MONTANA FOODBANK NETWORK

MEMBER OF FEEDING AMERICA

2014 Annual Report

Our Mission

End Hunger in Montana

A Look Back AT 2014

Periodically we all ask ourselves the same question – "What is our purpose"? The very basic foundation of charitable organizations is to provide some meaningful impact on the lives of the people they serve. For some non-profits, it may be preserving our lands for future use, for others it is the more basic needs such as shelter or job security.

The mission of the Montana Food Bank Network is to end hunger in Montana through food acquisition and distribution, education and advocacy. The very core of that mission is to ensure that everyone has equal access to nutritious food. You will notice that this does not say "some people" or just the unemployed or just seniors or just children. Everyone.

You can see from our list of partner agencies that MFBN's impact is widespread. From children to seniors, rural to urban, large agencies to small…but our purpose never varies. We exist to ensure that Montana citizens do not go hungry. Through our network of resources, we distributed over 8.5 million pounds of food in fiscal year 2014. In terms of meals, that means approximately 6.7 million meals in one year or over 18,000 meals each and every day.

While these numbers are astounding, it's the stories we hear that bring it home. MFBN's 2014 Client Hunger Survey provides a more personal view of the impact our network brings to families. A mother of two from Miles City stated "When we first moved here we had no savings and were starting out with nothing. When we found out about the food bank, it was a big blessing. My husband now works full time but with rent and other bills, we still need to come to the food bank every few months." When we hear stories like these, our purpose becomes even more clear.

We are all in this together. Donors make it possible for us to provide the food and transportation to get it where it needs to be. Volunteers fill in the gaps allowing MFBN to do more at a lower cost. Partner agencies make sure the food is getting in the hands, and mouths, of those that need it most. Media helps us deliver the message of the needs of our neighbors. The Montana Food Bank Network exists because of you. And for that, we, and the people we serve, are eternally grateful.

Thank you for your support,

Gayle Gifford
Chief Executive Officer

Feeding Montana SINCE 1983

The Montana Food Bank Network (MFBN) is Montana's **only** statewide food bank.

MFBN is a private non-profit organization that solicits, sorts, repackages, warehouses and distributes food to charitable programs that directly serve children, seniors and families.

MFBN is the **only** fully privileged Montana member of Feeding America, the national hunger fighting organization.

MEMBER OF FEEDING AMERICA

Our mission is to end hunger in Montana
through food acquisition and distribution, education and advocacy.

Our vision is a Montana free from hunger
where everyone has equal access to nutritious food.

Our core values are: Justice — Respect — Integrity
Trust — Excellence — Diversity

"Sometimes you are down to your last $20 and you literally have to decide – do I put gas in the car or buy food?"

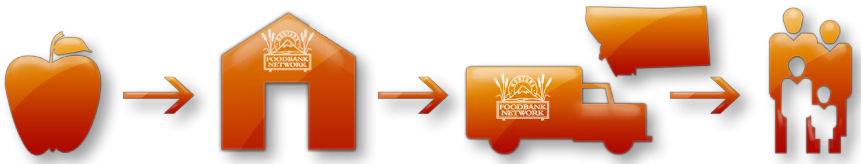
— *Father (Lewistown, MT)*

How We Work FEEDING MONTANA SINCE 1983

The Montana Food Bank Network collects and handles large quantities of food donations that a single food pantry or feeding program may not have the resources to acquire. These products are then distributed to partner agencies such as food pantries, shelters and community meal programs across Montana.

Many of these facilities receive food from other sources but also rely on the Montana Food Bank Network to provide them with a steady supply of nutritious food to meet the needs of their clients.

One in seven Montanans struggle with hunger, so feeding the hungry in Montana is a huge undertaking. Many individuals and organizations must work together to make it happen.



DONATIONS

Food is acquired from local companies, government agencies, special purchases and Feeding America.

WAREHOUSING

All products are inspected, inventoried and warehoused and/or cleaned, processed and repackaged.

DISTRIBUTION

Food is distributed to partner agencies which include food pantries, rescue missions, senior centers and youth homes.

RECIPIENTS

Our partner agencies distribute the food to hungry seniors, children and families that are in need and may otherwise go hungry.

