

"Your kindness and generosity will come back ten-fold"

When Edna and Jose Estrella moved to Selawik in the Northwest Arctic part of Alaska with their church, they were shocked by the prices in the grocery stores. They wanted to make a practical difference for their neighbors who can't afford the groceries they need each month.

Volunteers Martin Alexie and Nita Stevens see the same thing in Mt. Village in the Lower Yukon region where they live. When SNAP benefits for people in rural Alaska run out early because of the extremely high cost of groceries, their cupboards are truly bare.

In these two villages, the only food assistance available is the local food pantry, supported by Food Bank of Alaska. "It saved our family," said one Mt. Village resident.

That's why our top strategic goal is to distribute more food to communities across all regions of Alaska. With your help, we're focusing first on these two regions of the state.

The Estrellas started out buying food themselves to hand out, but that was not sustainable. Working with us last year, they opened the 7th Day Food Pantry in the Adventist church in Selawik. When the plane comes with food, they get the word out by VHF radio and sometimes hop on a Sno-Go to make sure everyone knows the pantry is open. They serve about 40 households each time, adding up to hundreds of people.

There is no doubt in either Mt. Village or Selawik – this food fills a huge hunger gap in the villages. "Please don't stop!" says Edna. "You are the engine behind this."

The Mt. Village Food Bank, managed by the Asa'carsarmiut Tribal Council, is run by a number of volunteers who sometimes stay from 9 am to 6 pm, so everyone who

needs it gets help. When they hear on Facebook or VHF that food is ready to distribute, people line up at the tribal office. Nita and Martin say the people are always super happy for the food even if they have to wait in line – they stop them all the time to say thank you.

"Your kindness and generosity will come back ten-fold," say Martin and Nita, speaking to Alaskans who believe as you do that no one should go hungry. "We are so thankful!"

Food for both villages comes through the US Department of Agriculture's commodity program, TEFAP, The Emergency Food Assistance Program. Last year we partnered with 37 rural organizations to distribute TEFAP in their communities.



Volunteers David Joe, Tamaree Sheppard, Nita Stevens, and Martin Alexie pose with TEFAP government commodity food they will distribute to their neighbors in Mt. Village.

Your generosity will feed families across Alaska

Your generosity made 2019 another record year – 7.5 million pounds of food so more Alaskans and their families can thrive.

I'm especially pleased that we're getting more food to more communities in rural Alaska. We're also exploring new ways to make a difference, for example, partnering with rural farmers to get surplus vegetables to communities near them where fresh food is rare and expensive.

Once again in 2019 we exceeded the capacity of the Anchorage Ship Creek warehouse we've called home since 1994. If you had visited us before Thanksgiving, you would have heard refrigerated trailers running in the parking lot keeping turkeys frozen. You would have seen staff hauling overflow product to donated warehouse space in another part of town. Neither is an efficient way to do business.

Our top strategic goal is to distribute more food across all regions of Alaska. We need a larger warehouse to reach that goal at a level needed by current and future generations of children and families who can't count on their next meal.

After the first phase of our Nourish Alaska's Future Capital Campaign we have raised more than half of our \$4 million community support goal. Our New Year's wish is to find the right building in Anchorage to purchase with these donations, added to proceeds from the sale of our current warehouse. Our Building Committee is actively searching.

We hope that this summer we'll be able to show you our next warehouse home from where we can help future generations of Alaskans all across the state enjoy enough food to reach their full potential. With your generous involvement, we will surely succeed.

Gratefully,

Jim Baldwin, CEO



Salmon Sisters owners Claire Neaton (left) and Emma Teal Laukitis generously share 1% of their sales to purchase cans of wild Alaska seafood to donate to Food Bank of Alaska – 135,000 cans so far!

Why we give: Attitude of appreciation spawns Give Fish Project

Claire Neaton and Emma Teal Laukitis are commercial fishermen and small business owners in Homer. They're also the Salmon Sisters, and their business has donated more than 135,000 cans of wild Alaska seafood to Food Bank of Alaska since they started their Give Fish Project in 2016. Amazing!

"Getting truly nutritious food to people in communities connects them to the wild places where they live."

