

2025

Impact Report

Fostering Resilience

ISSAQUAH
Food & Clothing Bank
SINCE 1971

Responding, Together

In 2025, temporary freezes and long-term changes to federal support profoundly affected those who rely on support to put food on the table and those living on the edge of financial insecurity. The federal budget passed in July included dramatic cuts to SNAP, Medicaid, food bank funding, as well as programs that created jobs for thousands in our region, resulting in painful consequences for the communities we serve.

In response, the team continued to adapt to ensure the most efficient use of resources possible. To maintain sustainability of services, we adjusted our market hours to fit our facility size, staff, and volunteer capacity. With this shift, we increased emergency food availability and added an Express Shopping option for those feeling unsafe or with limited time to shop. Our Express Shopping model has increased capacity due to reduced service times, strategically allowing more margin for the continued growth ahead.

Thanks to our generous donors and dedicated volunteers, approximately 10,500 people received free resources and services in 2025. Approximately 60% of those we serve are children and seniors.

Here are just a few ways that you, our community, made this possible:

- 26,300 volunteer hours contributed by over 900 volunteers (hours up 10%)
- 1,101,790 pounds of food donated or collected from grocery stores (down 3%)
- \$4,577,700 in funding donated by 2,940 donors (\$ up 53%)

We also made significant headway on our facility expansion project in 2025 by purchasing our current building from our partners at the City of Issaquah. This was a crucial step in being able to rebuild on our current site to create a larger, more efficient facility with the capacity to sustain the growing need in our region for years to come.

We are thankful to be doing this work alongside our very committed, compassionate, charitable community. Together, we are making East King County a connected, supportive community where everyone has an opportunity to thrive.

Gratefully,

Stephanie Norton-Bredl

Stephanie Norton-Bredl
Executive Director



Mike Bresko
Board Chair



“Like so many, my family has experienced tough times that we never could have predicted. Amid the stress and uncertainty, it’s so comforting to know that I can rely on the food bank for essentials to feed and care for my family. It’s been a true blessing and I’m incredibly grateful.”

Issaquah Food & Clothing Bank recipient





“When you fall down, you have to get back up.”

Susie's Story

by Hannah Harvey

“I’m a young soul, and nobody can take me down,” shared Susie, an Issaquah resident who visited the food bank for the first time in 2025 at 80 years old. Susie has been a member of the Issaquah community for 28 years and owns a home in a local mobile home park. She has spent her life putting others before herself, and that hasn’t changed—not even when her husband of over 25 years passed away in February of 2025, and she was left to navigate the complicated process of losing vital benefits all on her own.

“I was doing great until my husband passed,” she shared. Susie used to be a financial support to her son, and it is in her nature to give anything she can to others. “Now I am really careful with my money. But I don’t mind—I feel blessed, I really do.”

Born in Alaska as the only daughter in a family of six, Susie grew up with parents that instilled in her a sense of stability and self-sufficiency from a young age. She moved to Washington at the age of two and has lived in various places around the state ever since, working from the age of 17 to 73. She had lived as a single mother for 19 years when she met her husband, Sam, when they worked together at Sears, sharing that they both felt butterflies in their stomachs and instantly felt a connection. Susie and Sam created a beautiful life together full of love and support, relying on Susie’s two jobs and Sam’s pension and military benefits to make ends meet in their later years.

When Sam was diagnosed with dementia and moved into an adult family home, Susie began seeking out help where she could find it. In 2024, she noticed the Issaquah Food & Clothing Bank while driving past and filled out the paperwork to get registered. She did not want Sam to know that she was considering using the food bank and ultimately decided not to go back.

When Sam passed away, Susie learned that she would not be able to receive any of his veteran benefits due to incomplete paperwork, and that she would even lose some of her own social security benefits. Since she had retired from working multiple jobs at 73, Susie was left with the difficult situation of having to stretch her increasingly limited funds to support herself at the age of 80. This is when she decided to come back to the food bank and ask for help.

“Now I feel like I can go and not feel like I am cheating anyone,” Susie said. “Everybody is there for us... We would all be hurting (without the food bank).”

Despite her circumstances, Susie is full of joy and gratitude. “When you fall down, you have to get back up!” she shared. “I appreciate everyone (at the food bank). I really, really do.”

She has a close relationship with her adult son Mark and his girlfriend Amy, and the three of them support each other in any way that they can. Susie drives Amy to work each week, and Mark and Amy bring Susie groceries when they can. She knows that lots of families are hurting right now, and shares kindness and positivity with her neighbors each time she visits the food bank. “All of these people, my heart goes out to them... I let them go in before me. They need it more than I do.” Susie shared.

