

# WAFER, Inc. Annual Report

January 1-December 31, 2021

#### **Mission Statement**

Responding to God's love, WAFER provides food and works to eliminate hunger.

#### **Vision Statement**

WAFER is committed to addressing hunger related needs in La Crosse County, while treating each person with personalized service and dignity. We will procure food, develop resources, and collaborate with other programs, organizations, and businesses to alleviate hunger and food insecurity in our area. We will strive for effective stewardship of resources in order to provide successful food assistance programs.

Over the course of the next five years, WAFER will be working to reach those in our population most at risk, children and seniors. Our strategic directives include:



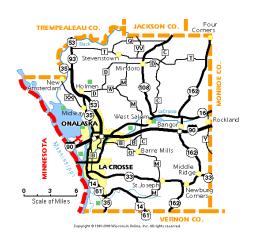
Expanding and developing food procurement and food distribution Educating patrons on nutrition and food preparation

#### December 2021 Board of Directors

Taylor Haley President
Mike Voss Vice-president
Judy Siefert Secretary
Lee Bluske Treasurer

Madalene Buelow Anne Clarkin Brad Clarkin Brent Drenckhahn Dorothy Stroschein Mike Swinghamer

Dedicated to fighting hunger in La Crosse County since 1986



#### Dear Friends,

January started off with a surprise visit from the Oscar Mayer Wienermobile. Wienermobile staff delivered food packages to homebound seniors. Can you imagine their faces when that vehicle pulled up? The next day, at the Saturday distribution event, their staff was available to chat with people coming through the line, answer questions about the vehicle, and hand out gifts. It was a lot of fun for everyone and produced many smiles!



In March 2020, in-person nutrition classes were cancelled indefinitely. As the pandemic progressed and with no real change in site, UW-Extension Nutrition Educators and WAFER staff began conversations regarding



resuming some programming. Since the size of the classroom is quite small and severely limits the number of people who could attend, the conversation quickly turned to virtual. In August 2020, the first virtual nutrition education class was provided. This option of education remained until October 2021 when we moved to a hybrid option – limiting the number of people in the classroom <u>and</u> also offering virtual attendance as well. Previous participants jumped at the chance to meet in person and this change spurred interest from people who had never attended before.

Our thanks to Mary Hoeft-Leithold and Karie Johnson, UW-Extension FoodWise Nutrition Educators, for thinking outside the box and adapting to the situation to best serve people and create a safe space for growing. A few of the classes offered in 2021 were: "One Dish Meals", "10 Tasty Ways To Eat More Vegetables", "Eat More, Weigh Less", "Healthy Comfort Foods", "Wants vs Needs", "Microwave Cooking", and "Cooking With 5 Ingredients".









In the fall of 2020 some grant funds became available via the state and a collaboration with Feeding Wisconsin. A portion of the funds and emergency response funds from the United Way and La Crosse Community Foundation were used to add the temporary addition on Sumner St for drive-thru registration and grocery pickup. A large portion of state funds were used to purchase a new piece of equipment to help with inventory management and storage. We were fortunate to be able to purchase a brand-new stand-up forklift, which arrived early spring. Pictured here is Warehouse Manager Mark, who joined our team in March 2021.

Despite increasing the frequency with which people could receive a food package (from 1-2 times per month to 4-5 times per month) and the contents of each food package, government commodity frozen foods were

received in abundance. Staff brainstormed some ideas to get frozen proteins out to people who could really use it. So, in February we held a frozen foods distribution one afternoon. Turnout was 100% more than we expected. We were able to distribute nearly 6 pallets of product!



The trial "pop-up" distribution success and a partnership offered by our food bank in Rochester, Channel One, caused our staff to consider other options for distribution in La Crosse County communities. Thanks to an amazing staff, Channel One Regional Food Bank resources, and community partnerships, a number of drive-thru distributions were held through May- August. Events were held at First Free Church in Onalaska, River of Life Church in Onalaska, and in coordination with Bangor School District, Holmen Area Community Center, and the Coulee Region Immigrant Task Force at First Congregation Church in La Crosse.





