

# Annual Report

April 2017- March 2018



[www.hamiltonfoodshare.org](http://www.hamiltonfoodshare.org)



# Our Mission

Working together toward a hunger-free community



60% or  
1.7 million pounds  
of food raised  
was fresh  
or frozen

Value of  
food raised  
estimated at  
\$7,125,000

2.8 Million  
pounds of food  
distributed  
annually

\$350,000 in City  
grants distributed  
to our member  
agencies

8,656 Christmas  
hampers were  
distributed through  
the Christmas  
Hamper Program

54,000 pounds  
of food  
distributed  
weekly

126,703  
public meals  
served this  
year

247,072  
visits logged  
at local food  
banks



# FOOD AND COMMUNITY ARE INSEPARABLE

Message from Executive  
Director and Chair

At Hamilton Food Share, we believe that food is central to a healthy, vibrant community. Hamilton Food Share raised and distributed over 2.8 million pounds of food this fiscal year. This food ensured that over 12,000 individuals living in poverty had access to healthy, nutritious food each month and that low-income seniors had an opportunity to come together and enjoy a meal in the company of friends. This food ensured that at-risk youth were further linked to additional resources such as housing, prenatal, educational and crisis support, as well as life skills and employment training opportunities, and that members of the Aboriginal community had access to more nutritious, well balanced food boxes that supported them in maintaining a healthier lifestyle. Additionally, this year this food ensured that vulnerable youth, women, and newcomers had access to vocational retraining programs, preparing them for a career in the food industry.

This year, we fully operationalized our fresh food mandate, and as a result were able to raise more food than ever before. By prioritizing healthy, nutritious and culturally appropriate food items, Hamilton Food Share was able to ensure that over 60% of the food that was distributed through our warehouse was fresh or frozen and would meet the nutritional needs of the most vulnerable people in our community.

“Fresh Food Fridays” was created by Hamilton Food Share to give our supporters on Twitter a real time glimpse into the fabulous food donations coming into the warehouse. Our organization fully embraced social media, using platforms such as Facebook, Twitter and Instagram, as well as creating our e-newsletter “**Feed the Hammer.**” These platforms have allowed for a direct line of communication with our supporters, an ability to promote events, profile our donors, share photos and recognize the amazing food contributions the members of our community make.

None of this would be possible without the incredible support of our donors. Together, our food industry partners and financial donors make it possible for Hamilton Food Share to increase the value of every dollar, producing 5 times the amount of food that one dollar could purchase on its own. These investment strategies are the cornerstone of our food acquisition programs. Your support allows us to use food in so many ways that result in the betterment of our community and that comes to the aid of our neighbours in need. This report reflects your generous support, the hard work of our team, and the support of our Board of Directors.

**Joanne Santucci**  
Executive Director

**Joe Mercanti**  
Chair of the Board



# BULK BUYING PROGRAM



**Agencies' purchasing  
power increased by 40%**

Last year, agencies who participated in our summer bulk buy program saw a 40% increase in the amount of food they could buy. Every dollar saved went right back into buying more food. We have offered this opportunity again this year, with 6 of Hamilton Food Share's member agencies participating.

*"Summer at St. Matthew's House food bank is our busiest time. The Summer Bulk Buy that Hamilton Food Share offers its member agencies helps us to ensure that we can continue to support individuals, families and seniors who rely on our food bank for food security during the summer months."* – Alex Grant, Supervisor of Social Services, St. Matthew's House

Hamilton Food Share is committed to stretching every donor dollar by only buying quality food from sources that can provide deeply discounted prices, ensuring every dollar is invested wisely. For the past 13 years, The City of Hamilton has been Hamilton Food Share's community partner in mitigating the shortfalls in food that occur each year at summer and Christmas. The City does this by providing support grants to the emergency food network through the distribution channels of Hamilton Food Share. We offer each agency the advantage of bulk buying with us.

