



SHELburne FOOD SHELF

# ANNUAL REPORT 2025



# LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

It's been a rewarding first year serving as Chair of the Shelburne Food Shelf Board. I've had the privilege of working alongside an incredible team of volunteers and board members, and I've enjoyed getting to know many of the wonderful Shelburne residents who shop with us.

Throughout the year, I've witnessed remarkable generosity from our community—and beyond. This support has enabled us to continue providing food, personal hygiene products, and financial assistance to those in need. The Board remains committed to listening to our shoppers and continuously improving our services.

In FY '25, we averaged 133 shopping encounters per month, a slight increase from 131 in FY '24. Thanks to the Vermont Food Bank, grant funding, and the many generous donations we receive, we've been able to keep our shelves well-stocked to meet this growing need.

We're also grateful for our partnerships with Shelburne Farms, Head Over Fields Farm, Bread & Butter Farm, and the Shelburne Farmers Market, which allow us to offer fresh, local produce to our shoppers year-round.

A highlight of the year was presenting the Val Martel Award in September 2024 to Nancy Radley, a long-time volunteer whose dedication has made a lasting impact. We're thrilled to now have her as a new member of the Board.

None of this would be possible without the incredible support of the Shelburne community and our amazing volunteers. Our operations are entirely volunteer-run and rely on donations, grants, and space generously provided by the Town of Shelburne. We currently have 50 active volunteers, and we're growing! Many of our volunteers are eager to take on more, and we're always looking for new ways to get people involved.

I'm truly grateful for the opportunity to serve and look forward to what we can accomplish together in the year ahead.

## BRANDIE BENOIT

*Shelburne Food Shelf Chair*



**SHELBURNE FOOD SHELF MISSION:**  
TO IMPROVE FOOD SECURITY FOR COMMUNITY  
MEMBERS OF SHELBURNE THROUGH FOOD  
DISTRIBUTION, AND TO PROVIDE EMERGENCY  
ASSISTANCE GRANTS, WHILE PRESERVING  
THE DIGNITY OF OUR SHOPPERS

# TREASURER'S STATEMENT

The Board of the Shelburne Food Shelf thanks the community for its continued generous support of our mission.

In addition to donations from community members, a \$3,200 grant from Vermonters Feeding Vermonters was used to purchase fresh produce, a \$5,000 grant from the TJX Foundation was used to provide gift cards to our shoppers for the holidays, a \$3,000 grant from SCHIP was used to purchase food to be supplied during school breaks to children at Harbor Place, and a \$6,850 grant from SCHIP was used for tokens to allow our shoppers to purchase food at the Shelburne Farmers Market. In addition, the Shelburne Market has included the Food Shelf as one of the organizations to support with their change round up.

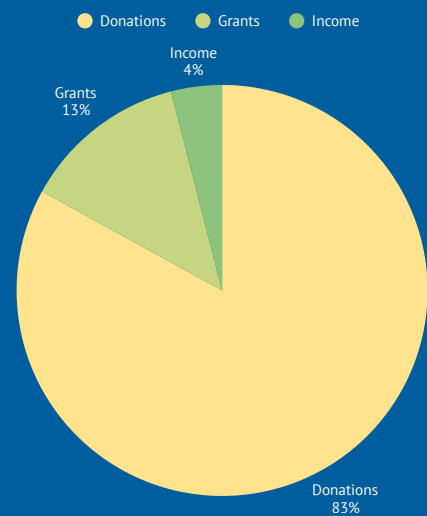
Overall, 76% of our expenditures was spent on food and non-food grocery items, such as laundry detergent, paper towels, toilet paper, and grocery gift cards; 2% was spent as a donation to the Shelburne Community School to cover snacks for the school children, and 18% was spent on non-food aid. The Food Shelf refers shoppers as needed to Chittenden county, state and federal programs, and provides small grants for emergency assistance based on available funds, including emergency utility and fuel oil assistance and eviction prevention.

We continued to keep our administrative costs to a minimum (4%) by using space provided by the Town and relying on an all-volunteer staff.

