

# Saving grace

perishable food rescue



## ANNUAL REPORT

# Impact 2018

a look at what we've accomplished together

### DID YOU KNOW?

- One in seven people in Douglas County are food insecure. It would take \$37 million of additional money to meet these food needs.
- Food insecurity during a child's early years threatens brain development, and it has been linked to nutrient deficiencies that lead to learning and development problems.
- 1.6 billion tons of food, or one-third of the total amount of food produced globally, go to waste each year.

Sources – Feeding America, Urban Child Institute, The Boston Consulting Group

### Children Benefit from Healthy Meals



Saving Grace provides enough food annually for 6,000 meals served at the Hope Center for Kids.



Care packages of healthy foods put together by our nonprofit partner agency NorthStar provide a little extra help for families. Twin brothers Latrell and Darell enjoy the variety of foods Saving Grace provides their family.

## BY THE NUMBERS



**6**  
NUMBER OF  
NEW NONPROFIT  
PARTNER AGENCIES

**905,765**

MEALS FED TO THE  
HUNGRY

**2,942,044**

LIFETIME TOTAL  
POUNDS OF FOOD  
RESCUED



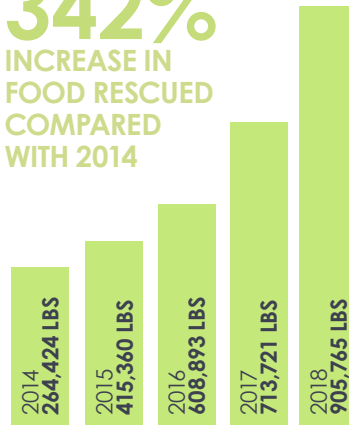
(AS OF DEC. 31, 2018)



**\$1,566,973.<sup>45</sup>**

VALUE OF FOOD  
RESCUED

**342%**  
INCREASE IN  
FOOD RESCUED  
COMPARED  
WITH 2014



**16**  
NUMBER OF NEW  
FOOD DONOR  
PARTNERS

### TYPES of FOOD RESCUED in 2018

**PRODUCE**  
  
**49%**  
445,753 lbs

**GRAINS**  
  
**22%**  
202,478 lbs

**DAIRY**  
  
**16%**  
141,149 lbs

**MEATS**  
  
**12%**  
112,514 lbs

**OTHER**  
  
**1%**  
3,871 lbs

# reflections



2018 was a fantastic year for Saving Grace! We celebrated our fifth birthday in October, and by the end of the year the lifetime total for food rescued was nearly 3 million pounds.

What's become clearer over the years is we don't have a food production problem in our country – rather we have a food distribution problem - and Saving Grace addresses that issue. As a nonprofit business, Saving Grace rescues our community's excess perishable food and delivers it the same day, free of charge, to local nonprofits that feed our hungry neighbors.

Our grassroot efforts rely on a sound business plan, a passionate and talented staff, an engaged board of directors and a knowledgeable advisory council. Community support has grown substantially over the years as the number of financial donors, food donors, nonprofit partner agencies and volunteers has continually increased. I truly appreciate all of this support that enables Saving Grace to feed hungry bellies rather than landfills.

It's been gratifying to hear stories of how healthy food that would otherwise be thrown out is "gracing" the tables of those in need. This quality food provides nutrition for kids to become better students and for the elderly and our veterans to have healthier bodies. It provides opportunities for families to gather around a full table, while taking a burden off of their household budgets.

My heartfelt thanks to all of our supporters who understand food is too good to waste. I encourage you to spread the word about Saving Grace's work, to continue to support us with your financial contributions, and to become more involved in our "no food waste" movement. Keep an eye on our new website at [www.savinggracefoodrescue.org](http://www.savinggracefoodrescue.org) for news and upcoming events and follow us on social media.