Mid-August brought a heavy rain event and flooding to the building. Long-time employee, Laura, was the first to respond. Barely able to get to the building, Laura waded through water just below her knees to get inside in an attempt to mitigate water coming in. Several staff and volunteers arrived to help and were able to keep up with water flowing in through all main-level doors, preventing loss of product or facility damage. The team worked diligently for hours until flood waters receded. These events aren't uncommon for our area, but the unpredictability and level of damage can be discouraging. My sincere thanks to the staff and volunteers who just do what has to be done to ensure that not one day goes by that we can't serve people!





Despite flood frustrations, August was an exciting month for a great reason! For more than a decade, the board of directors have been in conversation regarding the need for a different facility. Serious searching, due diligence, and negotiations have been underway for the last several years. On August 26<sup>th</sup>, the Executive Board and board lawyer closed on a 1900's era former grocery store on the corner of George and Gillette Streets in a north La Crosse neighborhood.







The following day, August 27<sup>th</sup>, a community press conference was held where Board President, Taylor Haley, announced the facility acquisition. Having outgrown the current facility and the space to effectively carry out the mission, Haley detailed opportunities the new facility could provide:

- capitalize on food donations.
- improve efficiencies and safety.
- reduced flood risks by moving out of the flood plain.
- a space adaptable to changing needs in the community.
- a positive and autonomous atmosphere for the people served.
- an improved space where people feel welcome and cared for.



While the footprint of the building provides the necessary space, the way it is utilized by a grocery store versus a food pantry is quite different. The majority of the facility was retail space, however warehousing is a large aspect of WAFER's operations. Since the building has had several major renovations over the years the first step was to uncover the structure of the building before renovation could be planned. Demolition uncovered some original remaining structure and architectual history. Board Member and Architect, Mike Swinghamer, took the lead to get the project moving forward.



By year end, the project was well underway. A Building Planning Committee was formed, consisting of WAFER Board Members, WAFER staff, and an architectual team. The committee has worked through site plans to consider functionality, needs, flow, structural limitations, and a design to see the organization through another 40+ years of serving people. City approval will be needed prior to any restoration work. Once complete, building plans will be open for construction bids.

In November the Campaign Fundraising Committee was formed. Members vary from current WAFER staff and Board Members, past Board Members, and volunteers. The committee has met to develop a strategic fundraising plan and marketing assets.

The goal is to have renovation completed late summer to early fall 2022. We would like to keep you engaged and up-to-date with project progress so please follow along on our Facebook Page (WAFER Food Pantry or WAFERlacrosse) and on our website under the "WAFER's New Facility" tab. We can't wait to welcome you into the new space!

Throughout the new facility acquisition and excitement surrounding that we have still been actively serving people the same as usual, and listening for new needs. For example, Mobile Pantry Manager, Tony, received a call concerning a group of families in a rural area who were struggling with food insecurity <u>and</u> transportation to get to our main La Crosse location or Mobile Pantry outreach sites. Tony coordinated with a local partner in



the identifed area and scheduled a special delivery. Staff loaded the van with canned goods, fresh produce, baked goods, meat, and dairy products including milk. Coordinated efforts ensured 8 large families would have enough food over the holiday.

In early December, an international anti-hunger organization reached out and offered a semi-truck load of food, hygiene and personal care items, toys, and books. We jumped at the opportunity to distribute items like hygiene items and toys, which are usually limited. Thanks to produce and frozen meat from Channel One Regional Food Bank, recipients received an abundance of quality foods and supplies the weekend before Christmas. The event was a huge success and drew in a larger number of families than expected. In fact, traffic was backed up Copeland Avenue! Recipients were extremely grateful, expressing as much to volunteers and staff. We served people unfamiliar with WAFER, and this gave our staff the opportunity to talk about the ongoing services and programs they could utilize to help with their monthly expenses.