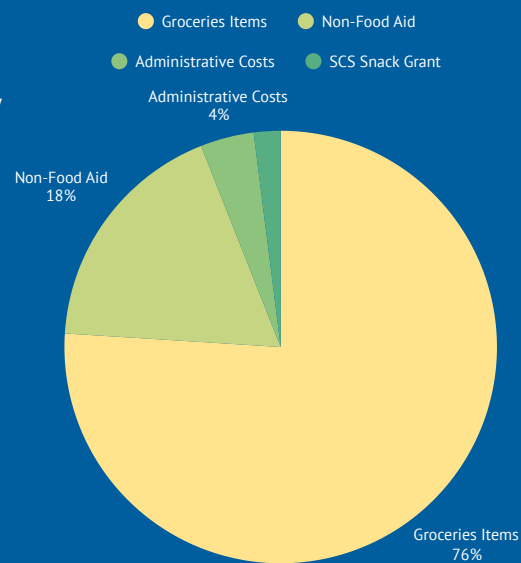
Thanks to the incredible generosity of the Shelburne community, we were able to commit 96 cents of every dollar spent to the direct benefit of our neighbors in need.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kristen Ellwood, Treasurer

## INCOME



## EXPENSES





# FOOD DISTRIBUTION OPERATIONS

Over the past fiscal year, the Shelburne Food Shelf averaged 133 shopping interactions per month, closely aligned with the previous year's average of 131. Shoppers are encouraged to visit during both weeks the Food Shelf is open each month to supplement other food sources they may have.

We continue to strengthen partnerships with local farms. During the winter, fresh produce was sourced from Bread & Butter Farm and Shelburne Farms. Between July 2024 and June 2025, we used grant funding to purchase produce from Bread & Butter Farm (Shelburne), Head Over Fields Farm (Charlotte), and Frog Song Farm (Charlotte). For summer 2025, we again received \$3,200 in grant funds from the Vermont Food Bank, allowing us to continue purchasing produce from Bread & Butter Farm and Head Over Fields Farm.

Thanks to a generous donation from SCHIP, we're continuing our partnership with the Shelburne Farmers Market. The Food Shelf provides tokens to shoppers, which can be redeemed at the market for food items. Vendors return the tokens, allowing them to be reused by other shoppers.

We also supply emergency food bags to the Shelburne Police Department, enabling officers to provide immediate support to individuals in urgent need—without requiring contact with the Food Shelf Board.

In addition to financial contributions, Vermont Food Bank support, and grant funding, we benefit greatly from food drives hosted by local schools, businesses, neighborhoods, and civic groups such as the Champlain Valley Lions Club and the Rotary Club of Charlotte–Shelburne–Hinesburg.

We're deeply grateful to the many residents who regularly donate food.

## EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE

The Shelburne Food Shelf provided \$13,849 to households for utility assistance, \$6,079 for Shelburne water/sewer assistance, \$2,823 for lodging assistance, \$3,220 for Shelburne property tax assistance, \$5,317 for fuel assistance, and \$1,610 for transportation assistance.

Quarterly gift cards to area grocery stores were also given to all shoppers to assist with food not available at the Food Shelf.



# FOOD DISTRIBUTION OPERATIONS

## FOCUS ON CHILDREN

The Food Shelf continued to work with the Shelburne Community School and Champlain Valley School District to support families through our *Food That's In When School Is Out* program, offering supplemental nutrition assistance during school breaks. In July, August, and during school vacations, families could pick up breakfast and lunch staples, along with fresh fruits and vegetables, at the Food Shelf.

For Summer 2025, families with school-age children are invited to shop during regular Food Shelf hours. Thanks to a grant from SCHIP, we also distributed 15–20 bags of food, each containing about a week's worth of meals and snacks, seven times a year to families at Harbor Place. These distributions occur before holiday weeks and monthly during summer, serving children temporarily housed there who would otherwise receive meals at school. Due to limited kitchen access (only a microwave), we provide food not typically stocked at the Food Shelf.

In addition to food, the Food Shelf distributed backpacks and school supplies in August 2024, and toys and gifts in December 2024, thanks to generous community donations.



# THANK YOU!

The Shelburne Food Shelf Board sincerely thanks Shelburne residents and area businesses for their generosity in donating money, supplies, and goods used by the Food Shelf to improve nutrition security for individuals and families. Thank you to the Town of Shelburne and all our volunteers who support us every day! The Food Shelf also appreciates the Shelburne Market and its customers, who “round up” at check-out to support us.

