COALITION AGAINST HUNGER

Annual Report 2022-2023





Letter From Our Executive Director

MELODY KEIM

Dear Friends,

It has been a tremendously challenging year as we saw the demand for food resources rival the beginning of the pandemic. Pandemic relief efforts went away with nothing to replace them, the cost of food remained high, and food distribution programs struggled to keep up with the demand. Households fought to meet their basic needs in what can only be described as a hunger crisis.

To let families know about the loss of SNAP Emergency Allotments, the extra benefits families received during the pandemic to help buy food, we created materials with our partners at Community Legal Services of Philadelphia, Just Harvest, and Philabundance to be distributed as flyers, on websites and through social media. We collaborated closely with the Department of Human Services (DHS) on their messaging around this change as well, which resulted in our materials being co-branded with DHS and shared on their webpage.

As part of our strategic work to reduce barriers for historically marginalized communities, we cultivated seven new relationships with trusted community organizations serving Spanish speaking immigrant communities. One of these new partners also joined our VIP (Victory in Partnership) program. We added a Spanish language tab to our website, a Spanish voice message system for our SNAP Hotline, and continued our efforts to translate materials into multiple languages including Spanish.

New technology, Service Enterprise certification, and deepening relationships with County Assistance Offices helped us grow our capacity to ensure SNAP Hotline callers received the benefits they were eligible for. By shifting to a new database and developing new monthly reporting criteria, we transformed the ways we measure our impact and evaluate our work. Our participation and certification in the City's Service Enterprise Program helped us build a more robust volunteer program to support our SNAP Hotline volunteers.

This was also a year of growth and transformation for our small, but mighty Coalition team. We were fully staffed for the first time in a long while, and our culture of collaboration allowed us to align our work across all departments. We tried new things such as the Philly Brunch Off, a survey for SNAP clients, introducing Pantry Tours for our VIP members, and we joined the Philly Sustainable Business Network. We continued our work to build an equitable compensation structure to ensure that our Coalition team members are food secure and thriving.

As we reflect on the past year, we approach the new year with stronger internal systems, gratitude for your support, and our team's tenacity to address the root causes of food insecurity . . . with hope that someday the Coalition will no longer need to exist.

With gratitude and persistence,

Mesody Geni

Our Mighty Team

TEAM MEMBERS

ALEJANDRA DOMINGUEZ, SNAP Hotline Manager **ALISON VOLZ**, Community Educator CLAIRE RICHARDSON, SNAP Hotline Counselor GAVIN PEREZ-CANTO, Community Food Resource Coordinator JALEXA MARMOLEJOS, SNAP Outreach & Hotline Counselor KATIE MILHOLIN, Director of Policy & Education KYLEE JOHNSON, Operations Manager MARK VIERECK, Office Manager/Bookkeeper MARLENE FELTON, SNAP Hotline Counselor MELODY KEIM, Executive Director SAMARA METZ-REYNOLDS, Communications Coordinator SHELBY JOY ADAMS, Director of Development & Communications TANYA SEN, Director of Programs