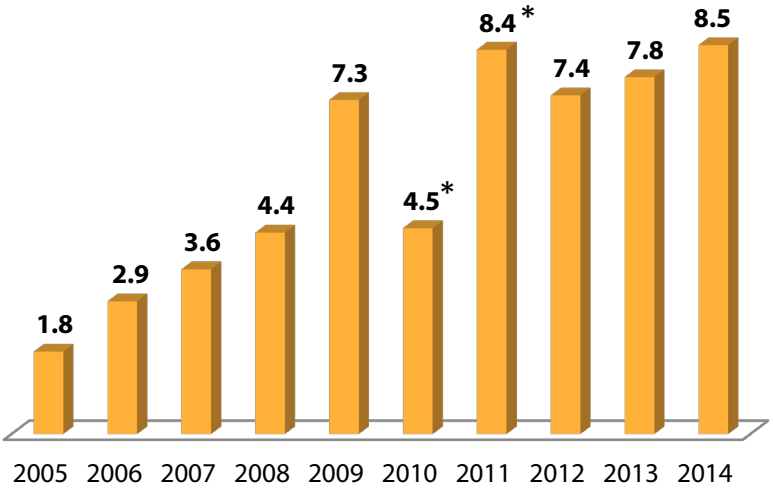
Our admin and fundraising costs are just 7% of our total budget.

93 cents of every dollar donated
goes directly towards programs to feed hungry Montanans.

Food Distribution (JULY 1, 2013 - JUNE 30, 2014)

In 2014, the Montana Food Bank Network programs **distributed 8,459,269 pounds of food** across 150,000 square miles to over 200 partner agencies.

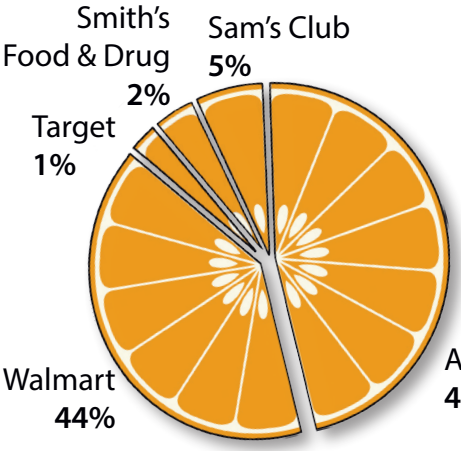
Pounds of Food Distributed (Millions)



* In 2010 and 2011, MFBN changed the accounting fiscal year from *(1/1 - 12/31) calendar year* to *(7/1 - 6/30) fiscal year.*

Grocery Rescue Program (JULY 1, 2013 - JUNE 30, 2014)

Montana Food Bank Network works with grocery stores to develop food rescue programs that provide food donations directly to local partner agencies. **In 2014, five grocery retailers donated 4,486,004 pounds of food to our partners in Montana.**



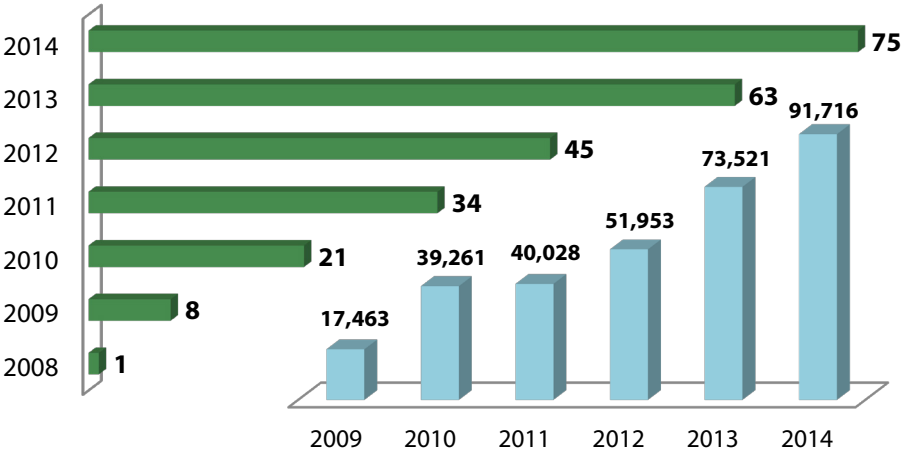
Albertsons	2,183,131 lbs
Walmart	1,958,805 lbs
Sam's Club	203,475 lbs
Smith's Food & Drug	93,262 lbs
Target	47,331 lbs
TOTAL	**4,486,004 lbs**

BackPack Program

The mission of the BackPack Program is to meet the needs of hungry children by providing them with nutritious and easy-to-prepare food to take home on weekends and school vacations when other resources are not available.