*"The summer bulk buy from Hamilton Food Share is a great opportunity to purchase more for less and allows Mission Services to serve our community members fresh, local, high quality foods rich in protein and nutrition all through the summer. We are grateful to Food Share and our member partners!"* – Carol Cowen, Executive Director, Mission Services





Food Share's success in increasing fresh produce donations on a regular basis to our members allowed the grants for bulk buy to be redirected to other priority items, like meat, eggs and cheese, as well as essential non-perishable items.

*"The summer bulk buy through Hamilton Food Share helps us to stay open for Hamilton residents in need with a great variety of healthy food options. This is especially important in the summer months when children are home from school."* – Krista Rao, Community Program Coordinator, Welcome Inn Community Centre

## HAMILTON FOOD SHARE WAREHOUSE OPERATIONS



Meeting food industry standards, Hamilton Food Share runs a fully operational 10,000 square foot shipping and receiving warehouse.

Our refrigerated truck ensures an unbroken cold chain from point of pick up to storage, to distribution, and with a capacity to carry 24 skids and up to 33,000 lbs. Thanks to a custom-built bulkhead, this truck also allows the transportation of frozen, fresh and non-perishable items in a single trip. With our walk-in cooler and freezer units, equalling 12,800 cubic feet, the cold chain is seamlessly continued once food comes into our warehouse.

Our loading dock has a pneumatic dock plate that can accept up to 53-foot trailers. We are able to unload product with our electric fork lifts and pallet movers, moving directly to our industrial scale that can weigh pallets of product up to 5,000 lbs.

All our equipment is part of a preventative maintenance and safety program that meets all food industry standards.



# Food Acquisition and



Where our food comes from  
2,851,291 total lbs.

- 78% Food Industry (2,208,486 lbs.)
- 14% Community Food Drives (401,888 lbs.)
- 8% HFS Purchases (240,917 lbs.)

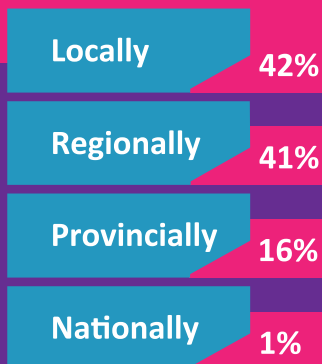
**2,800 pallets  
of food shipped  
& received annually**



Food in by type  
2,851,291 total lbs.

- 43% Fresh (1,210,629 lbs.)
- 40% Non-Perishable (1,150,416 lbs.)
- 17% Frozen (490,246 lbs.)

**Food is procured  
from many food  
systems operating...**



Where our food goes  
2,851,291 total lbs.

- 76% Emergency Food Members (2,149,698 lbs.)
- 21% Niagara Regional Hub Members (609,087 lbs.)
- 3% Local Community Groups and Community Partners (92,506 lbs.)



# Distribution Program



## HAMILTON FOOD SHARE'S EMERGENCY FOOD NETWORK

### Emergency Food Members

Good Shepherd Centre  
Living Rock Ministries  
Mission Services Opportunity-  
Centres of Hamilton  
Native Women's Centre  
Neighbour to Neighbour Centre  
Salvation Army Hamilton & Dundas  
St. Matthew's House (Two Locations)  
Stoney Creek Community Food Bank  
Welcome Inn Community Centre  
Wesley Urban Ministries

### Community Partners

Ancaster Community Services  
Food for Life  
North York Harvest Food Bank

### Local Groups

Cathy Weaver Elementary School  
Hill Crest School  
North Hamilton Community Centre  
Prince of Wales School

### Niagara Regional Hub Members

Beamsville-Community Care of West Niagara  
The Burlington Food Bank  
Caledonia Food Bank  
Cayuga Food Bank  
Community Outreach Program, Fort Erie  
Dunnville Salvation Army Food Bank  
Food Bank of Waterloo Region  
Food with Grace Waterdown Food Bank  
Fort Erie Salvation Army  
Grimsby Benevolent Fund  
Hagersville Food Bank  
Jarvis Caring Cupboard Food Bank  
Pelham Cares in Fonthill  
Port Colborne Food Centre  
Project Share  
St. Catharines Community Care  
Welland -The Hope Centre  
West Lincoln Community Care, Smithville