After the event was over, there were even some toys and books leftover. We were able to share them with other non-profits and programs in the area as they too were preparing holiday gift distributions for the low-income families they serve.







WAFER relies on partnerships and collaborations from so many individual advocates, businesses, organizations, service clubs, and more, to provide the most comprehensive impact for the people who need it most. To name each one would surely cover an entire page of this report and I wouldn't want to miss thanking even just one. Please know that the effort put forth by our partners and stakeholders doesn't go unnoticed by our staff, volunteers, or board members. I thank each one of you for choosing to stand and serve alongside WAFER, to help our local communities be better for all, and to ensure that not one person goes hungry.

As you can see, 2021 was a year filled with amazing opportunity and impact. Together we continue to change lives, offer hope, and make our local communities better for all. Thank you for choosing to partner with WAFER in 2021 and on behalf of the Board of Directors, I invite you to join us for a momumentous 2022!

In Service,

Ein Whichart

Erin Waldhart, Executive Director

#### At A Glance – A 2021 Highlight Overview

- ~30,000 people fed through in-house food package distribution, senior food package delivery, and mobile pantry distribution sites.
  - Complete food packages increased in availability from two monthly to once weekly, not including the package provided at the once monthly Saturday distribution event. This opportunity was utilized at 12-times greater rate than pre-pandemic!
- 442 new families requested food assistance.
- Nearly 1.6 million pounds of food, equivalent to 1.5 million meals, were provided.
  - More than 800,000 pounds of food was rescued from local retailers.
- The Mobile Food Pantry distributed 2400 food packages.
- Mobile Food Pantry had 19 established stopping points each month by the end of the year
- The "Backpack" program operating at the Bangor School District provided weekly weekend food packages to 40 children throughout the school year.
  - The once monthly Saturday "Food Fair" extra food package distribution event provided more than 3000 food packages between the La Crosse and West Salem locations.
- "Pop-up" mass distribution events were planned and held at various locations around the county; two different Onalaska churches, the Holmen Community Center, in coordination with Bangor School District, at West Salem High School, and in partnership with Coulee Region Immigrant Task Force.
- Nutrition Education classes continued thanks to a partnership with UW-Extension FoodWI Nutrition Educators, Mary and Karie. In October, we tried a hybrid option which allowed for some in-person participation and some virtual attendance.

#### Volunteers

Serving patrons is an emotionally difficult job; dealing with emotionally battered people, exhausted from just trying to survive, dealing with mental illness, homelessness, humiliated by asking for help, grouchy about their circumstances, just plain difficult, or desperate for just a little human contact. Volunteers have provided exceptional service despite the continued increased physicality of the job. Volunteers literally do the heavy lifting. For those that volunteer for distribution, at ~100 pounds for each food package, serving 30+ families a shift results in physical fatigue from lifting all that food. Each and every day volunteers willingly walk through the door knowing that their dedicated service ensures no one goes hungry.

WAFER volunteers reflect the best of our communities, and are filled with compassion, determination, and service above self to serve others in need. WAFER staff are honored to stand alongside amazing volunteers and to witness their love in action.

In 2021, volunteers gave 12,750 hours of service! The value of a volunteer hour is \$28.54 according to Independent Sector. Based on this rate, WAFER volunteers contributed a value of \$363,885. Even if each person was paid minimum wage, volunteers saved WAFER \$95,000 in staffing expenses.

"Giving" the gift of time looked different for each volunteer in 2021. There were a handful of volunteers that devoted one or more days each week; others contributed their talents whenever and wherever they could.

Volunteers filled a variety of needs, routine and new. These included:

- Packing food packages based on family size to decrease wait times during drive-thru distribution.
- Distributing food packages from the Mobile Pantry.
- Loading vehicles during special drive-thru events.
- Picking up donations and unloading vehicles.
- Sorting food donations.
- Stocking shelves and coolers.
- Assembling food packages for delivery programs and special event distributions.
- Delivering food packages to households on quarantine and homebound seniors.
- Cleaning shelves, coolers, bathrooms, floors, and more.
- Assisting with administrative projects such as mailings, volunteer form filing, and more.
- Representing WAFER at community events.
- Attending food drive events to collect donations.
- And stepping in wherever possible to just get things done.