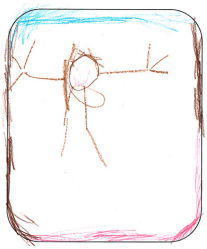
- **91,716 bags** were distributed to **3,925 unduplicated children** through the BackPack Program in our fiscal year 2014.
- In 2014, the BackPack Program expanded to **19 new schools** for a total of **75 different schools, in 29 cities statewide.**
- This year, five new schools on Montana Indian Reservations began distributing BackPacks to chronically hungry students.
- Coordinators at many participating schools supplement BackPacks with fresh produce, toiletry items, school supplies, and community resource information to further aid students and families.

Number of Montana Schools with BackPack Program



Number of BackPack Bags Distributed

Getting my BackPack makes me feel:



School Pantry Program

The mission of the School Pantry Program is to supply food and community assistance at school to students and families who are in need.

In schools where a BackPack program is not the right fit, or additional resources are needed, School Pantries can fill the gap for older students and their families.

Our focus for continued expansion is concentrated in under-served, rural areas and reservations of Montana where the need is greatest, with the intention of impacting students facing food insecurity where resources are lowest.

- Billings currently operates seven school pantries in area middle and high schools, serving an average 150 students per month.
- Great Falls has implemented pantries in 18 schools serving over 200 students and families 15,957 pounds of food in 2014.
- Missoula operates six school pantries, three in high schools, one middle school, and two elementary schools located in lower income neighborhoods.
- Kalispell opened their first school pantry at Flathead High School, hoping to meet the needs of students in transition or who are homeless.

Volunteers MAKE IT HAPPEN

From local businesses, to families, to individuals willing to share their time, the Montana Food Bank Network is grateful for all of our volunteers who work with us to reach our mission.

In the last fiscal year, hundreds of volunteers have d**onated 11,288 hours of their time** in our offices, warehouse and at our special events. The generosity of our volunteers provides not only much needed assistance, but also inspiration for the Montana Food Bank Network.

Advocacy and Outreach RAISING AWARENESS

In addition to providing emergency food, MFBN works to end hunger in Montana through public policy solutions at the local, state, and federal levels. MFBN also works to increase access to and participation in public nutrition programs through outreach and education.

In 2014, MFBN achieved membership in Feeding America's Advocacy Hall of Fame as a result of our policy advocacy activities to improve access to nutritious foods. Of all Feeding America Food Banks in the nation, approximately 10% typically receive this recognition.

Summer Food Service Program (SFSP)

SFSP is a federal program that provides free, nutritious meals to children during the summer months. SFSP is severely underutilized as compared to the Free and Reduced Price Meal Program. The Montana Food Bank Network works to increase participation at existing sites as well as promote the start-up of sites in underserved areas.

- Distributed 1,100 outreach flyers to 275 SFSP sponsors and community partners to advertise local sites. Also created an online, interactive map of all SFSP sites in Montana.

- Analyzed participation data and compiled the 2013 Summer Food Service Program Report, illustrating program access and participation at the county level.

- Targeted unserved communities and provided information on SFSP to local schools, community leaders, social service agencies, and others to generate increased support for the program and recruit new sponsors.

- Recruited sponsors and facilitated the start-up of three new SFSP programs in previously unserved communities. Identified partners in an additional four communities interested in starting programs in summer 2015.

- Visited numerous Summer Food sites to collect best practices and develop relationships with successful program sponsors. Shared these strategies and contacts with new or existing programs interested in increasing participation.

