

# We are the safety net

Continuing to feed our neighbors in need

Together, we have been feeding our community since 1974. Across different economic and political climates our mission remains the same; to help nourish hearts and stomachs.

We started in the 1970s as a group of passionate local residents, churches, and synagogues, providing a 3-day supply of canned and dry food to people who needed assistance. Over the last five decades, our programs and community connections have expanded and, in 2024, we proudly served 14,509 individuals and distributed over 2 million pounds of food.

The faces of hunger have changed over the years, and with community support we've been able to meet the challenge. Keep reading to learn more about how we are growing to meet the need.

Thank you for continuing to work with us to feed Vermont families.

2 in 5 Vermonters are experiencing hunger



In the last year, we have assisted more than 1,200 individuals and 600 households throughout the county.

# **Growing in Addison County**

Offering a better experience at our new Food Hub

At the beginning of February, Addison Community Action Food Shelf officially moved to 616 Exchange Street in Middlebury. This move provides space to expand the food shelf, share resources with our existing Food Hub, and more!

This expansion equips volunteers and staff with enhanced tools including new systems that increase accessibility such as online ordering and delivery services.

"By bringing our walk-in food pantry into the Food Hub on Exchange Street, we offer clients a more comfortable shopping experience and allow our two full-time food security staff members and AmeriCorps volunteer to collaborate more efficiently. This enables us to continue to expand our home delivery and order-ahead options, launch our food kiosk at Mountain Community Health in Bristol, and expand our food pantry at the same time." - Emmet Moseley, Addison Food Hub Supervisor

The Addison Food Hub shares the space with ACORN (Addison County Relocalization Network), a nonprofit committed to supporting local farmers and growers, engaging in food education, and guaranteeing nutritious food access for everyone in the community.

"ACORN is extremely grateful to share the new, bigger Food Hub space with Feeding Champlain Valley! The addition of office and meeting spaces, combined with the relocated food shelf, is providing an extra layer of service and professionalization for both of our organizations, which in turn creates a more cohesive and connected community. We are making local food more accessible to folks who may have previously felt excluded from local food system outlets," shared Lindsey Berk, ACORN's Executive Director.

# What's in a name?

The difference between our Food Hubs and Food Shelves

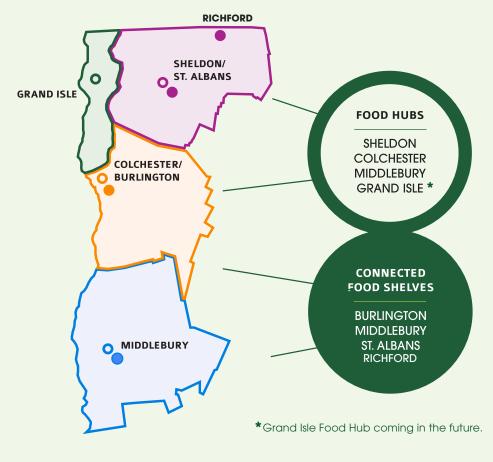
**Food Hubs** serve as distribution centers, collecting and organizing large quantities of food from farms, wholesalers, and donors. They supply food to food shelves, meal programs, and community partners to help maximize food access across the region.

**Food Shelves** are direct service locations where individuals and families can pick up groceries. These sites provide essential pantry staples, fresh produce, and other necessities for those facing food insecurity.

**Together**, food hubs and food shelves create a strong, community-driven network that ensures food reaches those who need it most.



"I don't have enough money in my budget to always buy from the grocery store, so I have to come here to balance out how much I'm spending on food," - Jolie, Burlington Food Shelf Visitor





# **Answering the call**

# Thank you for joining our Holidays Without Hunger campaign

For many people, the winter months can be a time to slow down, rest, and recharge. At Feeding Champlain Valley, our staff and volunteers have been kept busy with an outpouring of donations, including Thanksgiving fixings, canned goods, menstrual products, diapers, and more.



#### 67 pounds of food

"The Giff" is an annual holiday skating show from Champlain Valley Skating Club. The performance showcases young skaters along with organized groups to end the year with a blast and food drive!



#### 260 pounds of food

Shelburne Vineyards packed our van with food and toiletries at their annual Harvest Festival.



### 960 pounds of food

Cranksgiving is the annual food drive on two wheels hosted by Old Spokes Home in Burlington. Bikers ride through Burlington collecting food drive items from the community, ending their ride at Old Spokes Home where all the food is weighed!



#### 150 pounds of food

Local volunteers at Burlington's Ward 5 Polling location encouraged folks to both vote and help feed their neighbors during a crucial time in the holiday season.

Thank you for showing up for our neighbors.

# **Holidays Without Hunger Supporters**

# Businesses and Community Groups who gave in-kind donations:

- Agilent Technologies
- Burlington High School
- Burlington Public Works Department
- Burlington Subaru
- C3 LLC
- Champlain Valley Skating Club
- City Market Onion River Co-op
- Dealer.com
- Drs. Marko Family Chiropractors
- Essex Elementary School
- Feed Your Neighbor
- Fire & Gold LLC
- Fuse Marketing
- Green Mountain Antibodies
- Green Mountain Athletic Association
- Heritage Ford & Toyota
- Higher Ground
- Hula
- Hunt Middle School
- Ignite Church
- Merrill Lynch

### **Volunteer Groups**

- Ameriprise
- U.S. Representative Becca Balint's Office
- Bridging at Champlain Community Services
- Global Foundries
- ReSOURCE YouthBuild
- US Dept of Housing and Urban Development
- UVM Athletics
- UVM International Students Group
- Vermont Systems
- Ward 5 Election Volunteers
- Widewail

- Modern Design Furniture
- Old Spokes Home
- Orangetheory Fitness
- Physician's Computer Company
- Rhino Foods
- Richford First Baptist Church
- Roto Plumbers
- St. Anthony Catholic Church
- Shelburne Vineyard
- Shift Construction & Consulting
- Spare Time Entertainment
- Switchback Brewing Company
- Trinity Elementary
- Turkey Trot with Steve Gentile
- UVM Annual Holiday Bazaar
- UVMMC Medical Support Services
- UVMMC Microbiology and Molecular Genetics
- Vermont National Country Club
- Villari's Self Defense
- Widewail
- Women of UVM

Interested in volunteering or running a food drive?



Contact:
Anthony Huynh
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802-825-6740

# **Ways You Can Give Back**



#### Volunteer

We couldn't do this work without volunteers! To help pack boxes of food, deliver groceries, stock shelves, and much more, submit an application on our website.

- "I'm glad to be volunteering here; food is such a basic need in our society so volunteering at a food shelf was a no-brainer." - Docia, 3+ year volunteer
- "Volunteering here makes me appreciate what I have, makes me more aware of other people's situations, and puts everything into perspective for me."
  - Madeleine, 4+ year volunteer

#### Make a Donation

Visit our website to make a secure gift or send a check or cash to Feeding Champlain Valley, Attn: Philanthropy, PO Box 1265, Burlington, VT 05402.

#### **Become a Monthly Donor**

Join the Full Plate Club, a group of dedicated donors who provide food and support all year long with their recurring gift.

#### Give Food

Donated food helps us stock the shelves with a variety of in-demand items. Visit our website for a list of current needs and donation hours.

#### Remebering Feeding Champlain Valley in your Will or Trust

You can make an impact for years to come by including Feeding Champlain Valley in your estate planning or as a beneficiary of your retirement account, life insurance, and other assets. Contact us at **philanthropy@cvoeo.org**.





Learn more at feedingchamplainvalley.org