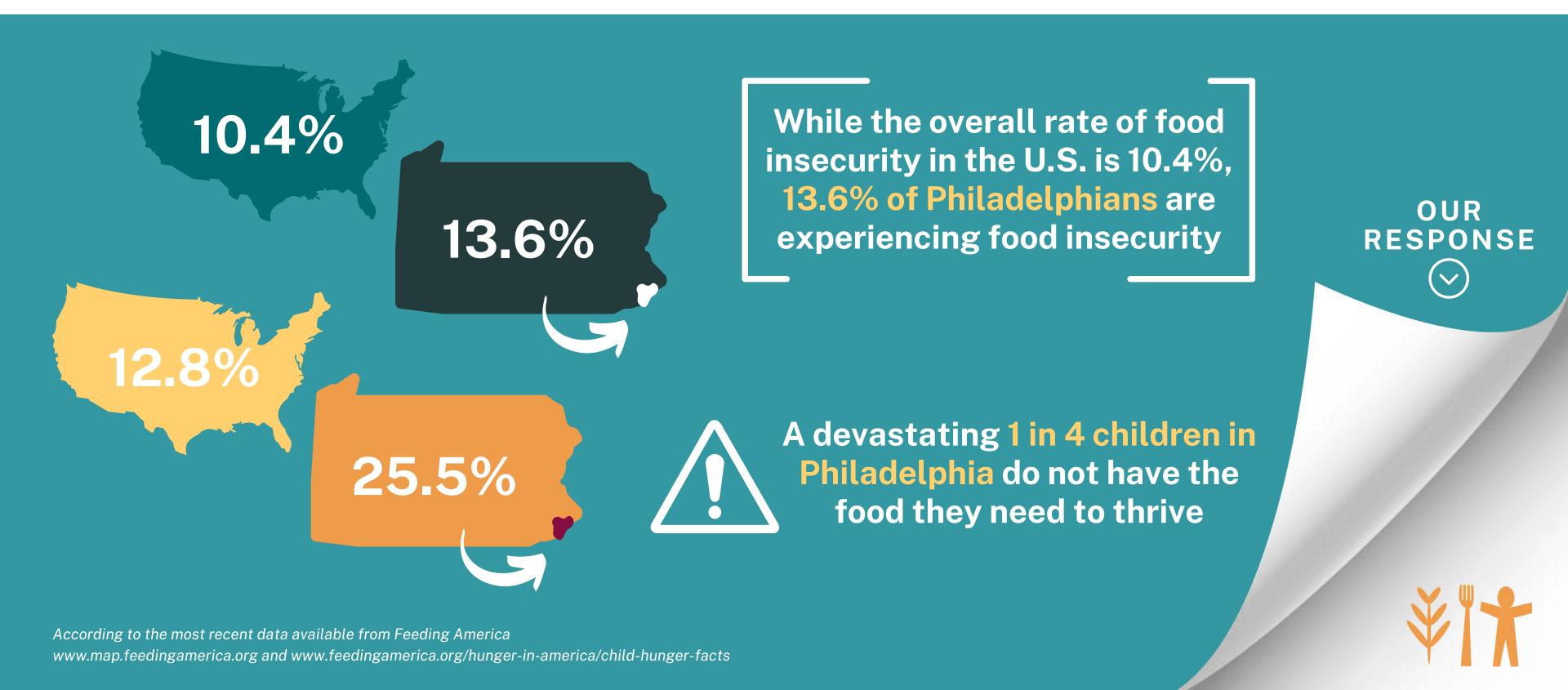
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The State of Food Insecurity in Philadelphia

WE ARE IN THE MIDST OF A FOOD CRISIS IN PHILADELPHIA, AND IT'S WORST AMONG OUR CHILDREN



Wear Two: STRATEGIC PLAN 2022-2027

PROGRESS TOWARD OUR TRANSFORMATIONAL STRATEGIC GOALS



We've gained 7 new partners who refer clients to our SNAP Hotline, we have increased outreach to Spanish speaking communities, and we have created the channels for valuable feedback on our approach

CREATE A STORY-DRIVEN ADVOCACY CAMPAIGN

We have created a project plan for the first round of our own storytelling campaign to align with the reauthorization of the Farm Bill and we have also partnered to execute a separate, statewide advocacy campaign











INCREASE PARTICIPATION IN CROSS SECTOR PARTNERSHIPS

We've evaluated our existing partnerships, identified several partnership opportunities, and have solidified some cross sector partnerships through the Sustainable Business Network and our own new event, the Philly Brunch Off

EMPOWER ANTI-HUNGER PARTNERS TO ACT COLLECTIVELY

We gained several food site partners in our Victory in Partnership (VIP) Program, including three community fridges and one pantry dedicated to serving our local Spanish speaking communities. We've created new ways for all 59 of these partners to share skills and resources

DEEPEN OUR UNDERSTANDING AND WORK AROUND THE ROOT CAUSES OF FOOD INSECURITY

This year our full team completed a 3-part antiracism training with Roots of Justice to grow our knowledge around the systemic manifestations of racism and to gauge where we fall as an organization on the antiracist continuum

Increasing Access by Submitting SNAP Applications

THROUGH OUR SNAP HOTLINE, WE ASSIST CLIENTS WITH THEIR SNAP (FOOD STAMP) APPLICATIONS AND RENEWALS, PROVIDE ONE ON ONE CASE MANAGEMENT TO ADVOCATE FOR ANYONE WHO IS WRONGLY DENIED BENEFITS OR HAD THEIR BENEFITS INCORRECTLY REDUCED, AND CONNECT CALLERS TO OTHER LOCAL FOOD RESOURCES LIKE FOOD PANTRIES.