#### Just A Few Of WAFER's "Rockstar" Volunteers



Three times a week there is a group of guys who volunteer at the pantry to help with unloading vehicles, stocking, sorting, and general warehouse work. They even take the vehicles to pick up donations from regular retail partners when there is a staff absence. Here are three of them (left to right); Al, Dave, and Mike (Sig is missing) and pictured with Assistant Warehouse Manager, Leonard (R). This picture was taken at Hillside Animal Hospital to pick up the collection from their annual pet food and supplies drive.



WAFER is dependent on a generous community of donors and partners. One partner that plays a key role in the success of the Mobile Pantry is the Housing Authority of La Crosse. Their contribution is immeasurable! From contacting patrons when the pantry is on site, helping high-rise residents fill out applications for delivery, including all WAFER updates and dates in the monthly newsletter, to actually assisting on site to help residents get their monthly food package. We are grateful to Fawn and Stephanie in particular for not only their partnership with WAFER,



Dale and Mary have been involved and invested in WAFER for the last 20+ years. They have served individually and as a couple by volunteering in the pantry, delivering packages to homebound seniors, working special events, and more.

Mary is a former board member who was a part of WAFER's move from St. Paul's Lutheran Church to the Causeway Blvd location. She is now a part of the Campaign Fundraising Committee for the new facility due to open in 2022.



Austin has been volunteering for over a year, coming to us the fall before the pandemic. Austin stuck with us through the stress and lack of help during the pandemic. He helps with package distribution 2 days a week between his schooling, at Saturday distributions, as a sub on the Mobile Pantry, and in other areas as needed. Austin faithfully serves WAFER patrons and is the definition of "teamwork".



The Shapiro-Baumgardt Family has been volunteering together for more than 12 years, starting when Hunter and Sawyer were in elementary school. This foursome pitches in where needed – working special events (as see here at the Recycling Fair), handing out food at distribution events, making food packages, working on special projects, and more. They are true champions for WAFER's mission and serve with wholehearted compassion.



Patti has been a volunteer with since summer of 2020. She came to us when she heard about the volunteer shortage we were experiencing. Patti typically volunteers in the evening, when volunteers are usually a little in short supply, and also as other needs arise. Here she is pictured assembling food packages for a special distribution event we held this last year.



Judy, a current board member and long-time volunteer, serves in a variety of ways. As a board member she has helped with donor acknowledgement, special distributions, and representing the organization at events. Most recently, together with her husband, they have been delivering senior food packages. In the last year Judy has also researched potential financial education/budget opportunities, connecting with resources and programs to advocate for the people we serve.



Carol, and two friends, heard the need for volunteers to sort Rotary Light donations in December 2020. And they were hooked. Carol, Monica, and Judy (nicknamed "the three amigas" by the staff) have since transitioned in so many others areas of need. Volunteering one to three times each week, Carol helps with so many little projects that get overlooked. She also helps with assembling packages to be delivered to seniors, stocking coolers and shelves, making food packages for general distribution, volunteering for the Saturday distribution when shorthanded, and anything else that needs attention. Carol is the "energy" and "laughter" when she is in the pantry, creating a fun and lighthearted atmosphere that we all enjoy!



Ben is actually the Evening Manager, working three evenings each week while the pantry is open for distribution. However, Ben can't seem to stay away, often showing up in the mornings or even weekends. We all know when Ben has been in the building – clean floors, stocked shelves, filled freezers, and more. He also uses his lifelong experiences and skills to help with many operational issues like plumbing, equipment breakdowns, vehicle repairs, etc. Ben is also quick to fill in for another of the staff, especially when we are short in the warehouse or a driver picking up donations. Ben is liked by all, quick witted, and kind to the core. A true team player, and genuinely appreciated by volunteers and staff.