What motivates them to give so generously? Says Emma, "Our family has always shown the

way we care about others with food." They grew up on a homestead in the Aleutians in a family that depended on fishing for food and income. "We were taught the attitude of being incredibly thankful for the natural resource we have," Claire adds.

As their Salmon Sisters business took off, Emma and Claire started looking for a way to give back. Their website describes the Give Fish project that was the result - 1% of our sales is set aside to purchase wild Alaska seafood, which we donate to the Food Bank of Alaska – supporting both fishermen harvesting this delicious wild protein and those who need it most.

According to Claire, Food Bank of Alaska's core belief that no one deserves to be hungry resonates not only with their family but also with their business and small community. As fish harvesters, they want to get this nutritious and traditional food to those most in need, and they see Food Bank of Alaska as a natural fit because we distribute to so many communities around the state.

"It felt like closing the circle of sharing and giving back," Emma says.

She adds, "Getting truly nutritious food to people in communities connects

them to the wild places where they live. It tells in a direct way how important our fisheries are – if we treat our oceans well, we'll have them forever."

Claire hopes Give Fish will provide a model that can work for other small businesses. "You don't have to be big to have a big impact," she says.

The sisters don't believe they're doing anything special. "Our caring and involvement in the community and our pride in place are very normal Alaskan," they say.

The donated seafood is caught by Southeast Alaska fishermen, processed by Silver Bay Seafoods, with freight donated by Lynden. Find Salmon Sisters online at aksalmonsisters.com.





New text service makes it easier to get SNAP help

If you were using all your time and energy to put food on the table for your family, you would look for the easiest possible way to get the help you needed. But the process of applying for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) is anything but easy – especially if you live in rural Alaska.

Food Bank of Alaska's SNAP Outreach Team sees the real consequences of this every day in empty plates for Alaskan families. So in August 2019 we launched a SNAP text service in partnership with the Municipality of Anchorage Innovation Team to create a new, easier way to connect eligible Alaskans to the SNAP application process.

This service allows anyone to text the word "SNAP" to 1-907-891-8913. An automated response guides the person through a few questions to identify

their needs and what the next step should be. Sometimes our SNAP team can provide a solution right away. Sometimes scheduling a phone call is next. Either way stressed Alaskans now have a convenient route to get help, and our outreach team can more efficiently connect with people statewide.

The result so far? Compared to the same time last year, we have more than doubled the areas of the state we have been able to serve. And the partnership between Food Bank of Alaska and the Municipality of Anchorage has created a stir among food banks in other states and gained attention through several national news articles.

Bloomberg Philanthropies has asked the Muni of Anchorage to submit the SNAP text service for an award, and it also has been nominated for Apolitical's Global Public Service Award.

Alaska SNAP* Facts 71% of SNAP households are families with children.

24% of SNAP households include seniors or people with disabilities.

\$1.70 in local economic activity is generated by every \$1 of SNAP benefits.

640,938 meals were generated by Food Bank of Alaska's SNAP Outreach program during FY19.

*The Federal Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program, formerly known as food stamps.

"I put in my time, and was a citizen who helped grow Anchorage. Now that I am elderly, and on dialysis for kidney failure, I can hardly afford to pay my bills and I am required to be on a specialized diet. The Senior Benefits Program allows me to purchase necessary medication and foods that I can eat."

- Sheryl, senior in Anchorage

Advocates: YOU ARE SOLVING HUNGER

This year was a busy one for advocates and supporters across the state, as the legislative budget debates extended long into the summer months. Thanks to you, we were successful defending and reinstating funding for the Senior Benefits program.

Seniors are one of the fastest growing populations not able to count on always having the food they need. This funding is vital in ensuring that low-income seniors in Alaska can make ends meet and don't have to choose between paying for food and other expenses such as medicine or transportation.

Want to get involved in advocacy? Contact Policy & Advocacy Manager Eve Van Dommelen at evandommelen@foodbankofalaska.org or 907-222-3103.



SNAPSHOT: Feeding Alaska

Here's a look at how your generosity impacted our community.