Beth Ostdiek Smith, Saving Grace Founder and CEO

## 2018 BOARD

**Laurie Hellbusch**, CHAIR  
*Spirit World*

**Lenli Corbett**, VICE CHAIR  
*Champions of Aging*

**Michael Hemenway**, TREASURER  
*Woodman of the World*

**Peggy Dunn**, SECRETARY  
*Farm Credit Service of America*

**Beth Ostdiek Smith**, CEO AND FOUNDER  
*Saving Grace Perishable Food Rescue*

**Lonnie Michael, Jr.** *Mutual of Omaha*

**Leslie Fischer** *Together A Greater Good*

**Denise Hill** *Preferred Professional Insurance Co.*

**Erik Bird** *Lifetime Fitness*

**Summer Miller** *Writer/Recipe Developer/Author*

## 2018 ADVISORY COUNCIL

**Ellie Archer**, CHAIR  
*Women's Fund of Omaha (retired)*

**Carol Russell** *Community Volunteer*

**Larry Johnson** *Firestone*

**Terry McMullen** *Cargo Zone LLC/AIT Worldwide Logistics*

**My Boes** *Boes Art*

**Anne M. Hubbard, M.D.** *Claire M. Hubbard Foundation*

**Vic Gutman** *VGA Group*

**Pete Festersen** *Omaha City Council and CHI Health*

**Nancy Noddle (Emeritus)** *Community Volunteer*

## 2018 Staff

**Beth Ostdiek Smith**, CEO and founder

**Judy Rydberg**, Field and logistics director

**Tracy Wells**, Development director

**Randy Hansen**, Route driver/food handler

**Michael Magnuson**, Route driver/food handler

**Stacey Lee**, Route driver/food handler

**Corey McDaniel**, Route driver/food handler

**Thomas Ashworth**, Floating route driver/food handler

## LEADING A "NO FOOD WASTE" MOVEMENT IN OUR COMMUNITY

The uncertainty of not knowing where one's next meal will come from is a reality in the Omaha area. Nearly 24,000 of our neighbors in Douglas County are food insecure. Meanwhile, wasted food is a growing problem. The EPA estimates more food reaches landfills and incinerators than any other single material in everyday trash. Connecting excess perishable food that would otherwise add to landfill waste with organizations that feed the hungry just makes sense, and that's what Saving Grace does. Here's how:

- Using refrigerated trucks, each weekday morning our professional drivers/food handlers pick up surplus produce, meats, dairy products, packaged and prepared meals, and other nutritious foods from a network of food donors.
- The food is delivered the same day – free of charge – to nonprofit partner agencies that feed the hungry, including food pantries, transitional living facilities, shelters, children's afterschool programs, senior citizens and a health clinic.
- As a leader in the "no food waste" movement in the Omaha area, Saving Grace works to build awareness around food waste and hunger. Outreach efforts educate community members on ways they can reduce food waste in their own lives.



# We Appreciate Our *Food Donor Partners*

Feeding our hungry neighbors with surplus perishable food that is still good just makes sense, and that's what our food donor partners help us do. Their donations of healthy fruits and vegetables, dairy products, meats, prepared and packaged meals, baked products and more make Saving Grace's work possible. It also makes good business sense, as donors receive a tax credit, save on dumpster fees and support their sustainability plans.

## **50,000 lbs. AND UP**

Fresh Thyme (132nd and Center)  
Fresh Thyme (149th and Maple)  
Hy-Vee #10 (156th and Maple)  
Hy-Vee #9 (180th and Q)  
Kum & Go (10 locations) \*

## **10,000 TO 49,999 lbs.**

Cheddar's Scratch Kitchen \*  
CHI Health Center/Levy Restaurants  
Costco (LaVista) \*  
Eat Fit Go  
Fresh Thyme (Lakeside)  
Greenberg Fruit  
Hy-Vee #11 (180th and Pacific)  
Hy-Vee #1514 (Shadow Lake)  
Hy-Vee #6 (96th and Q)  
Loffredo Produce  
QuikTrip Kitchen (12 locations)  
Trader Joe's  
Whole Foods

