



# Thurston County Food Bank 2014 Report to the Community

220 NE Thurston, Olympia, Washington 98501 - (360) 352-8597 - www.thurstoncountyfoodbank.org

## Dear Food Bank Friends,

As I get ready to move on from my role as board president, I have been reflecting on our work of the last few years. I feel honored to have served in this role for this wonderful organization and thank you each for giving me that opportunity. I look forward to continuing to work on the Board, but wanted to take this opportunity to share some of my thoughts.

I want to start with this: 2014 was a phenomenal year for the Food Bank.

Of course the main events have been in anticipation and support of the move to the new building and the Capital Campaign. In addition to Robert and the incredible staff, many people deserve our thanks, starting with all of the donors who support the Food Bank time and time again and who made this campaign possible.

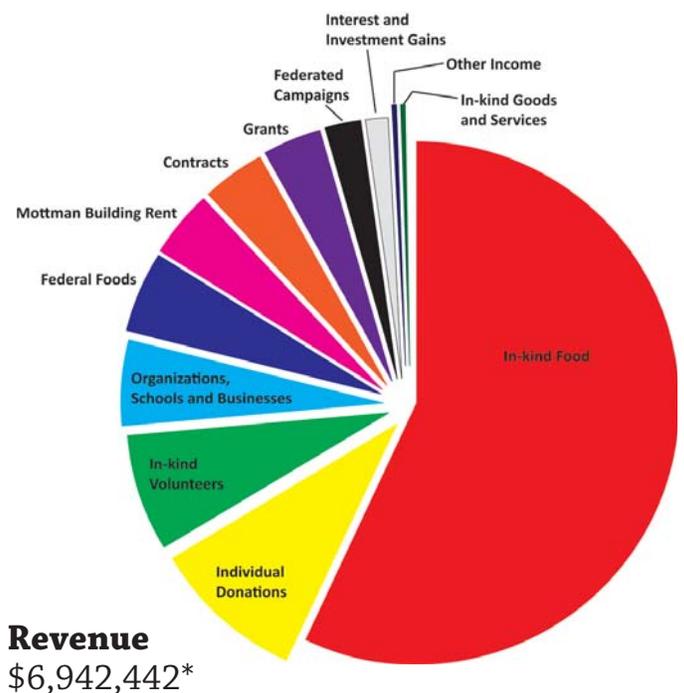
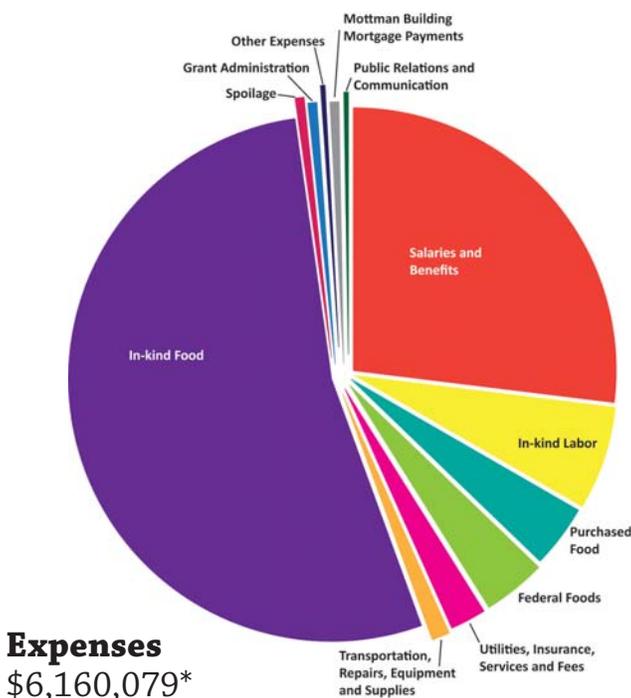
Many other accomplishments, however, have happened in each of the many areas of the work of the Food Bank just over this past year. The staff at the Food Bank have been working so very hard to make the shift to two buildings happen as seamlessly as possible. Just some of the work has included creating work plans, audits, reviews of financial structure and benefits for staff, improvements made to the shopping model, legislative meetings, many reports given to funders, presentations given to countless community organizations, a volunteer survey and, always, a great deal of healthy food given to the growing number of those in our community in need. I mention all this because it is always our goal to remain as transparent as possible and to keep our friends and neighbors informed about the changes we are able to make with their help. Robert received well deserved recognition as a statewide leader this last year and we are reminded daily of the great gifts he brings to the Food Bank and to the community.

The Food Bank has a stellar staff of people committed to the mission and who work hard every day under challenging circumstances, but none of it would be possible without you. I believe we are so blessed to have such strong support from the community we love and I know we will continue to work together to make our community a better place for everyone.

Thank you again for allowing me to serve as president; I am looking forward to passing the reins and to another great year,

Sincerely,

Anne Hirsch, Outgoing President, TCFB Board of Directors



\*These numbers include some, though not all revenue and expense related to the capital campaign

## Volunteers Make it All Possible



**7,795** committed individuals =  
**49,466** service hours = **\$468,445**  
 volunteer labor

## A Message From the Director

The past year has been filled with successes. As I consider the many things that stand out I am struck by a consistent thread, people who share our mission.

- A volunteer that helped to load groceries into the car of an older American when the railroad shut down the intersection making parking near the Food Bank all but unavailable.
- A team of volunteers that harvested produce late in the fall, on a rainy Saturday because they believe local produce should be available to everyone using the Food Bank.
- The many volunteers that deliver weekend meal bags to over 30 elementary schools in Tumwater, North Thurston, Olympia, and Griffin School Districts each week because they want every child to arrive to school on Monday ready to learn.

Volunteers that make do with old equipment, in what often feels like a construction zone, with the ever present message to do a little bit more in order to serve a few more. Local businesses that donate food that is too good to waste, others that support us with their expertise, and those that support us financially. Everything we do, every outcome measure, every person we touch, every life we impact in positive ways, every success we have, is because of your support. All I can say is

Thank You.



## Summary

In 2014 the number of clients who came accessed our programs remained consistent with the previous year. However, those clients visited more frequently, which shows up as an almost 20% increase in the number of visits, compared to the previous year. **47,878 individual** clients came to visit the Food Bank **284,692 times**. These individuals represented **15,044 households**.

Thank you for continuing to support those in need in your local community via the Thurston County Food Bank. Your support is more critical than ever and continues to make a difference every single day.

