

Hamilton Food Share



Hunger. It's just unacceptable.

Mike Lysecki, Chairman

Passing the Torch

This is a milestone report for me, as it will be my last as I prepare to step down from the role of chairperson.

Much has changed since my start as a Board member in 1998-99. I was amazed to see how productive staff were while operating out of a 'hole in the wall' operation at our old location. Not enough space, not enough staff, and the highlight of the year was receiving the first chest freezers to hold frozen foods at a time when our capacity to raise food was 30% of today's levels. It was just a few years before my time when the summer months presented our greatest challenge as donations, both food and financial, dwindled to zero. Everything was a challenge. Everything.

I have seen so much positive growth in 10 years, such as raising the initial resources needed to move from a rented, inadequate space to owning a modern building that can warehouse and move over 2 million pounds of food annually. We developed funding partners that replaced our broken and weathered truck with a 20 tonne refrigerated vehicle and an industrial van, enabling us to increase the capacities of our food recovery program. It wouldn't be long before Food Share outgrew the small chest freezers, and through community investment we built our own industrial size freezers and coolers that can hold over 80 skids of product. Our transition took us from experiencing seasonal shortages to achieving sustainable operations through solid community partnerships. This year, we even used dollars to purchase particular needed food directly to help out our partners. These are amazing feats. Not only did our organization rise to meet these challenges, it went further to build a network of sharing with hunger relief agencies and worked hard to win the support of our local community.

Our Board of Directors are a diverse and dedicated group with a vision for the future and the ability to make it happen. The next chairman, Alex Moroz, is an experienced and capable leader ready to take on the challenges ahead.

It has been said before, but the drive behind all the success of Food Share is the leadership of the Executive Director, Joanne Santucci. She has a vision of a hunger-free community combined with a rare quality of being able to rally all those around her to that end. Her staff continue to make major contributions in the fight against hunger, regularly giving more of themselves towards this vision.

As a volunteer, I have been privileged to lead the Board of this special organization. As I pass the torch of leadership to our new Chairman, I carry with me such memorable moments of my tenure. These moments serve to remind me that eliminating hunger is a shared responsibility that will lead us to a healthier community. The fight against hunger is far from over.

Times have changed, circumstances have changed but the need remains...



Joanne Santucci

Message from the Executive Director

It was an incredibly challenging year. The number of people accessing a food bank rose by an alarming 26%, and food supplies at the member agency level declined to severe lows leading into the summer months and at Christmas time.

Despite the enormity of these challenges, Hamilton Food Share raised and distributed 2.1 million pounds of food this year maintaining our current level of support. This was made possible through 249 community food drives and by procuring over 2,000 pallets from the food industry. We also reached out to local farmers in our area to increase the amount of fresh fruits and vegetables distributed through the system. Establishing partnerships with our local growers to sustain a fresh food gateway will be a concerted focus in our operational plan for the new year.

Our community development activities with local food banks reached several milestones with the City of Hamilton. Together we achieved electronic standardization within our local food banking system as of March 2009. Hamilton is the first community in Canada to accomplish this task. The benefits of this enormous investment will appear in the next phase of this project as agencies download the data to Food Share's central location. The information will be used to mark trends in food program access (using non client identifying data), for stats collection and system capacity development. Under the Emergency Food Action Group we were successful in garnering the support of the City of Hamilton at Christmas time in the form of a \$100,000.00 grant. We dispersed these funds directly to front line agencies in response to their requests for Christmas Hamper support.

We have been successful in securing the commitment of the City of Hamilton and our local food banks to forge a strategic plan for the emergency food sector. This long awaited process of creating operational directions and service delivery standards, as a community, will begin in the New Year. This would be another first for an emergency food sector.

I would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank our dedicated Chairman of the Board, Mike Lysecki. Under his leadership we have been able to grow our operation significantly, acquire our very own building, and sustain operations through these transitions. He steered the process at our Board level that led to the creation and implementation of a policy development strategy. This strategy produced a comprehensive policy document that established our current governance structure, a major building block for our organization. These are just a few of his many contributions. On a personal note, I have had the good fortune of his counsel and support throughout his term. On behalf of our organization I thank you Mike, for your commitment and dedication in feeding the hungry in our community.

A special thank you goes out to all of our wonderful food and financial donors, to our volunteers and to our Board of Directors. We remain ever so grateful for your steadfast support especially during these challenging times. As always our staff at Hamilton Food Share work tirelessly to keep our organization moving forward. From fundraising and public awareness events to shipping and receiving millions of pounds of food to agency relations, donor communications and accounting, they never falter. My heartfelt thanks to a great team, who continue to amaze me still.



mission

To diminish hunger in our community by collecting and sharing food and other resources through effective partnerships that strengthens our response to hunger.

vision

We envision informed communities actively engaged in the elimination of hunger ensuring all community members have access to adequate, safe and appropriate food choices.

values

- We believe every individual has the right to daily sustenance and personal dignity.
- We value long term vision, sustainability, and approach our mission committed to building awareness of hunger and its root causes.
- We recognize and acknowledge the individual and collective contributions made to and through our organization.
- We value an ethical and prudent approach and we demonstrate our integrity through fairness, openness and honesty in our dealings with others.
- We pursue our mission in a proactive manner and we value community collaboration and partnerships.

hunger relief agencies send out an S.O.S.

