



# Annual Report

April 2018 - March 2019

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



# *our* **Mission**

*Working together toward a hunger-free community.*



**Every \$1 donated will provide \$5 worth of food.**

**3.3 Million  
pounds of food  
raised**

**66% or  
2.2 Million  
pounds of food  
raised was fresh  
or frozen**

**Value of food  
raised estimated  
at \$8,723,000**

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

**9,136  
Christmas hampers  
distributed through  
the Christmas  
Hamper  
Program**

**135,722  
public meals  
served this  
year**

**255,537  
visits logged  
at local food  
banks**

**64,400 pounds  
of food  
distributed  
weekly**



# Responding to the Growing Need for Hunger Relief



**Joanne Santucci**  
Executive Director



**Joe Mercanti**  
Board Chair

## A Message from Our Executive Director and Board Chair

This year, Hamilton Food Share has experienced considerable growth. As the incredible support we receive continues to grow, so does our ability to feed people. Our Food Acquisition and Distribution Program performed remarkably, raising the most food ever. We raised over 3.3 million pounds of food this fiscal year, an increase of over 500,000 lbs. of food – a distribution capacity increase of 17%.

Increasing food procurement meant increasing our ability to haul more food. We thank Walmart and Food Banks Canada for granting us the funds to purchase a brand-new forklift, with double the capacity of our old forklift. In the new year we will invest in a third refrigerated truck to ensure that we continue to grow in this area. Our membership increased, adding more hunger relief agencies to our roster of sharing. Three new member agencies were brought on board – one who provides meals to 400 individuals per day in our city's downtown core, one food bank operated by an organization who specializes in providing programs and services for Hamilton's Indigenous community, and lastly, the long-awaited East End Food Bank opened, with our pledge to work with Mission Services to ensure its shelves are stocked.

Our social media platforms continue to bring awareness of hunger and a powerful network of supporters. Over 400 events were held in our community last year for Hamilton Food Share. Subscription to our e-newsletter, Feed the Hammer, grew by

15% and coincided with the introduction of our 'Feed the Hammer' logo in support of this.

We said goodbye to two long-standing board members and welcomed three new representatives to carry on the vision and governance work of our organization. We are thankful for our past board members' inspiring contributions to the fight against hunger.

We are wholly grateful to each of our donors for their continued support, empowering us to work toward a hunger-free community. Our food industry partners, financial donors and community support allow us to ensure that your investment in Hamilton Food Share makes a significant impact by increasing every dollar donated to five dollars worth of food. Our ability to grow and remain responsive to the need in the community would not be possible without your commitment, the dedication of our Food Share team and the support of our Board of Directors.



# Fresh Food Policy

The food that we eat is important. Healthy food fuels our bodies to live, work and play. Hamilton Food Share has made a commitment to ensuring that 50% of the food distributed throughout the emergency food network is fresh and frozen. This past year we exceeded our goal, with 66% of the food raised being fresh and frozen. This translates into over 2.2 million pounds of fresh fruit, vegetables, dairy products and fresh and frozen meats that made it into the homes of Hamiltonians who would otherwise go hungry.

Early 2019 saw the launch of a revised Canada's Food Guide. The central message throughout the updated guide is to consume a variety of healthy foods each day, including fruits and vegetables, whole grains and protein. Our fresh food policy aligns with the new guidelines, making certain that individuals have access to nutritionally balanced meals.

## 14 Ways to Feed the Hammer



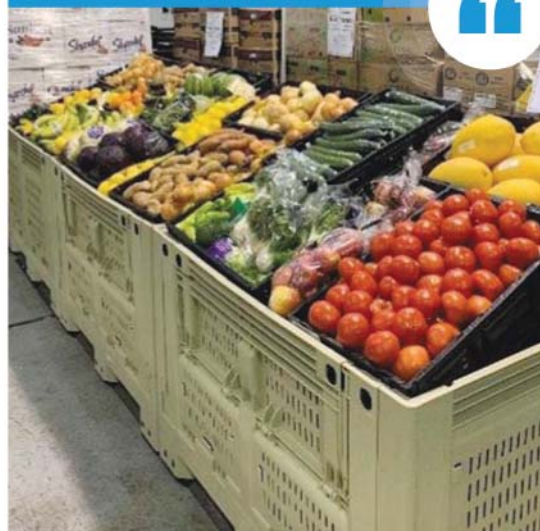
Cable 14 gave Hamilton Food Share the greatest gift this holiday season—the gift of hunger awareness and a call to action to help those in need at Christmas. A series of public service announcements by all the members of Hamilton's Emergency Food Network aired 840 times throughout the month of December. This gift was equal to a remarkable 20 hours of airtime!

Cable 14 galvanized the Hamilton community to donate funds, food and toys that produced 9,136 Christmas hampers. This is an increase of 6.7% over last year. With Cable 14's support we were able help over 21,000 people across our city enjoy the holidays with food and gifts. Children made up 43% of people served by the Network's Christmas programs, equalling 8,624 of our youngest neighbours who were able to celebrate the holiday.