## Thank you to the following businesses and organizations

ALL SOULS INTERFAITH GATHERING	PRECOURT INVESTMENT COMPANY
AUBUCHON FOUNDATION	ROTARY CLUB OF CHARLOTTE, SHELburne, HINESBURG
B&R DEVELOPERS	SCHIP
B&R ELECTRIC	SHELburne FARMS
BURLINGTON TELECOM	SHELburne MARKET
CHAMPLAIN VALLEY LIONS CLUB	SHELburne COMMUNITY SCHOOL
COFFEE ENTERPRISES	SHELburne METHODIST CHURCH
COLDWELL BANKER HICKCOCK AND BOARDMAN	SHELburne NURSERY SCHOOL
DRAGONHEART VERMONT	SHELburne VILLAGE DENTISTRY
EMPLOYEES COMMUNITY ACTION COUNCIL	ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA PARISH
FLYING PIG BOOKSTORE	TJX FOUNDATION
FRANKLIN-AUGUST TRADING, INC	TOWN FAIR TIRE FOUNDATION
GLOBAL MARITIME TRANSPORTATION	UNITED WAY OF NORTHWEST VERMONT
GRIPPIN, DONLAN, AND PINKHAM	US POSTAL SERVICE
GROWALD CLIMATE FUND	VERMONT DAY SCHOOL
HERITAGE GLOBAL, INC	VERMONT FOOD BANK
HOEHL FAMILY FOUNDATION	VERMONT ZEN CENTER
JORDAN PARK MISSION 1 <sup>ST</sup> FUND	VILLAGE WINE AND COFFEE
MORRIS AND BESSIE ALTMAN FOUNDATION	WELEDA NORTH AMERICA
PETFOOD WAREHOUSE	



# BOARD MEMBERS

- Brandie Benoit, Chair
- Dana Valentine, Vice Chair
- Kristen Ellwood, Treasurer
- Amanda Broder, Secretary
- Nancy E. Baker
- Tom Bonnette
- George Mills
- Marleen Moore
- Elizabeth Nickerson
- Kathleen O'Brien
- Nancy Radley (June 2025)
- Paul Southworth

## Youth Advisor

- Stella Rakochy



## TESTIMONIALS

- Thank you for the special work you do for us and your beautiful smiles.
- I'm sure everyone could probably say the same, but you and your organization are so generous to us seniors living on a fixed income. Thank you!

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## DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION

### OUR STATEMENT:

THE SHELburne FOOD SHELF CONDEMNS RACISM AND WELCOMES ALL PERSONS, REGARDLESS OF RACE, COLOR, RELIGION, NATIONAL ORIGIN, SEX, GENDER IDENTITY OR EXPRESSION, AGE, OR DISABILITY, SUCH THAT EVERYONE FEELS SAFE AND WELCOME IN OUR COMMUNITY.

WE CONDEMN ALL DISCRIMINATION IN ALL OF ITS FORMS, COMMIT TO FAIR AND EQUAL TREATMENT OF EVERYONE IN OUR COMMUNITY, AND STRIVE TO ENSURE ALL OF OUR ACTIONS, POLICIES, AND OPERATING PROCEDURES REFLECT THIS COMMITMENT.

### WE COMMIT TO:

ENSURING THE SAFETY AND COMFORT OF ALL OUR CLIENTS IN OUR DISTRIBUTION MODELS BY APPLYING AN EQUITY LENS TO ALL ASPECTS OF OUR WORK, INCLUDING MARKETING, PROGRAM DESIGN, SERVICE DELIVERY, AND CUSTOMER PRIVACY.

EDUCATING OURSELVES ABOUT INJUSTICES WITHIN THE FOOD SYSTEM AND ESTABLISHING PROCEDURES TO ADDRESS INEQUITIES IN LOCAL FOOD SYSTEMS.



## SHELBURNE FOOD SHELF

P.O. Box 763

Shelburne, VT 05482

The Shelburne Food Shelf is an IRS-approved 501 (c)(3) tax-exempt organization. All donations are tax-deductible as allowed by law.

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