HIGHLIGHTS

- We added a Spanish SNAP Hotline so that Spanishspeaking callers can be assisted by our bilingual team members.
- We added a part-time SNAP Hotline position to our team in order to improve our response time for callers.
- We changed the database we use to assist clients in order to provide better service, better evaluate our work, and better track our progress.
 - We recruited and trained more volunteers to help with the initial intake of callers and to help provide callers with referrals to food pantries and other resources.



BY THE NUMBERS



19,055 calls

received to our SNAP Hotline.



2,625 Prescreens

completed to assess if we could assist the client and if they may be eligible for SNAP.



2,551 Applications

completed and submitted to the County Assistance Office for benefit determination.



227 Cases Managed

to assist clients with incorrect benefits.

Strengthening Food Networks

Through our Victory in Partnership (VIP) Program, we convene leaders who run food pantries, soup kitchens, and other anti-hunger programs serving individuals and families throughout Philadelphia. Based on the input of our VIP partners we work to strengthen the food network through sharing tools, offering resources, facilitating trainings, offering opportunities for networking, and connecting them to additional funding and food for their programs.

59

Total VIP Sites
Throughout
Philadelphia

\$38,250

Total Funds We
Connected Our VIP
Partners With

421,920

Families & Individuals
Served By VIP Partners

This Year We:

- Held 6 VIP meetings, 2 Pantry Tours, and provided 47 hours of consultation
- Opened the VIP Program to Community Fridges. 3 joined this year.
- Welcomed a new Community Food Resource Coordinator, Gavin Perez-Canto. He was initially interviewed and recommended by a group of longtime VIP members.



• Started Pantry Tours where our VIP members host their peers on-site to highlight their program and share their successes and challenges. These tours allow us to engage more members in ways that are more convenient to them, and creates more opportunities for programs to share resources.





E COUNTY OUT

Our advocacy work seeks to strengthen and support current anti-hunger policies and programs, advance innovative approaches to ending hunger, and build a grassroots network of individuals engaged in building a world where people have the food they need to lead healthy lives.

Our Work With Legislators

- Participated in a roundtable with Congressman Dwight Evans and Congresswoman Mary Gay Scanlon to improve anti-hunger policy.
- With the Pennsylvania Hunger Action Coalition, we organized a "Lunch and Learn" to educate the Pennsylvania Assembly on Hunger in PA about actions to improve food security in PA.
- We endorsed the EATs Act and the LIFT The Bar Act.

Our Work To Improve SNAP

- 14 meetings with the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services (DHS) and statewide partners to share our on the ground perspective of SNAP.
- We convened meetings with the Philadelphia County Assistance Offices and other community organizations to examine benefits from a more local perspective.

Our Work To Improve WIC

- Collaborated with PA
 Department of Health to
 support WIC participants
 through our work with Thriving
 PA, a non-partisan advocacy
 campaign.
- Led the development and coordination of comments on the 2024 WIC state plan, submitted on behalf of Thriving PA.
- Participated in 26 partner meetings about WIC.

Our Work With P-EBT

- Joined 12 bi-weekly calls to discuss P-EBT and Summer EBT with a group of national advocates.
- Met with DHS and Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) to follow up on a list of recommendations we submitted with Just Harvest and Philabundance.
- Hosted a webinar with Just Harvest and Philabundance for parents. Viewed 5000+ times.

THE COALITION AGAINST HUNGER ON CAPITOL HILL: Our Work in Washington DC

We partnered with Philabundance and Rolling Harvest Food Rescue to meet with the offices of all 5 of the Representatives covering the Coalition's Area of Service including Congresswomen Scanlon, Dean, and Houlahan and Congressmen Evans, Fitzpatrick, and Boyle. We also teamed up with statewide partners to meet with the offices of Senators Fetterman and Casey. We spoke about how current policies, inflation, and other economic challenges are affecting their constituents and areas in which their support is needed. These meetings gave us the chance to discuss our priorities for the Farm Bill, the piece of legislation that includes SNAP, which expired on 9/30/23.