We promote our online, interactive map of all Summer Food Service Program sites in Montana. Search by City and by County is available. (mfbn.org)

Advocacy and Outreach CONTINUED

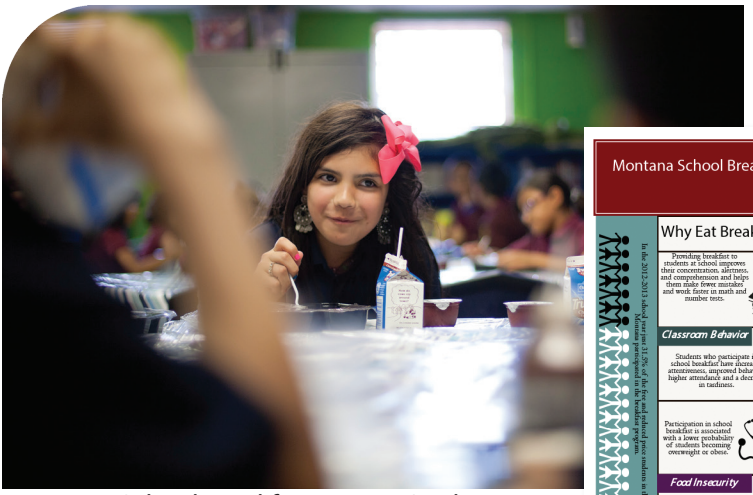
School Breakfast Program (SBP)

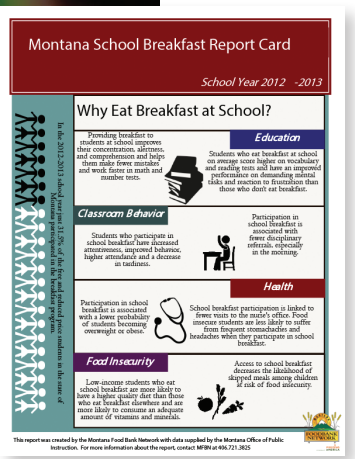
The School Breakfast Program is a federal program that provides nutritionally balanced breakfasts to low-income children at school for free or at a reduced price (FRP). Just one-third of students enrolled in FRP meals participated in school breakfast in the 2013-2014 school year. MFBN works to promote increased access to and participation in this valuable program.

• Partnered with the Office of Public Instruction to promote participation in the new Community Eligibility Provision (CEP), which provides free meals to all students in eligible schools.

• Encouraged CEP schools to implement an alternative breakfast model such as Grab N' Go, Breakfast in the Classroom, or Breakfast After the Bell to further increase participation. Provided information and resources on these models to numerous schools.

• Analyzed school meal participation data to identify top performing districts as well as those districts where breakfast is particularly underutilized. Top districts and those needing improvement will be featured in our 2013-2014 School Breakfast Report, available January 2015.




Montana School Breakfast Report Card

School Year 2012 -2013

Why Eat Breakfast at School?

Education

Providing breakfast to students at school improves their concentration, alertness, and comprehension and helps them make fewer mistakes and work faster in math and number tests.

Students who eat breakfast at school on average score higher on vocabulary and reading tests and have an improved performance on demanding mental tasks and reaction to frustration than those who don't eat breakfast.

Classroom Behavior

Students who participate in school breakfast have decreased absenteeism, improved behavior, higher attendance and a decrease in tardiness.

Participation in school breakfast is associated with fewer disciplinary referrals, especially in the morning.

Health

Participation in school breakfast is associated with a lower probability of students becoming overweight or obese.

School breakfast participation is linked to fewer visits to the nurse's office. Food insecure students are less likely to suffer from frequent stomachaches and headaches when they participate in school breakfast.

Food Insecurity

Low-income students who eat school breakfast are more likely to have a higher quality diet than those who eat breakfast elsewhere and are more likely to consume an adequate amount of vitamins and minerals.

Access to school breakfast decreases the likelihood of skipped meals among children at risk of food insecurity.

In the 2012-2013 school year just 31.5% of the free and reduced price students in the state of Montana participated in the school breakfast program.

This report was created by the Montana Food Bank Network with data supplied by the Montana Office of Public Instruction. For more information about the report, contact MFBN at 406.721.3825

