

Together, we deliver **more** than food.

Food is about so much more than calories. For many families struggling to make ends meet, security begins with access to food. With your help, we are providing nutrition for today and hope for tomorrow.

Meet **Pamela**, a guest whose life has changed for the better, thanks to you.



Now retired after a successful career as a voice-over artist, writer, poet, and model, Pamela’s life changed dramatically after she was diagnosed with Parkinson’s disease and lupus. Medical expenses depleted her savings, leaving her and her husband (who is also disabled) struggling financially.

Pamela receives \$23 in monthly SNAP benefits, which doesn’t begin to cover her entire grocery bill, so she relies on Central United Methodist Church in Staunton, a Food Bank partner pantry, to get nutritious food that supports her health. “We would not be able to make it without this place,” she said.



“It’s really inspiring; to see [the Food Bank] coming into communities like these where we’re a little lower income, and it’s kind of hard to get all the groceries that you need.”

—Anthony, Neighborhood Produce Market Guest

Pamela’s story is not unlike others we hear. Growing numbers of seniors, parents, children, and individuals across the Blue Ridge area find themselves unable to put food on the table—many for the first time. But there’s hope. Your support means we can adapt to emerging and shifting community needs and be bold and creative in the ways we reach underserved populations.

Together, we bring healthy food and helpful resources to our neighbors, strategically. Here are a few ways we do just that:

Addressing disparities in access to nutritious food

Our **Neighborhood Produce Market** programs deliver fresh fruits and vegetables to areas with a high food insecurity rate

where access to produce is limited. We host about 26 Markets each month in neighborhoods, community centers, events, and adult literacy classes across the Blue Ridge region.

Improving the health of the guests we serve

We partner with nine healthcare providers to offer a total of 26 in-clinic food pantries, called the **Food Pharmacy**. While they are getting medical care, patients with chronic health conditions who are food insecure receive foods to meet their nutritional needs and improve their health outcomes.

Supporting household financial stability

We are training our partners to help guests apply for available public benefits, like the **Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)**. Since July 2024, we have trained a total of 33 partners. We’re supporting household financial stability by connecting neighbors with resources that support their food security and health.

Thank you for helping to keep our organization strong and sustainable so we can meet the evolving needs of the people we serve.

By the Numbers

Every day, countless actions across our network combine to sustain neighbors and transform lives and communities. Your support has an incredible impact. Here’s how you’re helping:

JULY – DECEMBER 2024



16.8 million pounds of food distributed—up 12.3% compared to this time last year.



5 million pounds of produce distributed—up 5.8% compared to this time last year.



63,329 children served each month through partner pantries plus Food Bank nutrition programs.*

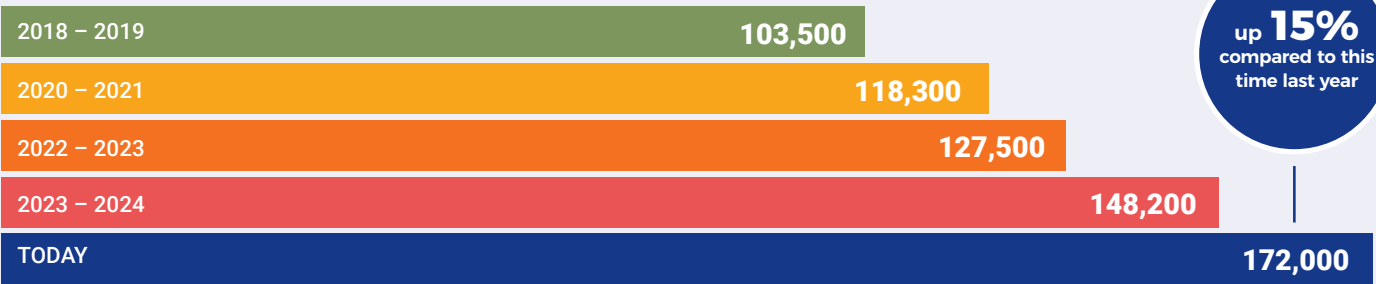


32,265 seniors served each month through partner pantries plus Food Bank nutrition programs.*

*monthly averages

Kindness in action: See how you’ve helped us serve more people through the years.

Guest visits each month, on average



**The Food Bank fiscal years run from July 1–June 30. The current data represents the period from July 1 through December 31, 2024.

QUESTIONS? If you want to schedule a tour of the Food Bank location near you or have a conversation about our work, we welcome your inquiry. Reach out to Karen Ratzlaff, Chief Philanthropy Officer at (540) 213-8404 or kratzlaff@brafb.org.