Night to Fight Hunger

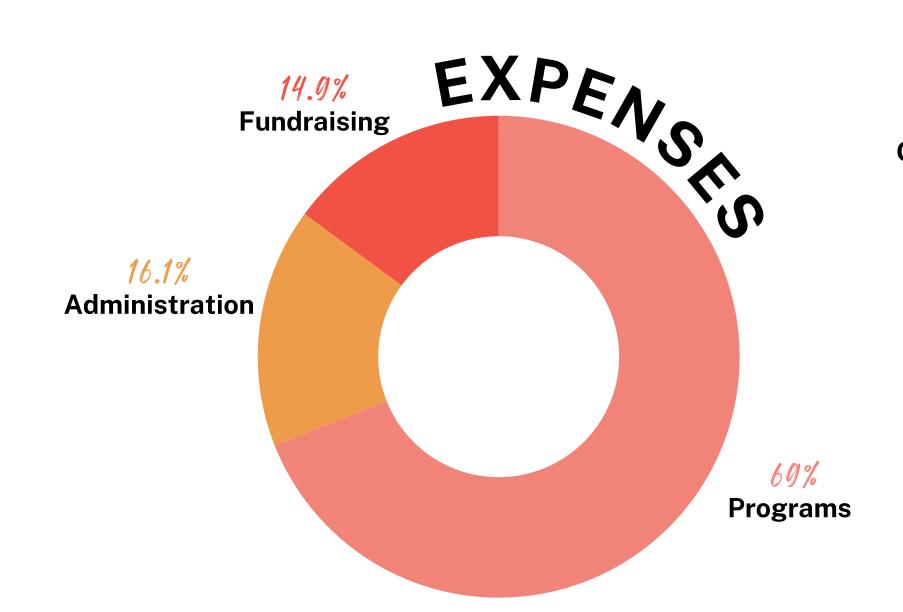
For our first in-person event since the beginning of the pandemic the Mann Center for the Performing Arts provided the perfect setting to enjoy the sights and sounds of Philly! With SNACKTIME providing the soundtrack for the evening, delicious food from Di Bruno Bros, yard games and a silent auction, we raised funds for our life-changing programs. Thank you to everyone who donated and attended to make our last Night to Fight Hunger a success.

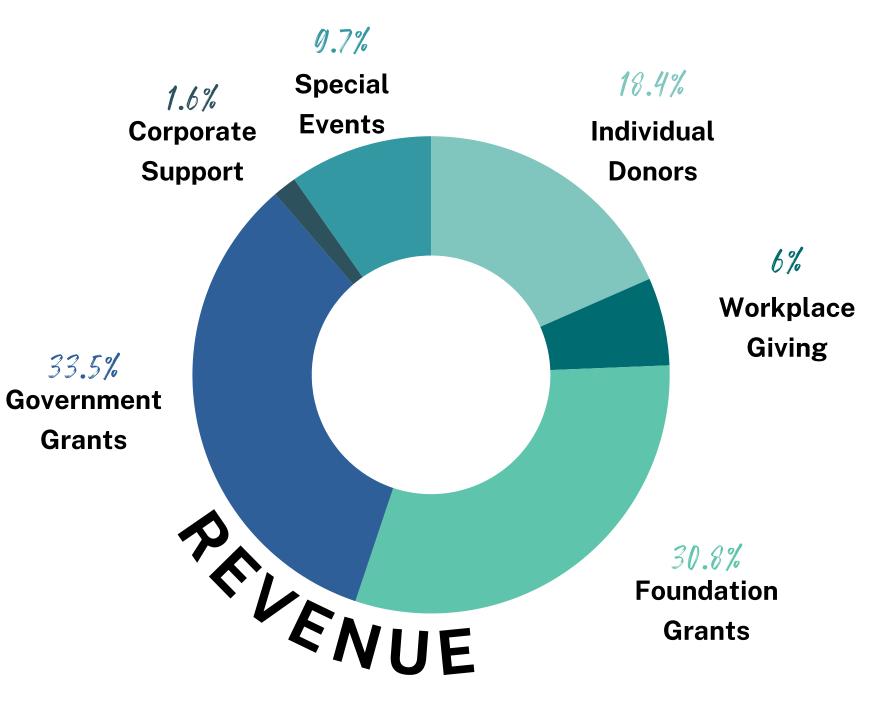
Philly Brunch Off

For our first ever Philly Brunch Off, local restaurants High Street Philadelphia, Honeysuckle Provisions, and Fiore Fine Foods joined us in friendly competition to make the best sweet and savory brunch items. Chef Clara Park and Chef Kurt Evans joined us to help judge the competition along with everyone in attendance. We are so grateful to everyone who helped make the first Philly Brunch Off a success, and we can't wait to do it again in the spring of 2024!