She loves getting fresh milk, eggs, meat, produce, and her favorite food—oatmeal—when she visits. The food bank has given her a sense of stability during a time full of change and navigating a new chapter of her life. “The people over there are so nice,” she shared. “They remember my name, and they wish me ‘Happy Birthday’.”

2025 Outcomes

Food Bank Market Shopping and Emergency Food Services

With cuts to SNAP benefits, our commitment to keeping fresh, nutritious foods accessible is more important than ever. Every other week, our market offers fresh produce, dairy products, proteins, and healthy staples. When our market isn't open, we provide emergency food services to anyone who seeks our resources during business hours.

2,910 Total household served	▲ 8%
1,165 Average households served each month	▲ 9%
23,225 Visits provided	▲ 8%

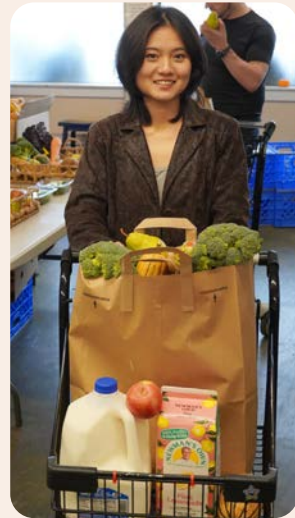
Groceries to Go

Ensuring equitable access to nutrition is a priority. For individuals and families experiencing illness, disability, transportation, or other barriers that prohibit them from accessing our market, volunteers provide home delivery of personalized grocery orders every other week. This program has been on a waitlist due to space limitations.



5,590 deliveries

To **290 households**
(▲ 2%)



“My family would not get enough food to eat if it were not for the food bank.”

Market shopping recipient

Youth Nutrition

As of September 2025, there were 2,700 Issaquah School District students enrolled in the free and reduced-price school meal program. This is just a representation of the number of young people in our region in need of support maintaining access to healthy food to help them grow and thrive. Our youth nutrition programs intentionally focus on times when students are not in school and don't have access to free and reduced-price school meals.



23,925 packs

To students in **32 schools** (▲ 25%)

Power Packs

In partnership with the Issaquah School District, this program sends kids home from school on Fridays with nutritious food for over the weekend. Allergy-friendly pack options and shelf-stable fruit have been very popular additions in some schools.



990 kids served

From **415 families**

Summer Lunch

The 11–12 weeklong school break in the summer can be especially difficult on a family's food budget when kids are eating at home all day. This program provides a special family shopping experience every other week throughout the summer to load kids up with the nutrition they need.



795 kids served

From **325 families**

Lunch for the Break

This program helps address 1–2 weeklong school breaks to provide a special family shopping experience in our market with an emphasis on kid-friendly foods to ensure kids get what they need.



1,100 kids served

From **445 families**

Holiday Gift Program

Understanding what adds to family financial stress is an important aspect of addressing food and resource insecurity. Thanks to our donors, this program provided \$75 in gift cards for each child, along with stocking stuffers, candy, a family craft, and wrapping paper.

Clothing



Our emergency clothing service was integral to keeping our unhoused neighbors safe and warm in 2025, distributing:

- **490** general clothing items
- **30** thermal tops
- **40** thermal bottoms
- **90** pairs boots/shoes
- **55** winter coats

KidVantage

In partnership, we distributed 6,730 clothing orders to 295 families, helping to ensure that kids 0-12 had access to the clothing and other basic items they need.

Community Clothing Closet

Three of our amazing food bank volunteers started the Community Clothing Closet in 2025, dedicated to providing quality clothing at no cost to those who need it most while keeping clothes out of landfills. We are proud to partner with them in making this resource accessible in our community. Learn more at communityclothingcloset.org

Case Management and Client Services

Cuts and restrictions to safety net programs have deepened the challenges facing thousands in our community, widening the gap for people already experiencing financial hardship—especially those without stable housing. In 2025, we saw a rise in evictions and a growing number of individuals forced to sleep outdoors or in vehicles.

Many who turn to us are navigating crisis without a clear understanding of what resources exist or how to access them. Barriers such as limited technology access, disabilities, language differences, and the complexity of service systems often make it difficult to get help without additional, hands-on support.

Like all our programs, our Case Management & Client Services program is grounded in equity, prioritizing dignity, accessibility, and responsiveness to evolving community needs. Led by two staff, a UW MSW student intern, and supported by five fully trained, dedicated Client Services volunteers, the team builds trust-based relationships, taking a trauma-informed approach to increase engagement and improve outcomes for those we serve.