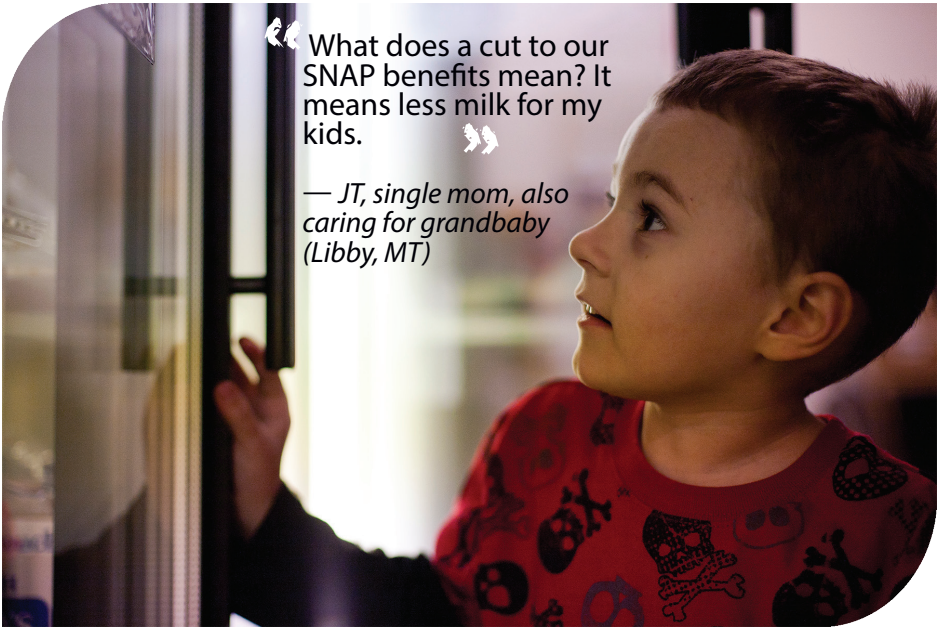
Montana School Breakfast Report Card: a report examining participation in the Free and Reduced Price Breakfast Program by school district.

Advocacy and Outreach CONTINUED

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)

SNAP helps thousands of Montana households put healthy food on the table each month, yet one in four Montanans likely to qualify for SNAP does not participate, including many seniors and working families.

- Monitored final passage of the 2014 Farm Bill. Researched impact of the 'Heat and Eat' policy change for Montana SNAP participants, and encouraged state SNAP and LIEAP offices to take steps to avoid cuts to SNAP benefits.
- Distributed approximately 6,200 county-specific SNAP brochures to our partner agencies, other service providers, and through Montana's Tax-Aide sites.
- Provided SNAP Outreach toolkits to new MFBN partner agencies and conducted in-person SNAP application assistance trainings as requested.
- Provided information and application assistance by phone to individuals interested in applying for SNAP.



Advocacy and Outreach CONTINUED

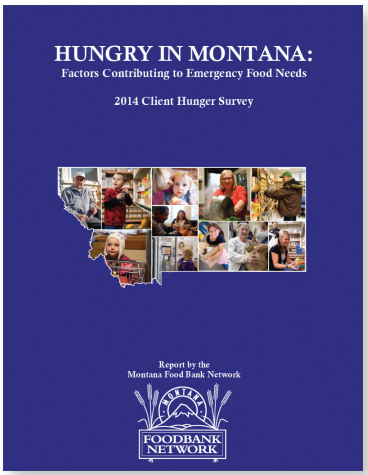
Food Security Council (FSC)

Food Security Council membership has grown and members are enthusiastically working to keep each other informed of activities, successes, and challenges within the programs they manage. The council has identified three areas of focus including increasing access to WIC, targeting the issue of senior hunger, and more actively pursuing and supporting policy advocacy opportunities.

- The WIC work group has an increased understanding of the challenges and opportunities to increase participation in the program.
- The Senior Hunger work group has collected very critical data on the status of hunger among the state's rapidly growing senior population and has started multiple efforts to address the issues.
- FSC works closely with MFBN advocacy staff to further legislation helping to reduce hunger.

Hungry in Montana 2014

- Conducted a survey of more than 200 food pantry clients to provide a snap-shot of who is coming for emergency food in Montana, what factors led them to need assistance, and the impact of food insecurity on their daily lives.



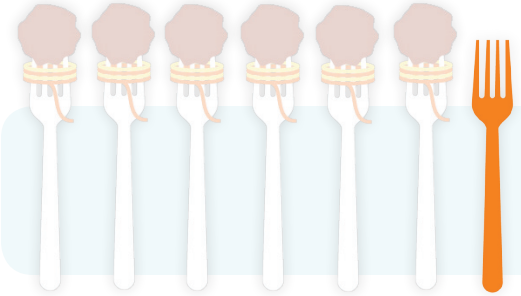
Read the full report online at: www.mfbn.org/research

- Based on this survey, we released our Hungry in Montana 2014 report, the sixth in our series of biennial reports examining hunger in Montana.
- The report findings demonstrate the importance of addressing the root causes of hunger, while also strengthening public and private food programs.

