



annual report
Impact
2022



 **saving**
grace
perishable
food rescue

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Beth Ostdiek Smith
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Randy Hansen
Field Manager

Timothy Wyatt
Field Lead

Jay Olson
Driver/Food Ambassador

James Hester
Driver/Food Ambassador

George Hughes
Driver/Food Ambassador

REFLECTIONS



I can remember the enthusiasm I felt in 2013 when our truck rolled out to rescue food for the first time. I still feel that same sense of enthusiasm and possibility today as our dedicated staff leaves each weekday morning to rescue perishable food that would otherwise go to waste.

In 2022, the first truck with our refreshed branding hit the streets. This new look represents the strong foundation we have built, while evolving

to reflect the changing community we serve. Our simple mission of feeding people rather than our landfills continues to make an impact.

Supply chain disruptions and high food prices affected the amount of surplus food that was donated this year. Food aid programs launched during the pandemic were phased out, including the Farmers to Families food boxes we distributed.

Despite the past few years' challenges, we gained 11 new food business partners in 2022. We maintained service to all our nonprofit partner agencies, delivering more than 900,000 pounds of food to them, free of charge.

We were thrilled to be back out in the community participating in festivals, presentations, and events, spreading our message about the problems of wasted food and hunger and how everyone can be part of the solutions. Last fall we launched a digital awareness initiative and rolled out an updated website.

It has been a year of transition and new beginnings. Our long-time director of field and logistics, Judy Rydberg, retired, and two long-serving board members completed their time of service. We also added new staff members. What hasn't changed is the fact that - together - we are making a difference by preventing good food from going to waste and ensuring people have access to the nutrition they need to thrive. Thank you for believing in and supporting our work.

Beth Ostdiek Smith
CEO, President & Founder

FROM THE CHAIR Anna Cramer, Nebraska Medicine

It has been an honor to serve as Board Chair in 2022. This past year, Saving Grace continued to demonstrate incredible resilience during the uncertain times created by the pandemic. But more than anything, 2022 was a year of hope in which we were able to refocus on the future and move forward with renewed passion for Saving Grace's mission. I am excited to see our dynamic leadership team continue to expand the reach of Saving Grace in years to come, ensuring everyone in our community has access to nutritious perishable food, while also reducing food waste.





“To be able to use this fresh food is great, and the delivery service is a huge benefit for us.”

-Matt Weber,
COO & Executive Chef,
Table Grace Cafe

Director of Field and Logistics **RETIRES**

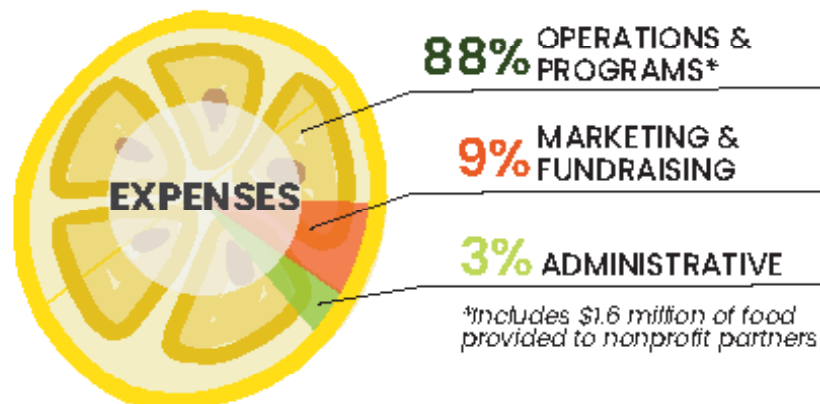
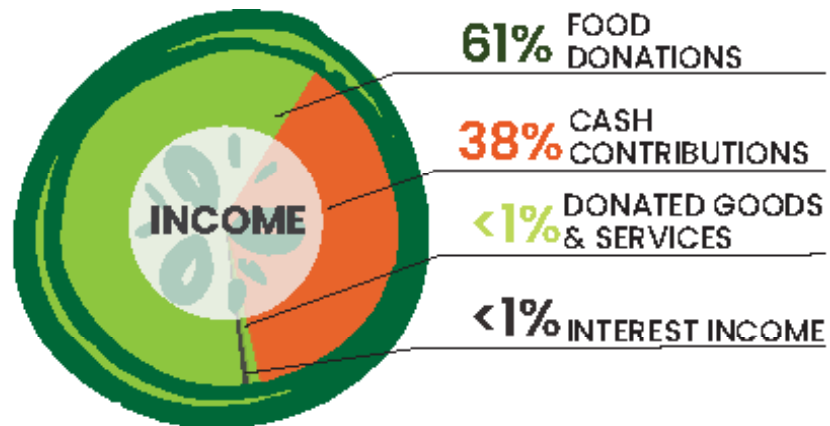
After nine and a half years in her position as director of field and logistics Judy Rydberg retired at the end of the year. Rydberg says her position has enabled her to see first hand the need

for food in our community. “It humbles you, and you are grateful you have the opportunity to help,” she says. While she is retiring, Rydberg said she will continue to watch Saving Grace and support the organization. “I see it doing nothing but growing,” she adds.



FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT

In fiscal year 2022, Saving Grace had total public support and revenue of \$2.6 million and operating expenses of \$2.6 million.



why we **RESCUE**

PEOPLE



80,000+ people experience food insecurity in Douglas, Sarpy, and Pottawattamie counties.

1 in **6** children in the Omaha Metro may go to bed hungry.



16% of individuals in the Omaha community lack access to healthy foods like produce, fresh meat, fresh milk, eggs, etc.



One-third of the food available in this country is wasted.

This amount of wasted food would fill **Memorial Stadium** every day of the year.



If wasted food were a country, it would be the **3rd** largest greenhouse gas emitting country in the world, surpassed only by China and the U.S.

PLANET

our **IMPACT**



915,015 pounds of perishable food was rescued and redistributed in 2022.

465 volunteer hours were dedicated to spreading our message to more than 5,000 people at 19 events and presentations.



40 nonprofit partner agencies received food donated through Saving Grace by **114** business locations.



457 tons of food was kept out of the landfill – the equivalent of removing the annual emissions of **324** passenger vehicles.



11 new businesses partnered with us in 2022, committing to donate instead of throwing away their excess perishable food.

\$13,358,902 worth of perishable food has been donated to those in need since our operations began in 2013.

SAVING GRACE



2022 HIGHLIGHTS



Field Manager Randy and lead Driver Tim load donations from a food donor.



The newest truck in our fleet features our refreshed branding.

We launched our Nourishing People, Nurturing the Planet initiative with a refreshed brand, website, and truck design. Our digital messaging is getting out to thousands of people who are interested in reducing wasted food and addressing food and nutrition insecurity in our community.

We reached over 4,500 people with our Nourishing People, Nurturing the Planet message at community festivals and events, including Earth Day, Millwork Connect Spring Festival, Food Day, the Omaha Hunger Experience, and the Omaha Chamber Open House.



Attendees take the "No Wasted Food" pledge at the Saving Grace booth during Earth Day Omaha.

We picked up surplus perishable food from 114 business locations. Some of our food partners are on regularly scheduled routes, while others, such as event centers, call us when they have a big event.



Saving Grace rescued leftover CWS food from Levy at Charles Schwab Field.



Guests enjoy a gourmet meal at our Dining for Good fundraiser.

People showed up to support Saving Grace at fundraising and benefit events throughout the year, helping us get the message out that food is too good to waste and raising more than \$65,000 to support our operations.

More than 500 people attended our presentations about the problems of wasted food and hunger in our community and learned how they can contribute to sustainability and an equitable food system.



Beth Ostdiek Smith speaks about Saving Grace after receiving the Tribute to Women award from the WCA.



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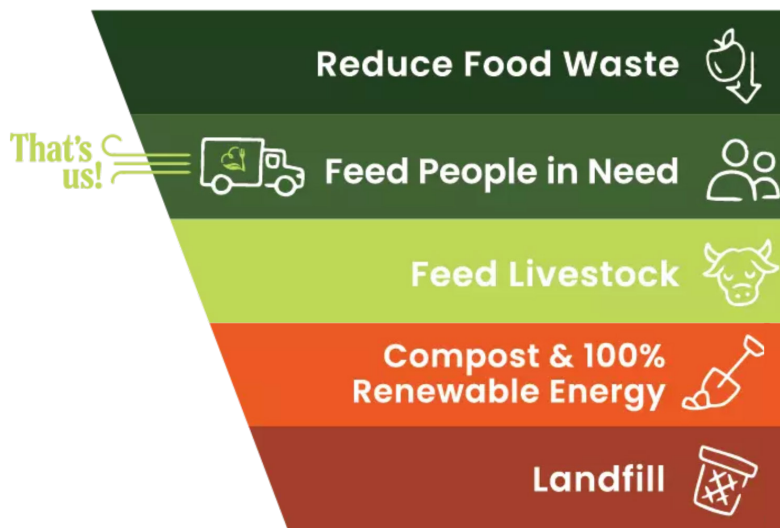
www.savinggracefoodrescue.org

THANK YOU!

We appreciate all our food and financial donors, as well as our nonprofit partners, who made Saving Grace's work possible in 2022! Visit our website at savinggracefoodrescue.org for a list of our food donors, nonprofit partners, and financial donors.



Wasted Food Solutions:



STAY INFORMED

- Sign up to receive our e-news and updates at savinggracefoodrescue.org.
- Connect with Saving Grace on **Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, Instagram** and **YouTube**.