Volunteer groups play a critical role in tackling more involved and larger scale projects. The pandemic impacted the size and frequency of volunteer groups. In 2021, little by little volunteer groups started returning, but not to the level experienced pre-pandemic. We look forward to welcoming even more groups in 2022.

Pictured below are just a few of the groups who have spent time with us this year: Trane training group, Cashton High School summer PE class, Viterbo students and family, Altra Federal Credit Union, Onalaska Church of Christ, Citizens State Bank, Gensler, West Salem and Onalaska High Schools Honor Society members, Rotary After Hours, Arcadia High School students, and staff from CliftonLarsonAllen.























#### Who Does WAFER Help?

WAFER provides food to individuals and families throughout La Crosse County (the city of La Crosse, Mindoro, Holmen, West Salem, Onalaska, Bangor, Rockland) and La Crescent, MN due to their distance from their TEFAP (The Emergency Food Assistance Program – government commodities) outlet.

The face of hunger for the people served at WAFER is similar to the face you see passing by you on the sidewalk. Hunger does not discriminate, it affects all people regardless of age, gender, race, family upbringing, social status, or any other factor. WAFER families/individuals come from every walk of life: single parent household, two parents working yet still unable to get by, chronically disabled, newly diagnosed, jobless, homeless, veterans, seniors, and more.

#### **WAFER's Programs and Services**

#### Food Package Distribution

The main program is food package distribution. Patrons receive 4-5 day's worth of food a minimum of one time per month; quantities vary with food package size. The food package consists of non-perishables (canned fruit and vegetables, pasta, beans, tuna, cereal, peanut butter, crackers, soup, tomato products, mac-n-cheese, and side dishes as available), bakery items, dairy products (milk, yogurt, cottage cheese, eggs), frozen meat, a plethora of produce (such as lettuce, greens, onions, potatoes, oranges, apples, bananas, peppers, melon, squash, berries, cabbage, green beans, carrots), and hygiene items.

#### Mobile Food Pantry

New in September 2017, The Mobile Food Pantry program is a specially designed vehicle that travels to various communities and neighborhoods throughout La Crosse County to provide food package distribution closer to home. The Mobile Food Pantry has a similar set up to the in-house food pantry and offers the same foods - canned goods, bakery items, frozen meat, dairy products, fresh produce, and hygiene items. Patrons are able to board the vehicle to choose their foods. Patrons may either receive a food package at the food pantry <u>or</u> at the mobile food pantry, not both. Regular scheduled stops make the service predictable, reliable, and accommodating. Days, times, and locations where the Mobile Pantry stops can be found on the calendar on the WAFER website.

#### **Senior Share**

The Senior Share program provides WAFER's normal food package to low income senior citizens. Food is prepacked according to preferences, as much as possible, and delivered to La Crosse County senior meal sites, apartment complexes, community sites, or individual residences.

#### Hmong Food Package

The Hmong Food Package contains 5 basic staples found in the Hmong diet and is one of WAFER's longest operating programs. This food package has been offered for more than 10 years since many of the Hmong families do not use or eat a portion of the foods available in the "traditional" food package. Many traditional American staples are not a part of the Hmong diet. Therefore, Hmong families can receive bamboo shoots, fish sauce, two varieties of rice noodles, and rice in their food package if they so choose.

#### Feeding Today's Youth

Coordinating with the Bangor School District, we provide easy to prepare or prepared foods for children to take home on the weekend. Though Bangor isn't technically considered a "food desert" (meaning urban neighborhoods and rural towns without ready access to fresh, healthy, and affordable food within a one-mile radius and ten-mile radius respectively) there are few community resources for people to utilize. This program assures children have access to food outside of the school setting, return to school on Monday ready to learn, and have better opportunities for proper development. ~40 children take home a backpack of food a minimum of one time per week.