FARMS / PROCESSORS / RETAILERS  
FOOD DRIVES / PURCHASED FOOD



NATIONAL/PROVINCIAL/REGIONAL  
FOOD BANK NETWORK



HAMILTON FOOD SHARE



LOCAL FOOD NETWORK  
MEMBER AGENCIES

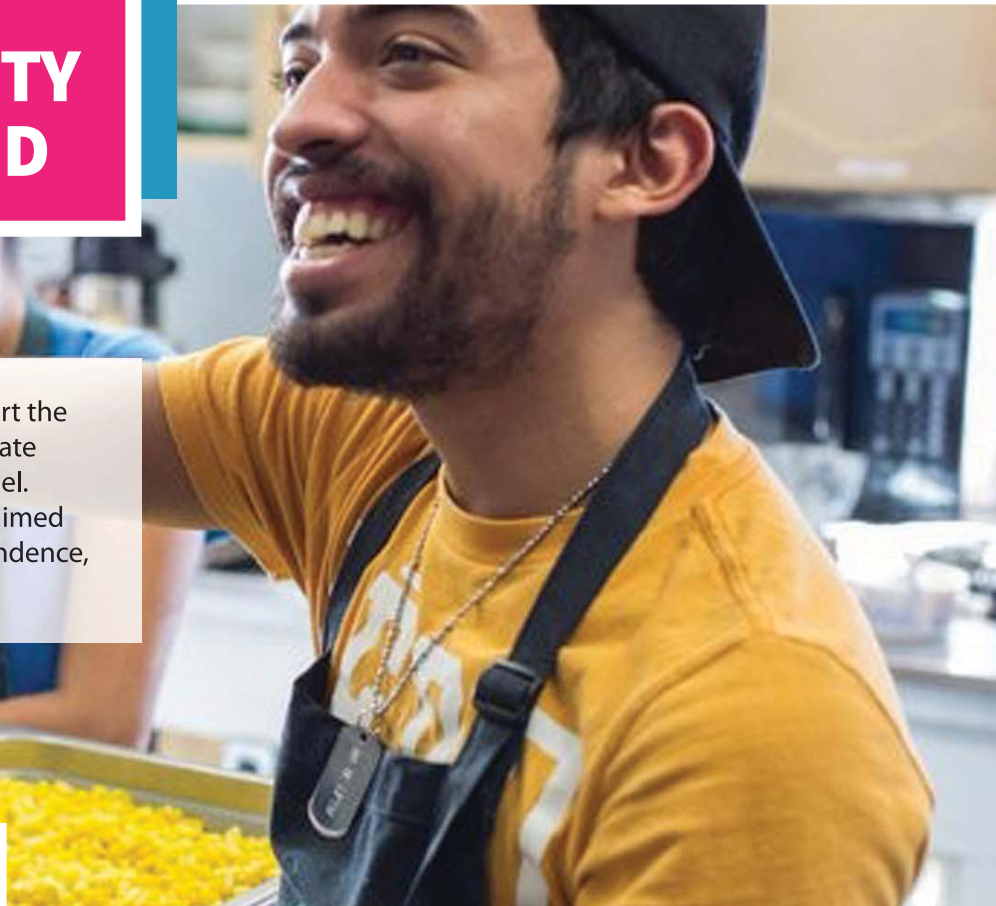


CLIENTS



# EMPOWERING OUR COMMUNITY THROUGH FOOD

**Hamilton Food Share** is proud to support the following innovative programs that operate outside of the traditional food bank model. These programs explore new initiatives aimed at reducing hunger and creating independence, helping individuals move out of poverty.



## Wesley Urban Ministries - First Start Cafe

Hamilton Food Share was integral to Wesley launching their social enterprise in January 2018. First Start Cafe provides job training and life skills coaching to high-barriered youth and adults, making healthy and diverse meals with local ingredients.