While we began our year with concern from front lines that food supplies were approaching very low levels, we couldn't possible know how fast it would become critical. In June 2008 for the first time, all of our member agencies came together and held a press conference to send out an S.O.S to our community for help.

Our community responded by organizing food drives in every corner of the city. People collected food from their neighborhoods or their streets, coworkers were inspired to initiate challenges to raise food between their departments. Churches called asking to be an outlet where parishioners could contribute, school kids at the tail end of their year scrambled and organized ad-hoc food drives. It was truly amazing to see our community charge into action to help their neighbourhood food banks. We thank all of you in our community for answering the call.



food acquisition & distribution

Food in by Source:

Hamilton Food Share is a unique umbrella organization, raising 2,144,003 lbs of food this year for emergency food programs throughout the city (this includes food banks and hot meal lines). The two main sources for raising food are community food drives and the food industry. All supplies are shipped and received through our food recovery program.

Food drives ~ 15%:

Our local community has joined the fight against hunger by organizing 249 food drives throughout the year (one for every operational day here at Food Share). Food drives were organized through workplaces, social groups, schools, families, and places of worship.

We are so grateful for the generous support of our local community throughout the year. A few highlights were Anya Mosiuk, a little 6-year-old girl who melted the hearts of so many when she asked family and friends for non-perishable food items instead of birthday presents. Instead she wanted to raise food so that children can eat. Other amazing contributions came from the Purolator, Ti-Cat and Alumni Association Annual Food Drive, Kevin Ellis's Frighton Cemetary gateway (where you couldn't pass through to receive more Halloween surprises unless you brought a non-perishable!), and the magnificent CP Rail's Holiday Train where 3,000 local residents people came out for its arrival in the Gage Park area. We are so thankful for the unwavering support of our local media and organizations during the Holiday Food Drive, in particular The Hamilton Spectator, CH News, Astral Media, Hamilton Police & Firefighters, and CarStar. Additionally, a wonderfully supportive initiative "Help Stop Hunger" Campaign was launched by Hamilton Community News. These were only a few of literally hundreds of initiatives in support of our organization last year.



food acquisition & distribution

The Food Industry ~ 85%:

Our food recovery program has raised over 27 million pounds of food since our inception in 1990. New food gleaning initiatives were launched that connect with food processors, wholesalers, retailers and manufacturers; all resulting in increased support for food banks across the city and across the country. Our success in this area is due to our ability to meet the shipping & receiving standards of the food industry and by building food sharing networks with hundreds of hunger relief programs. This ability facilitates ongoing food contributions from the following areas:

Food Recovery Programs & Areas Gleaned	# of Food Programs	% Total from area
Local - Hamilton & Area	9	59%
Regional - South Western Ontario	80	20%
Provincial – Ontario Association of Food Banks	120	19%
National – Food Banks Canada (affiliate members)	450	2%
Total		100%

Food out by Group

Member Agencies	1,676,489	78%
Niagara Hub	300,558	14%
Community Agencies & Schools	163,986	8%
Total	2,141,033	100%



filling food supply gap

New Initiative | Hunger Relief Fund:

Although our food recovery program is successful in procuring over 2 million pounds of food annually, the need has grown, and food industry donations are declining. Regrettably, it is believed that this trend will now become a standard expectation for emergency food programs. Gaps in the food supply chain will need to be filled with new sources. To maintain our level of support and in response to this challenge, HFS established a Hunger Relief Fund to bulk buy food items. This fund is an initiative that complements our existing food recovery program as it supplements the volume of food gleaned. This fund in its early stages purchased \$29,000 of staple items this year and will be part of our annual fundraising campaign. We will grow the level of this fund substantially (up to \$100,000) over the next year to supplement the traditional gleaning food sources noted above.

New Initiative | Local Growers:

This year we also began to reach out to local growers, increasing our capacity to bring fresh food - much of it grown right here in our own back yard - into the emergency food system. We will build on these activities in the coming year with the objective of developing a fresh food acquisition system that would open up a sustainable gateway for this nutritious product to be received on a regular basis.

Our first fresh food drive initiative "Buy Local Share Local" was held at the Ottawa Street Farmers Market in conjunction with the OAFB, RBC, and the Ottawa Street BIA. Over 2,000 pounds of food were donated in one day from local patrons and market vendors.