Hunger in Montana GET THE FACTS

139,000 Montanans struggle to put food on the table.

1 in 5 children in Montana live in households that struggle with hunger.



1 in 7 Montanans struggle with hunger.

$1 = 3 meals

For every $1 donated MFBN can provide enough food for 3 meals. It is a result of our national relationships and efficient local distribution system that we are able to provide 3 meals for each donated dollar.

Who We Are FIGHTING HUNGER TOGETHER

WE PROVIDE OVER

8,000,000

POUNDS OF FOOD EACH YEAR

FOR HUNGRY CHILDREN & FAMILIES

ACROSS ALMOST

150,000

square miles

TO OVER

200

PARTNER AGENCIES

Hunger's Hope Awards

At our Feeding Hope Gala we recognized special friends and organizations who make a difference in the lives of those who struggle with hunger in our state.

- First Lady Lisa Bullock
- Ann Sharkey, MFBN Volunteer
- Virginia Mermel
- Good Food Store

Thank you to each of these recipients for their extraordinary commitment and generosity to fighting hunger across Montana.

Who We Are FIGHTING HUNGER TOGETHER

Meet MFBN Staff

Gayle Gifford | Chief Executive Officer
Clark Tower | Chief Financial Officer
Brent Weisgram | Chief Operations Officer
Bill Mathews | Chief Development Officer
Kate Devino | Chief Policy Officer
Lorianne Burhop | Public Policy Manager
Morgan Brennan | Accountant
Jeff Gutierrez | Agency Relations Manager
Diane Matthews | Agency Resource Coordinator
Stephanie Stratton | School Program Coordinator
Brad Argo | Operations Manager
Rob Shipley | Transportation Manager
Steve Anderson | Warehouse/Driver
Greg Patton | Warehouse/Driver
Katie Lane | Volunteer & Events Coordinator
Kristen Lothrop | Marketing/PR Coordinator
Chris McCleerey | Database/IT Coordinator
Erin Carlstrom | AmeriCorps VISTA

Meet Our Board of Directors

Ross Tillman, Chair | Boone Karlberg, PC *(Missoula, MT)*
Maia Aageson, Secretary | Office of Sen. Tester *(Great Falls, MT)*
Luke Jackson, Treasurer | MMW Architects *(Missoula, MT)*
Vicki Judd | Northwestern Energy *(Missoula, MT)*
Dr. Carol Bruneau | University of Montana *(Missoula, MT)*
Mark Dvarishkis | NW Farm Credit Services *(Missoula, MT)*
Keith Haas | Investment Centers of America *(Whitefish, MT)*
Minkie Medora | Nutritionist *(Missoula, MT)*
Terry Teichrow | Retired Education *(Helena, MT)*
Mary Lehman | Retired Accounting *(Great Falls, MT)*
Carol Allen | First Security Bank *(Missoula, MT)*
Brett Pierce | Business Owner *(Kalispell, MT)*
Hank Hudson | Retired Government *(Clancy, MT)*
Gayle Gifford | MFBN CEO *(Missoula, MT)*

Be Social JOIN THE CONVERSATION mfbn.org

Partner Agencies FIGHTING HUNGER TOGETHER

Over 200 community-based organizations across Montana comprise our partner network. From soup kitchens and shelters to food pantries and senior centers, we're all in this together.

BEAVERHEAD
Beaverhead Community Food Pantry

BIG HORN
Center Pole Foundation
Helping Hands in Hardin
Set Free Ministries

BLAINE
Chinook Food Pantry
Harlem Area Senior Citizens Center
Harlem Food Pantry

CARBON
Boys & Girls Club of Carbon County
Joliet Food Pantry

CARTER
Carter County Food Pantry

CASCADE
FISH
Great Falls Community Food Bank (RDO)
Salvation Army – Great Falls
St. Vincent de Paul
Vineyard Mercy Ministry