Our Case Management meets people where they are to provide individualized guidance, helping clients set goals and navigate complex systems such as healthcare, public benefits, identification recovery, and behavioral health services. Our Client Services offers emergency food and resource assistance, including transportation, ID's, emergency clothing, and more. This comprehensive approach addresses immediate crises while fostering long-term stability in housing, health, and employment, all of which can impact food security.

“Just wanted to show you guys some love and appreciation. Thank you so much for all you’ve done for me. I’m extremely grateful. You guys are rock stars and so impactful to our community. Keep up the excellent work.”

Case management recipient



2025 Outcomes

1,430 snack services to **245** individuals

767 case management services

610 transportation assistance services

490 emergency clothing services

351 essential supplies distributed

140 urgent financial assistance cases

90 individuals received mail service

35 households received rent or eviction prevention support

Food Resource Partners

Sourcing donated food from individuals, grocery stores, farmers, and organizations is a vital aspect of remaining as efficient as possible while reducing waste. We are grateful for our many partners who help ensure that the right foods get to those who need it and our food purchasing costs remain as low as possible.

Food Donations

1,101,790 lbs. Total donated	▼ 3%
1,001,405 lbs. From Grocery Rescue & Donors	▼ 5%
100,385 lbs. From Issaquah Sammamish and Trossachs Food Projects	▲ 17%

Issaquah Sammamish and Trossachs Food Projects

115 Neighborhood Coordinators and approximately 1,150 donors come together every two months to donate our most needed nonperishable food and toiletry items. These efforts have grown significantly over the seven years since this program's inception, resulting in a remarkable **362,700 lbs. of food donated!** Here's what this program achieved for the food bank in 2025:

28,125 lbs. A new record collected in December, 2025	
100,385 lbs. Total collected in 2025	▲ 17%

Learn more at issaquahsammamishfoodproject.org



Grocery Rescue Top Donors

Costco Wholesale	138,500 lbs.
Trader Joe's	130,020 lbs.
PCC	98,785 lbs.
QFC Newcastle	81,320 lbs.
QFC Pine Lake	76,625 lbs.



Volunteers and Donors

None of this would be possible without our amazing community!

2,070 individual donors contributed **\$2,669,535**

900+ volunteers gave a total of **26,300** hours for all programming

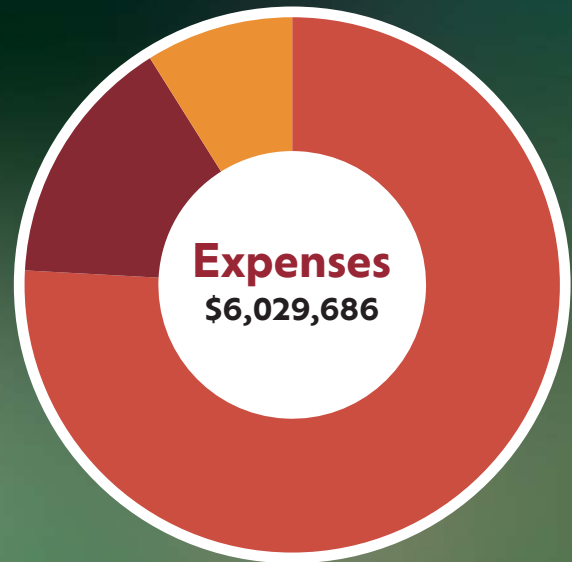
“... receiving food always brings me hope that I will be able to feed my family.”

Youth nutrition program recipient

2025 Financial Summary



- Individuals 38%
- Business/Corporate 6%
- Special Events 3%
- Grants 10%
- Stocks 2%
- Investments & Dividends 6%
- In-kind 35%



- Program 76%
- Administration 15%
- Fundraising 9%



Funding Partners

Pioneer

30,000+



Visionary

\$10,000+



Private Foundation



T Mobile

amazon

Premier

\$5,000+

St. Joseph Catholic Church
Issaquah Women's Club
Harvest Against Hunger
PACCAR
United Way of King County
Windermere Foundation

Boeing Employees Community Fund
American Endowment Foundation
Puget Sound Energy Foundation
Mechanics Bank

Matching Gifts

\$5,000+

Microsoft
The Boeing Company
Costco United Way
Google
Gates Foundation
NVIDIA

Nordstrom
Goldman Sachs Philanthropy Fund
Gilead Sciences
T-Mobile
Apple Corporation

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