## **2,000 TO 9,999 lbs.**

Akin's  
Attitude on Food  
Catering Creations  
Cheesecake Factory  
Costco (Omaha) \*  
Embassy Suites (LaVista)  
Hy-Vee #8 (132nd and Dodge) \*  
Lunch Box Foods  
Outback Steakhouse  
PayPal/Sodexo \*  
Pizza Ranch (Omaha)  
Pizza Ranch (Papillion)  
Rigel Airport Service  
St. Vincent de Paul School  
Wohlner's

## **UP TO 1,999 lbs.**

Bonefish Grill  
Brownell-Talbot School  
Contemporary Food Management  
Creighton University/Sodexo \*  
Home2Suites  
Presbyterian Church of the Master  
Savor Omaha/Baxter Arena  
TD Ameritrade Park  
Tired Texan BBQ  
Westside Meal Services

\*New in 2018

"It is a good marketing tool when people ask (what we do with leftover food) and they know it is going to somewhere."

**NATHAN NEWHOUSE**  
Attitude on Food

"The dream of Saving Grace is how do we capture food that is going to be thrown away, but that is still good? Saving Grace is a success story, but I am not surprised."

**CRAIG HOWELL,**  
Together

"One of the things that really appeals to me is the simplicity of the model. It prevents food waste and feeds the hungry by literally picking up surplus food from those that have it and delivering it to those that desperately need it every day."

**PETE FETERSEN**  
Advisory Council  
Member

**UNIQUE TASTING:** This advisory council event featured rescued foods transformed into appetizers by Chef Dario Schicke of Dario's Brasserie. Shown, Beth Ostdiek Smith and My Boes; the food table.



**TABLE GRACE DELIVERY:** Saving Grace makes a stop at Table Grace to drop off food donations. Table Grace Café is a nonprofit that offers food to anyone who walks through its doors.

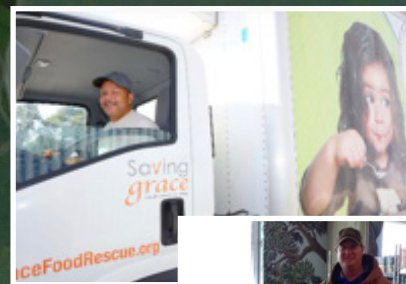


**DUNKELWEISS**

**Saving grace**  
perishable food rescue

**SAVING GRACE BREWS:** A new initiative was launched to use surplus bread for making beer. The process was tested in the fall when Brickway Brewery & Distillery produced a Dunkelweiss beer using excess bread provided by Saving Grace.

**OUR DRIVERS AT WORK:** Stacey Lee makes a delivery to Heartland Hope Mission; Randy Hansen drops off food at Project Hope; Mike Magnuson stops by St. Vincent de Paul School. Three refrigerated trucks and four drivers picked up food from a network of donors and delivered it the same day to our nonprofit partner agencies.



**THANKS TO YOUR SUPPORT IN 2018!**

# LIVING OUR MISSION,

**OUR MISSION:** Connect perishable food from local food purveyors to local nonprofits that feed our hungry, while raising awareness and educating the community on food waste and hunger.

**SUPPORTING OUR CAUSE:** 100 Women Who Care selected Saving Grace as one of the nonprofits members donated to in 2018.



**FOOD DAY OMAHA:** Saving Grace Perishable Food Rescue was recognized as the Nonprofit of the Year at the Third Annual Food Day Omaha Awards. Beth Ostdiek Smith receives the award from Brian O'Malley.



**"WASTED! THE STORY OF FOOD WASTE":** Saving Grace partnered with Film Streams and No More Empty Pots to screen this documentary that aims to change the way people buy, cook, recycle and eat food. Prior to the show, Kitchen Table Restaurant served a variety of appetizing items created with rescued foods. Afterward, panelists provided insights on food waste. From left are Nancy Williams, Clayton Chapman, Beth Ostdiek Smith, Colin Duggan and Moderator Brian O'Malley. (Photos by Debra Kaplan)

**EARTH DAY:**

A young attendee has fun with a food-themed game, while others pledge to reduce food waste in their lives.



