

Our Hunger Relief Network

Nourishing Our Neighbors, Together

At Community Food Share, our mission is made possible through the collaborative efforts of our Hunger Relief Network. Over 70% of the food we distribute is provided through a network of 40+ partner agencies throughout Boulder and Broomfield Counties. These partnerships allow us to extend our reach far beyond our physical location, ensuring nutritious food reaches those who need it in every corner of our community. **Our network of partners is the heartbeat of this mission, turning our collective efforts into widespread impact!**

One of these vital partners is the Nederland Food Pantry, whose community faces unique challenges due to its remote location. By serving as a central hub, Community Food Share is able to help supply the Nederland Food Pantry with the food they need to ensure families in this rural area have access to healthy food without needing to travel long distances.

"I don't know what we would do without Community Food Share," says Betty Abel, Executive Director of the Nederland Food Pantry. "It's such a huge help to always have what we need available for our clients. When we suggest something, Community Food Share tries to make it happen."

This partnership exemplifies Community Food Share's role at the heart of the network. Partners like Nederland Food Pantry rely on us to help provide the food they need, ensuring they can serve as the direct lifelines to their neighbors.

Feeding People



Through our Partner Agencies
Last Year We:



Distributed Over
6.6 Million Meals

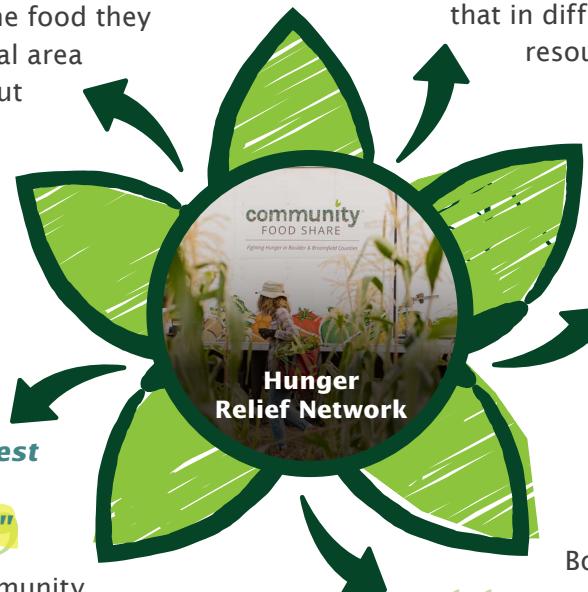


Nourished Over
70,000 Individuals

Our Hunger Relief Network is more than just about food; it's about community connection. Thanks to the combined efforts of all partners in the network, we strengthen local connections and help ensure that in difficult times, neighbors can rely on resources close to home.

Nederland Food Pantry is an integral part of this network.

By serving all those who live along the Peak to Peak Highway from Ward to Central City, they serve as a key outpost for our mountainous neighbors. Altogether, our 40+ partners help support tens of thousands of community members spanning across Boulder and Broomfield Counties.



Betty's remarks perfectly capture the over-arching goal of building a stronger, more connected community: "We're here to make sure everyone has access to the food they need."

Turning Data Into Dialogue

Our Community Experience Initiative

Curious how we balance efficient food distribution with caring for our neighbors? In January 2024, we launched Service Insights on Meal Connect (SIMC) as part of our Community Experience Initiative. This tool streamlines pantry check-in with a simple barcode or QR code, helping us better serve neighbors and respond to food security changes across our network.

We focus on more than just numbers; our neighbors are at the center of everything we do. SIMC allows us to open the dialogue, ensuring improvements are based on their feedback and responses rather than

SIMC has transformed our work, streamlining check-in and providing powerful insights that guide our decisions. But what stands out the most is how it brings us closer to our community.

- Maddie Kirk, Service Insights Coordinator



Community



assumptions. As more Partner Agencies adopt SIMC, we gain a clearer view of food access and food needs in Boulder and Broomfield Counties, allowing us to address service gaps more effectively.