Hamilton Food Share is so grateful to Cable 14 for sharing the story of the Emergency Food Network, the need of our neighbours and especially for celebrating the spirit of generosity that lives in Hamilton.

"Neighbour to Neighbour strives to make good food a priority and ensure our clients have consistent access to food high in nutritional value. Hamilton Food Share has increased our ability to offer a wide variety of fruits and vegetables, quality meats and dairy to the 1,200 households we serve each month."

- Charlotte Redekop-Young, Manager of Emergency Food Services, Neighbour to Neighbour



"The most vulnerable people in our community, including newcomers to Canada, deserve more than just a few cans of non-perishable food items. They deserve to have access to nutritious food that allows them to prepare meals that sustain their families and recognize their diverse cultural backgrounds. The fresh and frozen items that come to us through Hamilton Food Share are invaluable, and they allow us, as a food bank, to serve our community members with dignity."

- James VanderBerg, Executive Directive Welcome Inn Community Centre

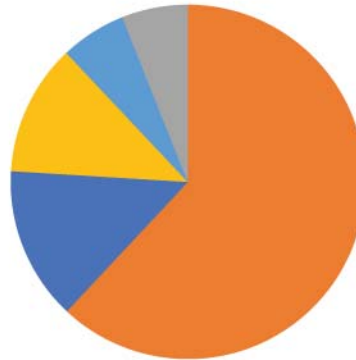






# Our Hunger Ambassadors

Retirees, business owners, employee groups, school kids, parishioners, families, artists, and unions—they come from all walks of life. Our individual and corporate donors make it possible for our organization to provide vital food supplies in aid of our neighbours across the city of Hamilton. Events by workplaces, schools, churches and family gatherings are held in every corner of our city. Last year, over 400 fundraising events were held in support of Hamilton Food Share.



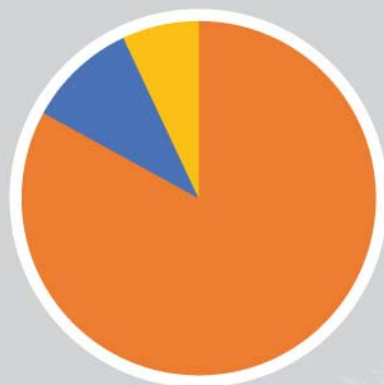
## Fundraising Events by Type

- 6% Faith-Based Groups
- 6% Individuals and Families
- 12% Community Organizations
- 14% Schools and Post Secondary
- 62% Companies/Workplaces





# Food Acquisition & Distribution



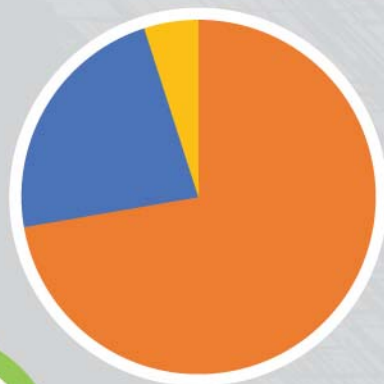
## Where our food comes from 3,355,006 total lbs.

- 83% Food Industry (2,777,392)
- 10% Community Food Drives (351,766)
- 7% HFS Purchases (225,848)



## Food in by type 3,355,006 total lbs.

- 51% Fresh (1,706,195)
- 34% Non-Perishable (1,152,443)
- 15% Frozen (496,368)



## Where our food goes 3,355,006 total lbs.

- 72% Emergency Food Member (2,410,767)
- 23% Niagara Regional Hub Member (778,393)
- 5% Community Groups & Community Partners (165,846)

## Emergency Food Members

De Mazenod Door Outreach  
 East Hamilton Food Centre (Mission Services)  
 Good Shepherd Centre  
 Living Rock Ministries  
 Mission Services of Hamilton  
 Native Women's Centre  
 Neighbour to Neighbour Centre  
 Niwasa Kendaaswin Teg  
 Salvation Army Hamilton & Dundas  
 St. Matthew's House  
 Stoney Creek Community Food Bank  
 Welcome Inn  
 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



FARMS / PROCESSORS / RETAILERS  
 FOOD DRIVES / PURCHASED FOOD

NATIONAL/PROVINCIAL  
 FOOD BANK



# Program

Food is procured from many food systems operating...



## Niagara Regional Hub Members

The Burlington Food Bank  
Caledonia Food Bank  
Cayuga Food Bank  
Community Care of West Niagara  
Community Outreach Services, 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



PROVINCIAL/REGIONAL  
NETWORK



HAMILTON FOOD SHARE



LOCAL FOOD NETWORK  
MEMBER AGENCIES



CLIENTS





# New Member Agencies

**Hamilton Food Share** is pleased to welcome three new community programs to Hamilton's Emergency Food Network.



**Niwasa Kendaaswin Teg** has been providing programs and services rooted in Indigenous culture and language for children, youth, families and communities for over 25 years. Having recently relocated their head office to the former St. Helen's School, Niwasa Kendaaswin Teg has taken over the operations of the food bank located on that site. This food bank program will provide emergency food supports to the Indigenous community, and the McQueston neighbourhood.