**GRACE SHARING:** Volunteers recognize Whole Foods for providing surplus perishable food to Saving Grace to feed the hungry. The event also educated the public about food waste and hunger.

**CROP WALK:** Despite the cold, snowy weather, a Saving Grace team took part in Omaha's CROP Hunger Walk on Oct. 14. Saving Grace was one of the two recipients of this year's local proceeds.



**CELEBRATING FIVE YEARS:** Beth Ostdiek Smith founded Saving Grace in early 2013, and Judy Rydberg joined her that summer to oversee operations. The first truck rolled out onto the streets on Sept. 30, 2013. The two (bottom right photo) reflected on Saving Grace's impact during an open house in October. Saving Grace's board (top photo) and staff members (bottom left photo) took part in the event.



# VISION AND VALUES

**OUR VISION:** Feed the hungry by rescuing the heartland's bounty that would otherwise go to waste.

**OUR VALUES:** COLLABORATION • IMPACT • INTEGRITY • COMMUNITY

Heart Ministry Center



Attitude on Food



Together



Heartland Hope Mission

Greenberg Fruit



## Recognizing Our Original Food Donors and Recipients:

Five of our original food donors and food recipient agencies still partner with Saving Grace.

- HEART MINISTRY CENTER
- ATTITUDE OF FOOD
- TOGETHER
- GREENBURG FRUIT
- HEARTLAND HOPE MISSION

Five years and counting!



# feeding the hungry recognizing our nonprofit partner agencies

Food rescued by Saving Grace was delivered to 40 nonprofit partner agency locations where it provided nutritious meals to some of our community's most challenged children, seniors, veterans and families. In many cases, this allowed the agencies to direct more of their resources to programs that met other critical client needs. Any 501c3 nonprofit agency in the Omaha area can apply to receive food from Saving Grace.

## AGENCY

	POUNDS of FOOD RECEIVED in 2018
Bethlehem House	635
Boys and Girls Club North	4955
Boys and Girls Club South	5069
Carole's House of Hope	2563
Chariots 4 Hope	4700
Compassion in Action	27,131
Christian Outreach Program Elkhorn	37,360
ENCAP *	31,033
Enoch Ministries	1975
Faith Westwood Methodist Pantry	5027
Grief's Journey *	697
Heart Ministries	103,426
Heartland Hope Mission	97,085
Hope Center for Kids	4690
Intercultural Senior Center	16,040
Juan Diego Center	44,992
Kelly House	15,224
Millard South Student Pantry	2453
No More Empty Pots	4086
NorthStar Foundation *	1810
Notre Dame Housing	16,276
One World Community Health	31,953
Open Door Mission	97,281
Papillion Safehouse	3642
Project Hope, Inc.	14,048
Rejoice! Lutheran Church	8220
Rejuvenating Women	2192
Restored Hope	2189
Ronald McDonald House	1104
Salem Food Pantry	16,493
Salvation Army Burrow's Center *	9080
Salvation Army North Corps *	26,574
Santa Monica House *	2320
Siena Francis House	31,456
St. Martin de Porres Senior Center	36,319
St. Vincent de Paul Pantry	64,690
Stephen Center	22,089
Table Grace	10,884
Together	85,562
Youth Emergency Services	10,985

\*New in 2018

"We appreciate the partnership and the relationship. Both of us have the goal of trying to assist people with food needs. Being able to take that issue on with each other is helpful."

Eric Crawford, Heart Ministry Center



Saving Grace drivers and team members loaded up 15,359 pounds of perishable foods in just four hours following a trade show at the CHI Health Center. Six truckloads of healthy perishable food were taken to several of our nonprofit partner agencies to feed their clients.