*"This new initiative would not have been possible without the partnership and support of Hamilton Food Share!"*

Daljit Garry – Executive Director





## Native Women's Centre - Outreach Program

*"The supports received from Hamilton Food Share have been a great help with the Emergency Outreach Program. The items received help us to make and deliver over 1,655 healthy, well-balanced food boxes to give to our clients so that we can assist them in maintaining a healthy lifestyle. During our programs we offer a light breakfast and a full course lunch. For many of our service users, this is the only meal they will eat for long stretches of time. The food given to us from Hamilton Food Share has allowed us to serve over 840 meals this year."*

Cindilee Ecker-Flagg – Executive Director

## Living Rock Ministries

Hamilton Food Share donated 65,563 pounds of food which made it possible for Living Rock to offer 32,000 meals and snacks as well as providing groceries to 4,000 youth who are experiencing food insecurity. By accessing food bank and meals, youth are further linked to additional resources such as housing, prenatal, educational and crisis support, art expressions and recreation, as well as life skill and employment training opportunities.

*"We are so grateful for the near 20 years of support that we have received from Hamilton Food Share."*

Julie Conway – Operations Director

## St. Matthew's House

*"With the support of Hamilton Food Share, St. Matthew's House Senior Centre provided over 9,000 meals, 2,000 weekend bags and home deliveries to 149 seniors last year. By ensuring access to nutritious meals, Hamilton Food Share supports these seniors in staying housed by allowing them to use their limited income to pay rent and utilities."*

Alex Grant – Supervisor of Social Services



# FINANCIALS



## How we use our resources Total expenses \$1,582,651

- 63.8% Total Food Acquisition & Distribution (\$1,010,480)
- 10.1% Resource Development (\$159,678)
- 10.1% Administrative (\$159,115)
- 9.6% Community Development (\$152,302)
- 6.4% Amortization of Assets (\$101,076)



## Where our funds come from \$1,611,742 total revenue

- 64.4% Donations (\$1,038,735)
- 30.2 % Grants (\$486,723)
- 4.7% Interest & Amortization (\$74,284)
- 0.7% Membership Dues (\$12,000)

A full audited statement is available on our web site.

We are deeply grateful for the individuals in the media who report on poverty issues and encourage donations - we could not do this work without your steadfast commitment to shine a light on tough issues, like hunger in our community.



**HamiltonCommunityNews**

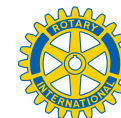


**Hamilton**



**MEDIA CITY**

We gratefully acknowledge our major donors, the City of Hamilton and the following supporters who gave so generously throughout the year.



Rotary Club of Hamilton AM



## HAMILTON COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Losani Family Foundation Fund  
WL Carpenter Memorial Fund  
McCallum McBride Fund  
Van Dusen Fund  
Mary Lauder Cassidy Foundation Fund  
Karen & Peter Turkstra Family Foundation Fund

Proud supporter of  
**HAMILTON Food Share**





**HAMILTON**

# Food Share



## ***Proud to Feed the Hammer***

**DIRECTORS**

**Joe Mercanti**  
**Moi Vienneau**  
**Tyler Ferguson**  
**Carmen Saliccioli**  
**Alan Craig**

Chair  
Secretary  
Director  
Agency Representative  
Agency Representative

**STAFF**




**Joanne Santucci**  
**Kathy Zebruck**  
**Mona Santucci**  
**Celeste Taylor**  
**Jim Martin**  
**Deborah Walsh**  
**Sheba Khan**  
**Adam Linington**  
**Justin Destro**  
**Jim O'Keeffe**  
**Gary McCarthy**  
**Mike Radko**

Executive Director  
Business Manager  
Warehouse Manager  
Resource Development Manager  
Annual Giving & Communications Specialist  
Administrator  
Development Assistant  
Executive Assistant  
Driver/Warehouse & Office Support  
Warehouse Assistant  
Driver/Warehouse  
Warehouse Support

*\*Denotes partial year*



339 Barton St., Stoney Creek, ON L8E 2L2  
Tel: 905.664.9065

 Join us on Instagram @HamiltonFoodShare  
 Follow us on Twitter @HFShare  
 Like us on Facebook at Hamilton Food Share

[www.hamiltonfoodshare.org](http://www.hamiltonfoodshare.org)