#### Food Fair

In partnership with Channel One Foodbank, a Feeding America Foodbank, we are able to offer an additional food giveaway one time per month. The Food Fair is typically held the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of each month. Each account holder is issued a ticket for the Food Fair in order to receive the food package, however we implemented no pre-registration options mid-year. This event is a no-contact, drive-thru food distribution. The contents of the food package vary from month to month based on availability at Channel One but typically contains cereal, produce, bakery, meat, canned goods, and crackers. In 2021, Channel One provided an extra 90,000 pounds of food to 2600 households (not included in the total number of food packages given in 2021) through this event.

#### **Nutrition Education**

This project began in 2014 as a collaboration of community education partners. Pre-pandemic, Gundersen Health System Dieticians, Mayo Clinic Health System Dieticians and Dr. Logan and Faller, Viterbo Dietetic Students, Chartwell Chefs, and UW-Extension Nutrition Educators provide produce-emphasized education and food preparation skill development. Understanding that many of our patrons lack basic kitchen tools and food preparation knowledge to fully utilize all WAFER offers, this project was launched to tackle some root causes of food insecurity and poor health associated with food choices. Education sessions are offered monthly and each participant, typically 12 each session, receive education, recipes, samples, and an "incentive" (kitchen tool, cookbook, ingredients) related to the session topic in order to implement new skills at home. In 2021, classes moved from virtual only to a hybrid option allowing for some in-person attendance and also participants to "zoom" in to attend. With the uncertainty of the changing pandemic, UW-Extension FoodWI Nutrition Educators continued providing monthly classes, adapting curriculum in response to current conditions.

#### Food Rescue

Food Rescue is a major component of WAFER's overall functioning and the means by which we are able to offer a large assortment of fresh food items as well as some dry products. Each day of the business week at least one driver is making stops throughout the community rescuing food that is "unsalable" in the store because of a dented box, close sell-by date, package mislabeling, and more. Produce in particular is typically quite bountiful, giving patron families a wonderful choice of healthy, nutrient-dense foods. Due to the generosity of WAFER's regular donors, people have an abundance of wholesome fresh foods to choose in addition to produce; dairy, baked goods, eggs, meat, and more. In 2021, rescued food accounted for 826,000+ pounds. Where 1 pound = \$1, \$826,000+ in product was rescued for the expense in vehicle and staff costs of roughly \$30,000.

#### **Financial Information**

WAFER receives financial support from personal and business donations, foundations, grants, and the United Way.

Operating Expense Accounts, contain minimum of 6 months of financial reserves to insure uninterrupted service...\$345,547.88\*

Capital Improvements and Maintenance Accounts, for future expansion, building and equipment needs...\$915,666.46\*\*

Capital Improvements and Maintenance Accounts, for ongoing programs including Nutrition-Education Training and the Mobile Food Pantry...\$221,559.78\*\*\*

Receivable - United Way Pledge....\$16,182.00

Other Assets Including Property and Equipment...\$534,031.90

Total Assets...\$2,158,988.02

<sup>\*</sup>Operating Expense Accounts include checking and money market accounts.

<sup>\*\*</sup>Capital Improvement and Maintenance Accounts for future expansion, building, and equipment needs, includes money market accounts and bond funds.

<sup>\*\*\*</sup>Capital Improvement and Maintenance Accounts for ongoing programs including Nutrition Education Training and the Mobile Food Pantry, includes money market accounts.



## We wish to acknowledge community donors that partnered with WAFER from January – December 2021. This list does not contain financial donors.