## WHO WE SERVE

FOOD PANTRIES

14

ON-SITE MEAL PROGRAMS

7

TRANSITIONAL LIVING CENTERS

5

AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMS

4

SHELTERS

4

SENIOR CENTERS

2

CHURCHES

1

HEALTH CLINICS

1

"Saving Grace really fills that gap for us in terms of providing produce and miscellaneous items like cold drinks and yogurt."

Patrick Rios, Heartland Hope Mission

"I was invited to be a guest chef for a Saving Grace event. Through that experience I saw firsthand the amount of fresh, wholesome and nutrient rich food they saved from landfills each day. The thought that so much healthy food was being thrown away rather than given to hungry people in need overwhelmed me. From that point forward I knew I wanted to be part of the solution Saving Grace had created."

SUMMER MILLER, Board Member

# THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS FUNDERS!

# 2018 donations

## \$50,000+

Harper Family Foundation  
Leland and Dorothy Olson Foundation

## \$25,000 to \$49,999

Claire M Hubbard Foundation  
Farm Credit Services of America  
Immanuel Community Vision Foundation  
Omaha Community Foundation  
Peter Kiewit Foundation  
The Lozier Foundation

## \$10,000 to \$24,999

Amy L. Scott Family Foundation  
Mutual of Omaha Foundation  
Saving Grace Friend  
Suzanne and Walter Scott Foundation

## \$5,000 to \$9,999

Cliffon B. and Anne Stuart Batchelder Foundation  
Kum & Go Charitable Fund  
Lori and David Scott Foundation  
Pacific Life Foundation  
Pape Family Foundation  
QuikTrip Corporation  
Union Pacific Foundation  
Wild Willy's Fireworks

## \$1,000 to \$4,999

Charles and Frances Addy  
BlueCross BlueShield of Nebraska  
Church World Service  
Kim and Vicky Coonrod  
Coverys Community Healthcare Foundation  
Mary Daub  
Lorene Dulkoski  
Anne Dwyer  
First Presbyterian Church  
Rosalyn Hansen  
Jim Hassenstab  
Howard and Gloria Kaslow  
Sharon and Jim Kresha  
Kutak Rock  
Sharee and Murray Newman  
Robert and Phyllis Newman  
Omaha Restaurant Association  
Swain Construction

## \$500 to \$999

Ellie Archer  
Ashley Brooks  
Tony and Claudia Deeb  
Peggy Dunn  
Julie and John Eckman  
Jean and Jim Farrell  
Michael and Donna Foley  
Karen Gluck  
Suzanne Grandinetti  
Anne Hellbusch  
Michael Hemenway  
Denise Hill  
Cookie and Jerry Hoberman  
Fred Hunzeker  
Tom and Karen Jacobi  
Richard and Joanie Jacobson  
Nick and Cindi Jasa  
Kendra Scott LLC  
Kathy Kennedy  
Lighthouse Yoga  
Summer Miller Widhalm  
Nancy Movall  
Leigh Neumayer  
Rose Blumkin Foundation Inc  
Judy Rydberg  
Alfred and Beverly Thomsen  
Ginny Tworek  
Brad Von Gillern  
Cheryl Welding

## \$250 to \$499

Accounting 1909, Inc  
Bob Benzel and Gerry Sullivan  
Russell Beran, M.D.  
Erik Bird  
Elaine Bird  
My Boes  
Barbara Braden

Liz Collins  
Lenli Corbett  
Joan Crouchley  
Ed Davis  
Pete and Paige Festersen  
Leslie Fischer  
Sara Foxley  
Vic Gutman  
Chuck and Deb Kinzer  
Sue Lawson  
Lonnie Michael Jr.  
Mark Pifner  
Presbyterian Church of the Master  
Jon Saunders  
Saving Grace Friend  
Philip Schaffart  
Ken Schieber  
Mark Schmelzer  
Steve Sidner  
Carmelicia Sieberson  
Beth Ostdiek Smith  
Dennis and Sherry Thompson  
Tiburon 9 Hole Ladies League  
Together a Greater Good (TAGG) Friends  
Thomas Zadina