Statement of Financial Activities







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HOW YOU CAN SUPPORT The Coalition Against Hunger

We are in the midst of a hunger crisis. We are committed to not only continuing this work, but we are also committed to doing more. **Support our work.** Help us build a food secure Philadelphia region.

Make a Donation Online

- One Time Donation: Help us build food security, and make an immediate impact.
- Monthly Recurring Donation: Increase the impact of your gift by making a monthly contribution. Help us ensure all people access the food they need to lead healthy lives!

CLICK HERE TO DONATE

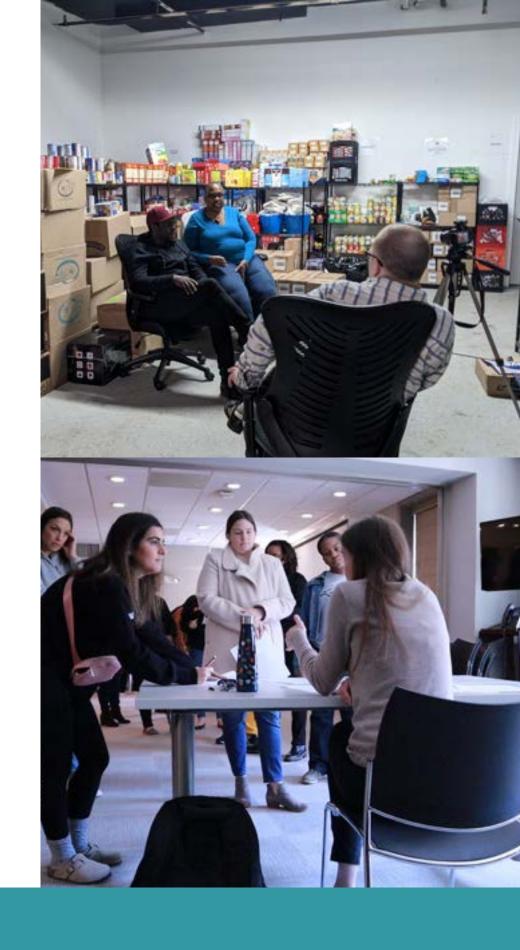
Send a check or money order to our office at: 123 Chestnut Street, Ste. 401, Philadelphia, PA 19106

Stock Donations

We gratefully accept gifts of appreciated securities (stocks). Please consult your financial advisor, attorney or accountant for assistance with your philanthropic plans. Make a stock donation here.

Workplace Giving

- Do you donate to the United Way at your workplace? You can designate us to receive your donation through Donor's Choice. Our Donor's Choice number is 15757!
- Employee Match Gift Donations. Many companies have matching gift programs for which the Coalition Against Hunger qualifies. Ask your employer if you can double your donation with a matching gift from them.





THANK YOU TO

Our Volunteers & Interns

Our small but mighty team isn't complete without our volunteers and interns who generously dedicate their time and expertise to further our work building food security.

VOLUNTEERS

- ABBY SPECTOR
- AMMAR KHALIFA
- ANNE ROSENBERG
- CHANEL MITCHELL
- CHRIS REYNOLDS
- DENNIS JOHNSON
- DOM DEL CORSO
- ELIZABETH RUBIN
- GREG KELLEHER

INTERNS

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- DAMIEN ALLISON
- DANGELA FONSECA
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- TARA CULP-RESSLER

- EMMA BHANSINGH
- ISABEL CARDI
- LAURA SANTOS
- MCKENZIE SCOTT
- SEAN DONELLAN

THANK YOU

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES



SNAP HOTLINE: We're in need of friendly volunteers with excellent communication and people skills to be trained to virtually answer telephone calls from those interested in applying for or renewing SNAP benefits and from those wanting to find a food pantry near them.



SPECIAL EVENTS: Volunteers help us ensure the success of our events by dedicating their time to help us with set up, clean up, registration, and so much more. This year, volunteer at the Philly Brunch Off and Race Against Hunger.



FOOD DISTRIBUTION: Our VIP Partners frequently have volunteer needs including food distribution, food delivery, and more. See which of our VIP Partners currently have volunteer needs and the information for how to get in touch.

LEARN MORE

WWW.HUNGERCOALITION.ORG/VOLUNTEER