#### **Weekly Food Donors**

Aldi

**Great Harvest Bread Company** 

Kwik Trip

Linda's Bakery

Panera Bread

**Reinhart Companies** 

Sam's Club

Starbucks

**Target** 

Walmart La Crosse

Walmart Onalaska

Westby Creamery

#### Service Groups

Boy Scout Troop 19

Boy Scouts - Troup 46

Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Adoration

**Gateway Area Boy Scouts** 

Girl Scouts of Wisconsin - Badgerland

**Holmen Community Gardens** 

La Crosse Concert Band, Inc

**Recycling Fair** 

**Rotary Lights** 

Southside Community Garden

Washburn Community Gardens

#### **Governmental Partners**

City of La Crosse

**Democratic Party** 

**National Weather Service** 

#### Churches

Caledonia Methodist Church

Community Church of the Nazarene

Connect Church

Coulee Rock Christian Church

**English Lutheran Church** 

First Baptist Church

First Congregational Church

First Free Church

First Lutheran Church

First Presbyterian Church

Holy Trinity Catholic Church

Living Word Christian Church

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church

Our Savior Lutheran Church

Roncalli Newman Center Parish

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church

St. John's UCC, W.G.

St. John's United Church of Christ

St. Joseph Cathedral

St. Mary's School

**Trinity Lutheran Church** 

#### **Schools and Education Partners**

Aquinas High School Aquinas Middle School

**Bangor FFA** 

Blessed Sacrament Catholic School

Cathedral School
Central High School

Chartwell, UWL Dining Service Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

Great River Montessori

Melrose Mindoro School District

#### **Business and Corporate Partners**

3 Amigos Property Management

360 Realty 608 Brewing

A-1 Fire Protection Summit Companies

Able, Inc Ace Hardware

Advisors Management Group, Inc.

Agropur Ingredients
APTiv - Riverfront
Arrowhead Tap House

Associated Bank Bakalars Sausage Co.

Bean Juice Big Lots

Coldwell Banker River Valley Realtors

Coulee Region Humane Society

Courtyard by Marriott Creamery Creek Farms DuraTech Industries Dynamic Recycling Eagle Crest South

**Edward Jones Investments** 

Explore La Crosse Fed Ex Ground

Global Grounds Coffee

Go Macro

Goodwill La Crosse and Onalaska

Great Harvest Bread Co.
Great Lakes Cheese
Great Lakes Coca Cola
Great Rivers United Way
Green Lite Lighting Corp

Business and Corporate Partners Cont...

H&R Block Hansen's IGA

Hidden Trails Corn Maze Hillside Animal Hospital

Hmoob Cultural & Community Agency, Inc

**Home Depot Foundation** 

Jolivette

Kwik Trip Organization - Food donation

La Crosse Airport La Crosse Center

La Crosse Chamber Chorale

La Crosse Country Club Ladies Golf Assoc.

La Crosse Duplicate Bridge Club Lake Neshonoc Campground

Little Feet & Helping Hands Daycare

Maple Ridge Orchard
Mississippi Welders Supply

Neighbor for Neighbor Food Pantry

New Horizons Novus Glass

Oktoberfest La Crosse Festivals

Old Dutch

People's Food Cooperative, Inc.

Pla-Mor Lanes

Pogy's Potato King

Quality Inn of La Crosse Quartz Health Solutions

Ready Pac
Reyes Holdings
River City Reds
Riverplace Apts
Rusty Feather Farm
Sacia Apple Orchard
SAP - Americas, La Crosse

SSE Music

Stonefield Manor

Thrivent Financial for Lutherans

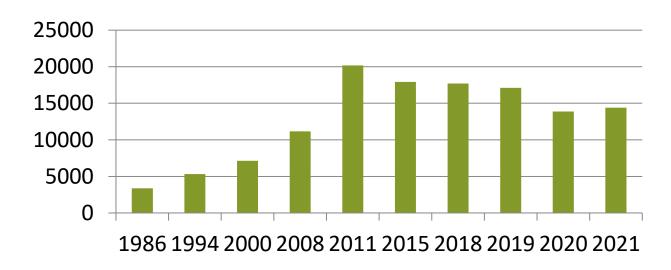
Torrance Casting
Trane Company

Walmart Distribution Center

Willow Creek Ranch Winfield United

\*Due to human error a donor may have been unintentionally omitted.