## \$100 to \$249

Martin and Holly Adams  
Amazon Smile Friends  
Gary and Barbara Archer  
Buffy and Daniel Baca  
Elizabeth Baker  
Brandi and Scot Ballan  
Helen Barteo  
Mike and Alicia Battershell  
Lori Benton  
Jennifer Bird  
Linda Bird  
Amy and Dennis Boesen  
Steve and Leslie Bogue  
Jeremy Bouman  
John Brandeau  
Barbara Brey  
Robert and Mary Martha Bruckner  
Aaron and Irene Burkund  
Mary Caffey  
Patricia Cantu  
Lorraine Chang and Eric Pearson  
Oscar and Lois Christensen  
Melanie and Michael Clarke  
Virginia Collins  
David Corbin  
Bryce Coulton  
Amy Courtney  
Anna Cramer  
Roger Curry  
Vivian Damratowski  
Carol and John Dennison  
Kerry and Zachary Depew  
Debra Determan  
Pat and Dede Donahue  
Elizabeth and James Dorton  
Amy Dorton  
Carolyn Duff  
Dan and LeAnn Duke  
Douglas Durbin  
Scott and Jodi Durbin  
Joseph and Eileen Dyer  
Brenda and Thomas Evans  
Mary and Ron Ferdig  
Jill Fisher  
Rayna and Scott Fitzpatrick  
Brenda Fleck  
Bruce Frasier  
Fresh Thyme Farmers Market  
Melissa Gebauer  
John Gentry  
James Gernetzke  
Martha Gilchrist  
Stacey Goodman  
Michaela Gulbrandson  
Leslie and Matt Guzinski  
Kathleen Hahn  
Bea Haney  
Constance Heiden  
Bob and Kathleen Herrera  
Douglas and Julie Heskett  
Norma Hill  
Pamela Hoelsing

Jeff Hoffmann  
Sharon Hofschire  
James and Renee Holder  
Dawn Holst  
Candice Inzauro  
Tom and Vikki Jaeger  
Jeffrey and Trudy Johnson  
Elizabeth and Todd Jonas  
Steven Joy  
Mary Beth and William Katz  
Kathleen and Melvin Kaup  
Megan and Christopher Keck  
Charles and Beverly Kelberlau  
Gayle Keyser  
Craig and Jennifer Kinnison  
George Kleine  
Doris Klingemann  
George Kubat  
Elizabeth Larmore  
Dana Lauritsen  
Nancy Lazer  
Gary and Bonnie Lech  
Alice Lindsay  
Kelly and Ben Little  
Magnolia Therapy and Consultation Services  
Bill Mahoney  
Alfred and Pauline Marchese  
Gloria Marsh  
Cheryl Matthews  
Ed and Carrie May  
Chris McClellan  
Janet McGee  
Paula and James McLaughlin  
Charlie McMahan  
Terry McMullen  
Diane Mead  
Monica Messer  
Monday Book Club  
Kelly Morris  
James and Janette Nelson  
Linda Nelson  
Michael O'Bradovich  
Chris and Mary O'Callaghan  
Louise Ocken  
John Ostdiek  
Lisa Paladino  
Therese and Joseph Paladino  
Elizabeth Pantano  
Ron and Judy Parks