7.5 million pounds distributed



Donated
by the Food Industry
& Community



USDA Programs



Purchased



42,311Meals served to children around Alaska, like this Golovin resident, through our federal programs.



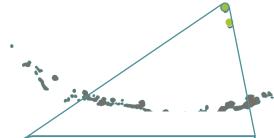
15 teams competed in CANstrand donated over 44 THOUSA pounds of food!

20,094

Total pounds of USDA foods distributed by one Chefornak agency through The Emergency Food Assistance Program and the Summer Food Service Program.



Supplemental nutrition senior boxes put together this year by volunteers and appreciated by seniors.



10,112

Pounds of food distributed through two St. Paul partner agencies through children's co-op meals and the Commodity Supplemental Food Program.

BOARD & STAFF

BOARD OF DIRECTORS: President Allison Biastock ● President Elect Amy DeBruhl ● Secretary Katie Pesznecker ● Treasurer Elizabeth Nobmann ● Reino Bellio ● Jennifer Coughlin ● Graham Fernandes ● Katria Kangas ● Robin Phillips ● Claudia Russell ● Jon Schultz ● Milena Sevigny ● Jodey Ellis-Spansel

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a in FY 2019

Top 5 Food Drives

ConocoPhillips Alaska CANstruction Feeding Our Neighbors AAA Moving & Storage, Walmart, and Ohana Media Group Anchorage School District

uction ND



Pounds of food served at Mobile Food Pantries.



Partner Organizations



352,722

Pounds of food saved through the Food Reclamation volunteer Program.

44 Turkeys

Shipped to Port Heiden for Thanksgiving meals.



9,603

Families served at Thanksgiving Blessing.

Partner Distribution Organizations:

The Fairbanks Community Food Bank, Kenai Peninsula Food Bank, and Southeast Alaska Food Bank are the local food banks for their areas, where they collect and distribute food.



TOP FOOD DONORS

Thank you for helping to keep Alaskans nourished

Carrs Safeway Walmart Fred Meyer Costco Charlie's Produce DiTomaso's Fruit and Vegetables Svsco Alaska, Inc. Point Mackenzie Correctional Farm

Pepsi Beverage Company of AK Target

Peterkin Distributors Franz Bakery Nabisco Foods Group

Nestle USA SeaShare

Great Harvest Bread Co.

*Thanks to Stuart Bond, Nicolai-Alaska LLC for providing additional warehouse space



TRANSPORTATION DONORS

Companies that donated freight to transport food to Alaska

TOTE Maritime Alaska Matson Carlile Transportation Systems Weaver Bros., Inc.

Financial Statements

From the period of July 1, 2018, to June 30, 2019
Full Financial Statement and Compliance Report available at foodbankofalaska.org

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

Revenue and Expenses, Including Food

Revenues

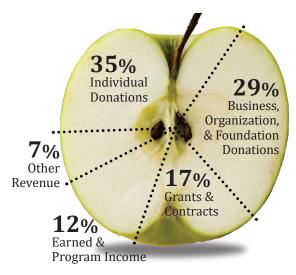
Donations: Individuals	\$1,850,073
Donations: Corporations, Foundations, Businesses, Organizations	\$1,524,244
Government Grants and Contracts	\$931,279
Earned and Program Income	\$668,716
Other Revenue (including non food in-kind)	\$354,619
Value of Donated Food	\$12,209,562
Total Revenue	\$17,538,493

Expenses

Program Services (including value of food distributed)	\$15,544,151
Fundraising	\$379,788
Administration	\$587,889
Total Expenses	\$16,511,828
Change in Net Assets	\$1,026,665
Net Assets, Beginning of Year	\$4,010,593
Net Assets, End of Year	\$5,037,258

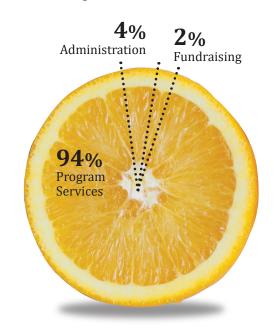
BALANCE SHEET SUMMARY	
Total Assets	\$5,356,047
Liabilities	\$318,789
Net Assets	\$5,037,258
Unrestricted	\$4,258,571
Temporarily restricted	\$778,687
Total Liabilities and net assets	\$5,356,047