*"Hamilton Food Share has provided wonderful support and training for our team so that we can provide an essential service to all residents in the area. We look forward to building our relationships and connections within the network and the community."*

- Monique Lavallee, Executive Director,  
Niwasa Kendaaswin Teg

**The East Hamilton Food Bank**, under the direction of Mission Services, opened its doors. In response to the growing need in the Davis Creek and Riverdale community, a dedicated group of volunteers worked tirelessly to ensure that individuals experiencing hunger have access to an emergency food program. The East Hamilton Food Bank will address a gap in hunger relief programs in east Hamilton, and Stoney Creek.

*"From the earliest conversations about establishing a food bank in the Davis Creek community, Hamilton Food Share was committed to providing the much-needed food for those experiencing hunger. Hamilton Food Share has provided the essential emergency food services that has allowed this new centre to open."*

- Sue Smith, Director of Food Service,  
Mission Services





**De Mazenod Door Outreach** is a program with the stated purpose of utilizing its outreach ministry with compassion and empathy, to nurture, comfort and aid the poor and marginalized in the community who have nowhere else to turn. Operating in the core of downtown Hamilton and serving nearly 400 meals daily, the De Mazenod Door Outreach provides a response to the conditions of poverty and hunger that impact the lives of Hamilton residents.

*"The impact Hamilton Food Share has made on our food sourcing and on those we serve daily is a true testament of community spirit and partnership. Our recent partnership with Hamilton Food Share has assisted us greatly through demanding times, and throughout the year to help offset costs, as well as providing extra food to ensure we are making nutritious meals."*

**- Sherri Ramirez, Outreach Coordinator,  
De Mazenod Door**



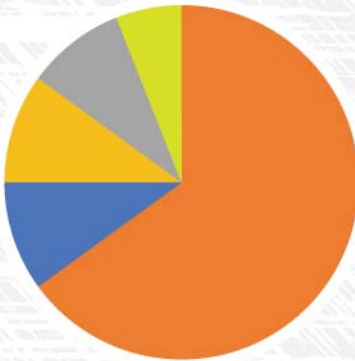
# Thank You!

Volunteers are an integral part of the operations at Hamilton Food Share. Whether supporting our administrative office, lending a hand at local events or coordinating food drives, we could not do the work that we do without them! In the past year, 981 volunteers have assisted us in our programs.





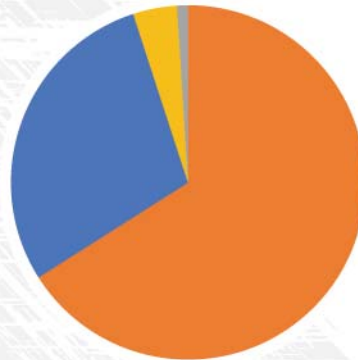
# Financials



## How we use our resources

Total expenses \$1,668,231

- 65% Total Food Acquisition and Distribution (\$1,081,476)
- 10% Resource Development (\$175,361)
- 10% Administrative (\$173,037)
- 9% Community Development (\$145,775)
- 6% Amortization of Assets (\$92,582)



## Where our funds come from

\$1,691,318 total revenue

- 66% Donations (\$1,119,595)
- 29% Grants (\$496,671)
- 4% Interest and Ammortization (\$63,052)
- 1% Membership Dues (\$12,000)

Audited financial statements available at [hamiltonfoodshare.org](http://hamiltonfoodshare.org)

**We are deeply grateful to 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.**







We gratefully acknowledge all of our supporters including the following organizations who gave so generously throughout the year.



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







## Board of Directors

Joe Mercanti	Chair
Moi Vienneau	Secretary
* Alan Craig	Agency Representative
* Carmen Saliccioli	Agency Representative
* Sheean Patel	Director
* Jennifer Paulino	Director
* Vince Raso	Director

\*Denotes partial year

## Staff

Joanne Santucci	Executive Director
Deborah Walsh	Administrator/Business Manager
* Kathy Zebruck	Business Manager
Mona Santucci	Warehouse Manager
Celeste Taylor	Resource Development Manager
Karen Randell	Operations Manager
* Leah Serafini	Community Relations Coordinator
Sheba Khan	Development Assistant
Adam Linington	Executive Assistant
Justin Destro	Driver/Warehouse & Office Support
Jim O'Keeffe	Warehouse Assistant
* Jim Martin	Annual Giving and Communications Specialist
Gary McCarthy	Driver/Warehouse
Mike Radko	Warehouse Support

\*Denotes partial year