CHOUTEAU
Chouteau County Food Bank

CUSTER
Custer County Food Bank

DAWSON
Dawson County Food Bank / Compassionate Ministries

DEERLODGE
Discovery House – CCCS, Inc.
Project Care

FERGUS
Boys & Girls Club of Lewistown
Central Montana Community Cupboard
Fergus County Council on Aging

FLATHEAD
Bigfork Food Pantry
Columbia Falls Food Bank
Flathead Food Bank
Lighthouse Christian Home
Northwest Montana Veterans Stand Down
North Valley Food Bank
Samaritan House, Inc.
St. Matthew's Catholic Church
West Shore Food Bank

GALLATIN
Big Sky Youth Home
Gallatin Valley Food Bank
Headwaters Area Food Bank
West Yellowstone Food Bank

GLACIER
Blackfeet Food Bank

GRANITE
Granite County Food Bank

Partner Agencies CONTINUED

HILL
Boys & Girls Club of the Hi-Line
Feed My Sheep
Havre Food Bank

JEFFERSON
Elkhorn Treatment Center
Alternative Youth Adventures

LAKE
Mission Valley Food Pantry
Mission Valley Senior Center
Polson Loaves & Fish Pantry
Polson Senior Citizens
Ronan Bread Basket
St. Ignatius Senior Center

LEWIS & CLARK
Helena Pre-Release Center
Transitional Living Facility
Helena Food Share
Lewis & Clark Group Home
Rural Employment Opportunities
Salvation Army – Helena
YHI – Margaret Stuart Boys & Girls

LINCOLN
Eureka Foursquare Church
Eureka Senior Citizens
Food Cupboard – YAAK
Libby Christian Church Food Pantry
Libby Food Pantry
Libby Senior Center
Tobacco Valley Food Pantry
Troy Community Baptist Church
Food Pantry
Troy Food Pantry

MEAGHER
Meagher County Food Bank

MINERAL
Alberton Food Bank
Alberton Senior Center
Community Food Bank
of Mineral County

MISSOULA
Boys & Girls Club of Missoula County
CFCC – Clark Fork City Foods
Christian Life Center
His Food Pantry
Union Gospel Mission of Missoula
Missoula Correctional Services
Missoula Food Bank
Poverello Center
River of Hope Food Bank
Salvation Army – Missoula
Seeley-Swan Community Food Bank
Teen Challenge MT Outreach
Teen Recovery Center
Watson Children's Shelter
WMMHC – Carole Graham Home
WMMHC – WMAS – Share House
WMMHC – Stephens House
WMMHC – Recovery Center Missoula
WMMHC – Teen Recovery Center
YHI – Dennis Radtke Home
YHI – Partnership for Children -
Rosemary Gallagher Children's Home
YHI – Shirley Miller Attention Home
YHI – Talbot Home for Boys
YHI – Tom Roy Guidance Home
YWCA – Pathways

MUSSELSHELL
Musselshell County Food Bank

PARK
Gardiner Food Pantry
Livingston Food Pantry of Park County

Partner Agencies CONTINUED

PHILLIPS
Malta Food Bank
Malta Opportunities Inc.

PONDERA
Pondera Food Pantry

RAVALLI
Bitterroot Valley Calvary Chapel
Darby Bread Box
Haven House Food Bank
Pantry Partners
WMMHC – New Beginnings Adult Day Treatment
WMMHC – West House/Eddy Meuchel Group Home

RICHLAND
Fellowship Food Pantry

ROOSEVELT
Culbertson Food Bank
New Life Mission

ROSEBUD
Colstrip Community Food Bank
St. Labre Food Pantry

SANDERS
Community Services Fellowship
Community Harvest Food Bank
Dixon Senior Center
Gospel Mountain Assembly of God Food Bank
Heron Senior Citizens
Hot Springs Food Pantry
Hot Springs Senior Community Center
Noxon Senior Citizens
Open Gate Ranch
Plains A.O.G. Shekinah Kitchen
Plains Community Food Bank
Plains Paradise Senior Center
Sanders County Coalition for Families
Thompson Falls Senior Center
Trout Creek Senior Citizens