"Cherries for the Cause" was launched by E.D. Smith Farms. This pick-your-own farm asked 25,000 customers to pick an extra basket for the farm owner, Lew Smith, to donate to the food banks. This resulted in 12,700 pounds of cherries being donated to the emergency food system. Lew also became an ambassador for the hungry by asking other farmers to give. His contributions led to another 132,000 lbs of pears, peaches, and plums being distributed this year. Additionally, we sent a special shipment of 16,000 pears to 22 local school snack programs.

stats

By the numbers: each month

- 11,289 adults access food bank, up 22 % from last year
- 8,313 children access food bank, up 36% from last year
- 19,602 Total people 19,602, up 26% over last year
- 7,685 total households, up 23%

By the numbers and across the city: annually

- 39 the number of full time staff manning the front line in Hamilton
- 77,554 number of staffing hours dedicated to the front line
- 6,982 number of volunteers who worked at local food banks
- 72,362 the number of volunteer hours ~ equal to 37 full time positions
- \$705,529 Value of volunteers if paid at minimum wage



food out by group

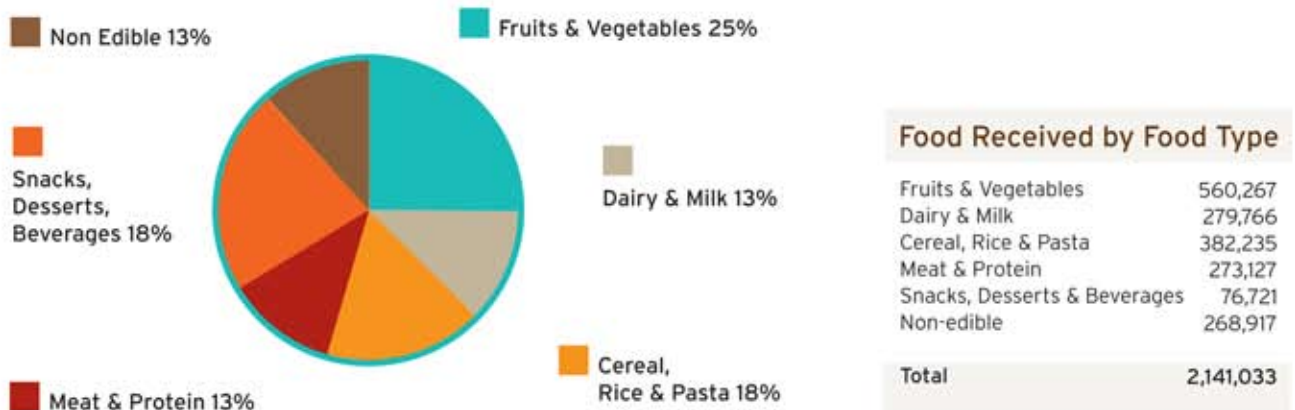
78% of all food distributed went out to the front lines of our member agencies that represent 10 food banks and 6 meal programs operating within the Hamilton area.

14% of all food raised was distributed to our Niagara food bank partners. Hamilton Food Share provides short term storage and distribution that enables these hunger relief agencies to connect to vital food supplies.

8% of the food distributed was directed to other local community programs.

food in by type

We strive to provide the makings for nutritious meals. In the past year we have distributed 2.1 million pounds of food, broken down as follows:



emergency food distribution network

Member Agencies

Good Shepherd Centres
Mission Services of Hamilton
Neighbour to Neighbour
St. Matthew's House
Stoney Creek Food Bank
The Salvation Army
Welcome Inn
Wesley Urban Ministries
Living Rock Ministries

Niagara Regional Hub Food Banks

Beamsville-Community Care of West Niagara
Caledonia Food Bank
Fort Erie, Community Outreach Program
Dunnsville, The Salvation Army Food Bank
Grimsby Benevolent Fund
Partnership West
Niagara Falls, Project Share
St. Catharines Community Care
The Food Bank of Waterloo Region
Welland Food Bank

Local Community Groups

Beasley Nutrition 4 Kids Centre
Café Adoni
City Kids
Food Path
Kiwanis Boys and Girls Club
North Hamilton Community Centre
Out of the Cold
S.P.C.A.
Dundas Salvation Army
Dailey Bread Food Bank
Halton Food 4 All
22 Local school snack programs

board of directors

Mike Lysecki | Chairperson
Alex Moroz | Vice Chairperson
Joe Mercanti | Secretary
Shendal Yalchin | Treasurer
Susanna Pellegrino
Carmen Salciccioli
Al Craig
Karen Kawakami
Moi Vienneau