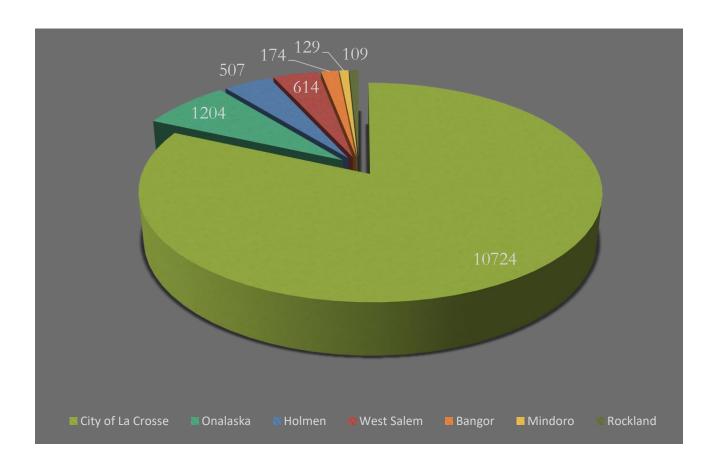
### Food Package Distribution 1986-2021



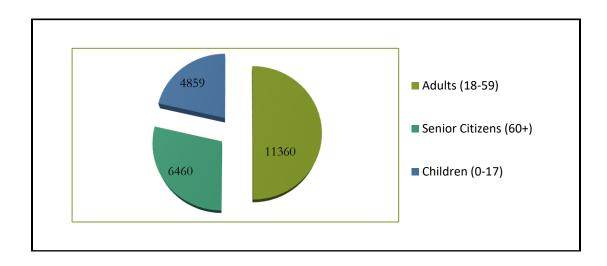
#### **Food Packages Distributed by County**

County	Number of visits in 2020	Number of visits in 2021
La Crosse	13494	14107
Vernon	101	92
Trempealeau/Jackson	90	71
Monroe	4	10
Richland	10	3
Houston, MN	130	109
Other	31	12

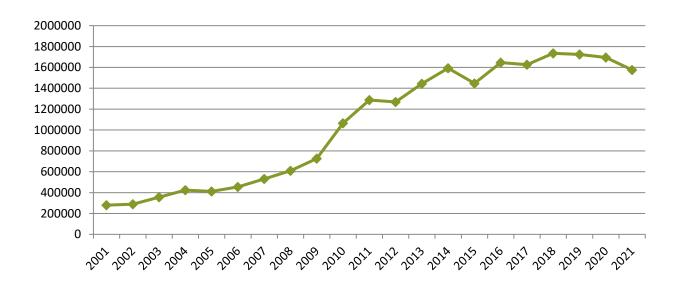
#### Food Package Distribution in La Crosse County Communities



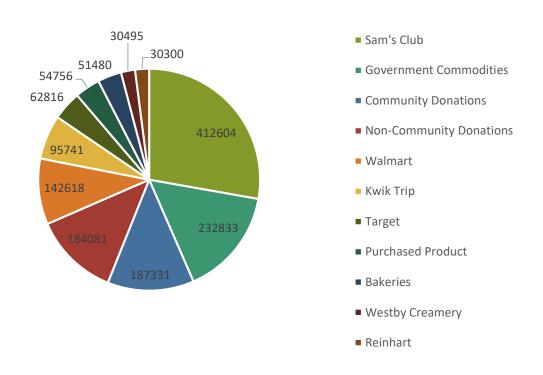
#### **Household Demographics by Age 2021**



### **Total Pounds Distributed 2001-2021**



#### **2021 Food Sources and Poundage**





# THANK YOU FOR HELPING TO FILL THE SHELVES AND HELPING YOUR NEIGHBORS RIGHT HERE AT HOME! WE ARE HONORED TO BE YOUR

**HOMETOWN FOOD PANTRY!** 

If you should have questions regarding the contents of WAFER's annual report, please contact a board member or the Executive Director.

Address: 403 Causeway Blvd, La Crosse, WI 54603

Phone: 608-782-6003

Email: waferdirector@waferlacrosse.org

Website: waferlacrosse.org