SILVERBOW
Butte Emergency Food Bank
Butte Rescue Mission

STILLWATER
Project Hope

SWEET GRASS
Big Timber Community Food Pantry

TETON
Fairfield School Food Pantry
Teton County Food Pantry

VALLEY
Valley County Emergency Food Bank
Valley County Council on Aging

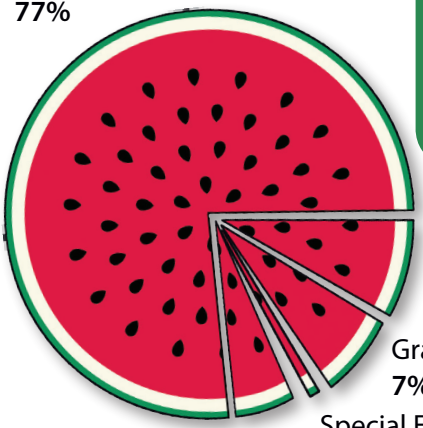
WIBAUX
Wibaux County Food Bank

YELLOWSTONE
Alternatives, Inc.
Billings Schools Teen Pantry Program
Community Hope, Inc.
Family Service, Inc.
Montana Rescue Mission

Financials 2014

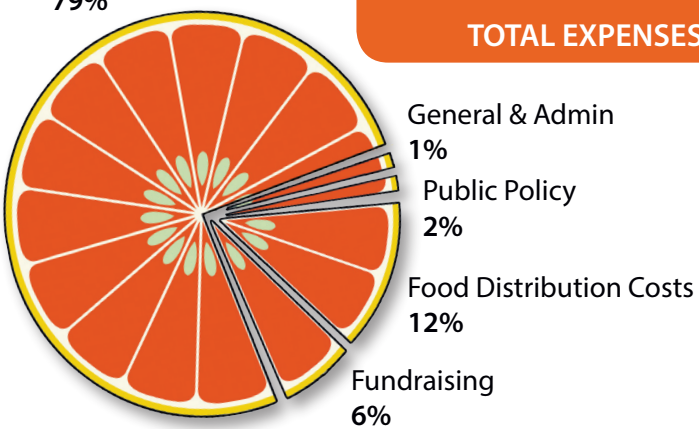
Public Support & Revenue (JULY 1, 2013 - JUNE 30, 2014)

Value of Donated Food	$10,450,446
Contributions	$1,389,171
In-Kind Contributions	$6,267
Grants	$1,001,689
Special Events	$126,095
Earned Income	$611,760
Other Revenue	$12,753
TOTAL REVENUE	**$13,598,181**



Expenses (JULY 1, 2013 - JUNE 30, 2014)

Donated Food Distributed	$10,632,862
Food Distribution Costs	$1,633,355
Public Policy	$218,751
General & Administration	$162,896
Fundraising	$772,966
TOTAL EXPENSES	**$13,420,830**



Funds CONTINUED

Balance Sheet (JULY 1, 2013 - JUNE 30, 2014)

Total Assets	$3,678,061
Total Liabilities	$391,228
NET ASSETS	**$3,286,833**

Generous Support ORGANIZATIONS ARE PLAYING A ROLE *

Albertsons
Angora Ridge Foundation
Center on Budget and Policy Priorities
CHS Foundation
Cruise Industry Charitable Foundation
Dennis & Phyllis Washington Foundation
Edward Jones
Feeding America
Fidelity Charitable Trust
First Security Bank
Ford Motor Company
Fresh Life Church
Good Food Store
Knife River
Lamar Outdoor Advertising
Madison-Jefferson Co. Extension Office
MAZON: A Jewish Response to Hunger
Missoula Federal Credit Union
Montana Farm Bureau Federation
Montana Shares
NBC Montana
Northwest Farm Credit Services
Northwestern Energy
Oro Y Plata Foundation
Prentice Foundation
Ranchland Properties
S.L. Gimbel Foundation Fund
State of Montana
The Sample Foundation
The Wave
Thoroughfare Foundation
Treacy Foundation
Wal-Mart Foundation
Studio Pandora Jewelry Design

** Not a complete list of foundation and corporate donors who supported MFBN in 2014.*

GuideStar Exchange SILVER PARTICIPANT

montana shares
your source for workplace giving

CHARITY NAVIGATOR
★★★★
Four Star Charity

5625 Expressway
Missoula, Montana 59808
1.406.721.3825
www.mfbn.org

$1 helps provide enough food for 3 meals.
You can help.

The Montana Food Bank Network is a 501(c)3 non-profit.