Sources of Revenue



Expenses

Including value of food distributed





Thank you! You filled many plates and nourished Alaskan communities

Fiscal Year 2019 (July 1, 2018 - June 30, 2019)

*Early Gifts to our Nourish Alaska's Future capital campaign are included for these donors

\$100,000 +

ConocoPhillips Alaska, Inc. Estate of Marian and Loren Douglas* Intuit Providence Alaska Foundation

\$50,000 to \$99,999

Carrs Safeway Foundation Center on Budget and Policy Priorities Feeding America, thanks to Fred Meyer/ Kroger Zero Hunger | Zero Waste Foundation

\$20,000 to \$49,999

Janonymous Donors
Kasha Cacy
Jennifer Coughlin*
Estate of Mary Ellen Segelhorst Nancy Zverina

Anchorage Mayor's Charity Ball Bilikin Investment DBA Midas BP Foundation, Inc. Cook Inlet Region Inc.* Facebook Fundraisers Feeding America, thanks to Morgan Stanley
Feeding America, thanks to

Walmart Foundation Feeding America, thanks to Enterprise Rent-A-Car Foundation

Feeding America, thanks to various cause marketing campaigns

New Venture Fund Powers Brothers Inc. through our charitable gaming permit Shoreside Petroleum, Inc. United Way of Anchorage

\$10,000 to \$19,999

2 Anonymous Donors Chris and Jennifer Burns* Elaine Taylor

10 Chefs for 10 Causes Alaska National Insurance Co. Alaska USA Federal Credit Union Anchorage East Rotary

Alyeska Pipeline Service Company* BP

Helen W. Bell Charitable Foundation The Brummell Family Trusts

CoBank Credit Union 1 Enterprise Rent-A-Car Foundation

Feeding America, thanks to

Costco Feeding America, thanks to the Red Nose Day Fund Ford Motor Company S.L. Gimbel Foundation Advised Fund at The Community

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\$5,000 to \$9,999

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Insurance Company Willow United Methodist Church XTRATUF



Our Mission

Food Bank of Alaska is dedicated to eliminating hunger in Alaska by obtaining and providing food to partner agencies feeding hungry people and through anti-hunger leadership. We believe that no one deserves to be hungry.



Thank you! Generous support for this newsletter has been provided by First National Bank Alaska.

foodbankofalaska.org **f © ©**









"You have been instrumental in feeding us"

Life has not been easy since Amanda Bank of Alaska's SNAP outreach and her son found themselves in the small, remote community of Sutton. They moved to Alaska several years ago after the passing of her mother in the tragic California wildfires.

At the end of each month she would only have a couple dollars left after paying for expenses like rent and electric and would "eat what I could" to make it through. Eventually their car broke down and made challenges like submitting their SNAP application almost impossible.

It was at the annual Thanksgiving Blessing event in the Mat-Su Valley in November that things finally turned around for her and her son.

Initially they had no way to get to the event but Chickaloon Area Transit generously offered to provide transportation on their day off.

In addition to receiving a turkey and groceries for a holiday meal, Amanda was connected to Food

team at the site who helped her submit her SNAP application right then and there, something she had been waiting to do for six months. She was also able to submit her application for Medicaid which is now providing needed speech and physical therapy for her son.

Amanda said that being able to attend Blessing caused a chain reaction of events that have significantly improved their lives and described the months since as "a miracle" for the two of them. She told us "Food Bank of Alaska has been instrumental in feeding us."

Her hopes for the future are to live a long and healthy life and for her son to be happy.

Thanksgiving Blessing is so much more than providing one holiday meal—with the help of many volunteers and donors like you this event continues to improve the lives of our neighbors in need.



A Thanksgiving Blessing Volunteer helps a participant shop for his holiday meal groceries at Wasilla Bible Church.

Partnered with five sites and hundreds of volunteers in the Mat-Su Valley, Food Bank of Alaska provides groceries for Thanksgiving meals to families from Talkeetna to Palmer every year.