the Hamilton Food Share team

Joanne Santucci | Executive Director
Lois Matton | Business Manager
Rachel O'Reilly | Resource Development Director
Mona Santucci | Warehouse Manager
Sheba Khan | Administrative Assistant
Justin Destro | Warehouse Assistant
Kira Scattolon | Driver/Warehouse Support
Kate French | Executive Assistant
Amanda Brown | EFAC/HIFIS Project Manager
Linda Fraser | Special Events Coordinator
Mike Radko | Warehouse Support



financial statements

Greater Hamilton Food Share
Statement of Financial Position
March 31, 2009

	2009	2008
ASSETS		
Current		
Cash	\$ 231,440	\$ 105,826
Short term investments	\$ 131,912	\$ 184,000
Accounts receivable	\$ 44,548	\$ 91,099
Prepaid expenses	\$ 10,795	\$ 8,522
	\$ 418,695	\$ 389,447
Capital assets	\$ 1,193,331	\$ 1,255,134
Long term investments	\$ 180,000	-
	\$ 1,792,026	\$ 1,644,581
LIABILITIES		
Current		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 78,029	\$ 52,733
Deferred revenue	\$ 24,000	\$ 4,700
	\$ 102,029	\$ 57,433
Deferred capital contributions	\$ 969,232	\$ 1,017,033
	\$ 1,071,261	\$ 1,074,466
FUND BALANCES		
General Fund	\$ 115,187	\$ 103,329
Invested in Capital Assets	\$ 224,099	\$ 238,101
Board Restricted Funds		
Emergency Operating Fund	\$ 143,684	\$ 133,684
Capital Replacement Fund	\$ 155,001	\$ 75,001
Hunger Relief Fund	\$ 82,794	\$ 20,000
	\$ 720,765	\$ 570,115
	\$ 1,792,026	\$ 1,644,581

Statement of Operations
Year Ended March 31, 2009

	2009	2008
GENERAL FUND		
Revenue		
Amortization of deferred capital contributions	\$ 47,801	\$ 52,915
Christmas hamper support	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000
Donations	\$ 766,197	\$ 571,995
Grants	\$ 50,148	\$ 31,540
Member dues and support	\$ 148,380	\$ 147,350
Nevada	\$ 3,191	\$ 2,671
Other	\$ 6,881	\$ 819
Loss on disposal of capital assets	\$ (5,829)	\$ -
	\$ 1,116,769	\$ 907,290
Expenses		
Amortization of capital assets	\$ 60,092	\$ 67,125
Food recovery	\$ 406,474	\$ 344,085
Resource development	\$ 125,463	\$ 126,168
Community development	\$ 198,483	\$ 169,800
Education and public relations	\$ 51,195	\$ 41,620
Administrative	\$ 105,385	\$ 87,632
	\$ 947,092	\$ 836,430
Surplus	\$ 169,677	\$ 70,860
HUNGER RELIEF FUND		
Donations	\$ 10,000	\$ -
Bulk food purchases	\$ (29,027)	\$ (21,806)
Deficit	\$ (19,027)	\$ (21,806)
Total Surplus - All Funds	\$ 150,650	\$ 49,054

Operating Revenue

- Donations & Fundraising 69%
- Member Dues/Support 13%
- Christmas Hamper Support 9%
- Special Project Grants 4%
- Amortization 4%
- Other 1%



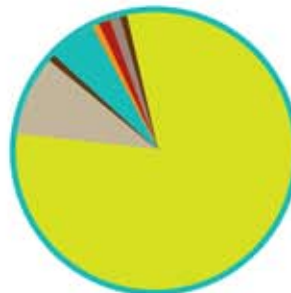
Program Expense

- Food Recovery Expenses 42%
- Community Development 20%
- Resource Development 13%
- Administration 11%
- Amortization 5%
- Education/Public Relations 5%
- Food Purchases 3%



Program Expense including the Value of Food Distributed

- Value of Food Distributed 81%
- Food Recovery Expenses 8%
- Community Development 4%
- Resource Development 2%
- Administration 2%
- Amortization 1%
- Education/Public Relations 1%
- Food Purchases 1%



Our greatest resource is you, our local community. We wouldn't exist without you! We thank all of our wonderful financial donors and volunteers who aid us in our mission to feed the hungry in Hamilton.

A special a heart felt thanks to our hard working Special Event Committee. In addition we would to thank the following Community Partners for their generosity and contributions to Hamilton Food Share:

- Arcelor Mittal Dofasco & Employees
- CIBC
- City of Hamilton & Employees
- CPR Holiday Train
- Potters Guild of Hamilton & Region
- RBC
- South Pole For Kids
- Teresa Cascioli Foundation
- Tim Hortons
- United Steelworkers of America



no **child** should go to bed hungry



Hamilton Food gratefully acknowledges the generosity of our community partner OK&D Marketing Group in the creative design of this report.

www.hamiltonfoodshare.org

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