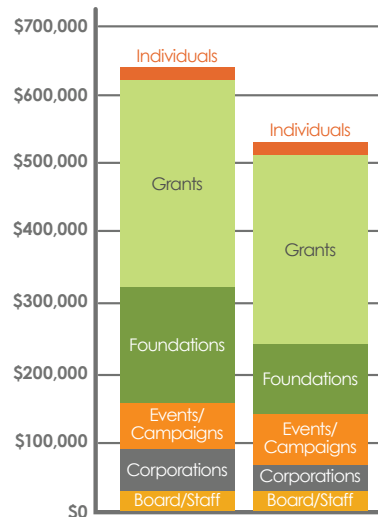
Paul and Oscar Giger Foundation  
Andrea and Timmon Petersen  
John and Melinda Peterson  
Ann and Kyle Pitschka  
Deanna Polk  
Lisa and Regi Powell  
Rebecca and Kenneth Pribil  
Jennifer and Christopher Rabine  
Bambi Rands  
Christine Reilly  
Retired Westside Elementary Staff  
Kerry Ridgway  
Eric Rodawig  
Matt and Tyra Rohlf's  
Carol Rosenow  
Rick and Carol Russell  
Mary Ryan and Donald Moray  
Peter Silberstein  
Janice Smeal  
Kathy and Brian Smith  
Susan Smith  
Stewart and Susie Smoler  
Spruce, LLC  
Michael Stohler  
Surehome Inspection  
The Benevity Community Impact Fund  
Kathleen and Anthony Turco  
Bonnie Tuttle  
Karol Ulmer  
Joyce Underwood  
Union Pacific GivePlus Program  
Kristin and Alan Urwin  
Amberly Wagner-Connolly  
Katherine Williams  
Fred Wilson  
Gloria Zinn

## IN-KIND DONATIONS

Catering Creations  
Circo Enterprises  
Debra Kaplan Photography  
Denise Hill  
Iridian Group  
Kristin Zahra Visual Narrator  
Oriental Trading  
Audrey Riddle  
Sherry Thompson  
Tracy Wells

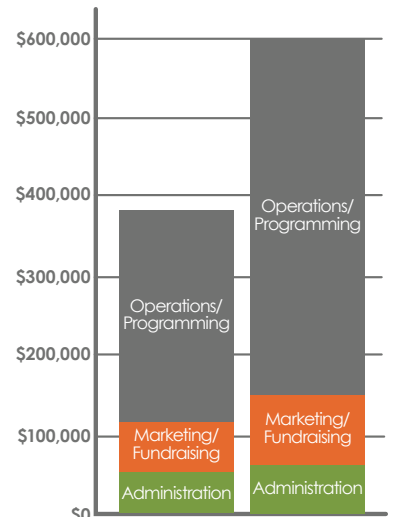
Please accept our apologies if we have inadvertently omitted a name.

## INCOME 2018 ACTUAL vs. BUDGET



\*607,065.91 505,450.00  
**ACTUAL BUDGET**

## 2018 EXPENSES ACTUAL vs. BUDGET



\*\*363,177.36 576,670.00  
**ACTUAL BUDGET**

\*Includes funding for fourth truck and driver in 2019

\*\*Does not include \$36,858 in in-kind donations

# Saving grace

Perishable Food Rescue, Inc.  
4611 South 96th Street, Suite 112  
Omaha, NE 68127



Thanks so  
much for your  
support!

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

## 2019 GOALS

POUNDS OF FOOD  
RESCUED  
1,290,000

FOOD RECIPIENT  
AGENCIES  
45

SCHEDULED FOOD  
DONORS  
55

## JOIN OUR NO FOOD WASTE MOVEMENT

**Did you know** that **40%** of food produced in the United States goes to waste? *Join the movement to reduce this number:*

- Look for ways to reduce your own food waste, such as purchasing only the amount of food you need.
- Support our 50 food partners that donate their excess perishable food to Saving Grace to feed the hungry. See the latest list on our website.
- Take part in community events like Earth Day and Food Day.

## CONNECT WITH SAVING GRACE

- Sign up to receive **emails** and keep up with the latest news at [www.savinggracefoodrescue.org](http://www.savinggracefoodrescue.org).
- Connect with Saving Grace on **Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, Instagram** and **YouTube**.
- Watch for news of upcoming events, such as our **Food for Thought** gatherings and fund/friend raisers.

## FOOD WASTE HIERARCHY



REDUCE



FEED PEOPLE IN NEED



FEED LIVESTOCK

COMPOST & 100%  
RENEWABLE  
ENERGY



DISPOSAL