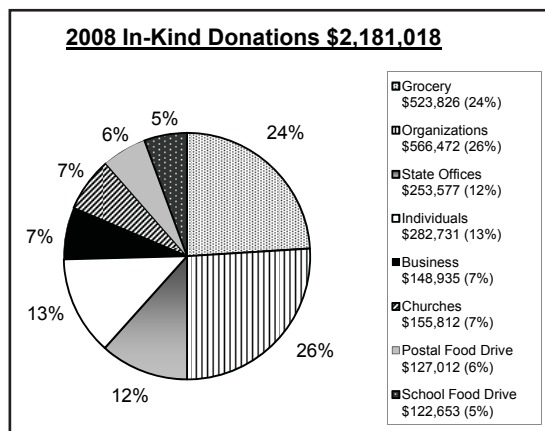
	2007 CFD	2008 CFD
<b>One Time Donations/Events</b>	\$559	\$9,750
<b>Recurring Payroll Deduction</b>	\$95,458	\$97,524
<b>Total Pledges/Raised</b>	<b>\$96,017</b>	<b>\$107,274</b>

## 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 for the first time, over 4,000 families of the total 10,000 served.

Although the number of hungry households served increased by a small percentage, the number of visits sky rocketed. It is clear more hungry people are using the Food Bank than ever before with no clear end in site as we continue to face economic challenges at all levels of our society.

Our biggest success in 2008 was the transformation of the Backpack Project into a formal program. This program, called ForKs (For Kids), has grown from 12 elementary schools to 30 and provides weekend food to 575 children each week. Other outreach efforts continue as our Mobile and Satellite Food Bank systems expand, providing services more often and in more places than at any other time in our thirty-five year history.



## 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."

## Board Members:

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*Treasurer*

**Alicia Cardenas-Short**

**Mary Henley**

**Anne Hirsh**

**Rodger Johnson**  
*Chair*

**Lynda Lovely- Wright**  
*Secretary*

**Dennis Mahar**  
*Vice Chair*

**Doug Mah**

**Mike Oakland**

**Tom Peterson**

**Dick Thompson**

**Neil Woody**

**Sherri Wills-Green**

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**Jan Putnam**

**Greg Stormans**

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**Binda Douglas**  
*Office Manager*

**Juniper White**  
*Volunteer Manager*

**Robert Thetford**  
*Staff*

**Isaac McKenzieSullivan**  
*EFAP Program Manager*

**Cheryl Falkenburg**  
*FORKids Coordinator*

**Kathryn Nienaber**  
*CSFP Program Manager*

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