Neighbor Participation Is Optional:

We respect our neighbors' privacy. Any data used for grant reporting, advocacy, or program improvement is anonymized. Personal information is never shared — only aggregate data is published.

Neighbors can create anonymous accounts if preferred. Intake assistants emphasize that all questions are optional, though many neighbors choose to share, knowing it helps us better serve them and advocate for stronger food policies.

Getting Involved

If you're ready to join the SIMC volunteer team, contact Maddie Kirk, Service Insights Coordinator, at mkirk@communityfoodshare.org.

What We've Accomplished Through our Community Experience Initiative:



Served 9,339 Unique Individuals



39 Staff and Volunteers Trained on SIMC



Transitioned From Paper to Secure, Encrypted, Digital Intake Forms

Through this Initiative we've gained valuable insights into demographics and dietary needs allowing for more personalized food distribution for all of our neighbors.

Collecting dietary needs and preferences is invaluable to influencing our food sourcing strategy as a food bank. It truly helps us meet our neighbors where they're at.

- Nina Stubblebine, Director of Community Collaborations



Tastes of Home

The Cultural Connections of Food

Food is more than just sustenance — it's a bridge to our roots, a way to connect with our heritage, and a source of comfort and security. At Community Food Share, we strive to ensure every meal reflects the diverse cultures and dietary needs of our community. We believe access to food that connects our neighbors to their culture is crucial for both their well-being and their dignity.

Recognizing the importance of diverse foods, we provide culturally meaningful foods like halal meats, kosher items, and traditional ingredients from global cuisines, along with options for dietary needs such as gluten-free products.

These items are more than just food; they are essential for our neighbors to maintain their health, honor their cultural traditions, and feel a sense of belonging.

In a recent survey, we asked our shoppers how well they believed the food they receive from our Onsite

75% of individuals report that traditional foods are essential to cultural identity.



Education and Evaluation



Feeding Families Pantry aligns with their culture or beliefs. The results showed more than half of participants agreed or strongly agreed the food met their cultural needs.

Although this feedback shows we're off to a promising start, there's still work to be done to ensure everyone can find their slice of home at Community Food Share. For instance, Hispanic/Latino participants were 9% more likely to express that the food available did not align with their cultural needs compared to other groups. This disparity highlights there's still much room for growth in procuring culturally celebrated food that allows everyone to truly feel and know they are part of our community.

The feedback from our neighbors has informed our efforts and will continue to do so as we look to stock our pantries with the ingredients that matter most to our shoppers. Food should make you feel safe, secure, energized, and connected. By continuing these efforts, we can continue to bring those feelings to more of our neighbors.



START THE NEW YEAR AS A VOLUNTEER



Every January, all around the Nation, there's a massive drop in volunteers. People spend November and December giving back as their holiday spirit soars high; but as the holiday magic winds down, the new year is often forgotten.

This year, we're looking for some additional community members who will join us and start the new year as a volunteer! To sign up, visit our website or contact us directly at volunteers@communityfoodshare.org.

A NOTE FROM KIM

At Community Food Share, our work is not just about providing meals; it's about helping our neighbors during challenging times, such as job loss, health crises, and economic instability, and ensuring that those families receive the fresh produce, dairy, and high-protein foods they need.

As we look ahead to a busy fall and holiday season, I am filled with pride when I think about the remarkable strides we've made together in fighting hunger throughout Boulder and Broomfield Counties over the past fiscal year.

Your generosity has been instrumental in our success and drives our mission forward. Your support, along with our partnerships with 42 dedicated agencies and our direct community support programs, has allowed us to touch the lives of over 70,000 individuals. Our direct distribution programs alone served nearly 18,000 people, a 72% increase from last year. These are not just numbers; they represent families who can now focus on their futures instead of their next meal, children who can perform better in class, and older adults on fixed incomes can find some relief.

It's a staggering reality, and your support represents compassion, dignity, and a brighter future for our neighbors.

Looking ahead, I am filled with confidence that, with your unwavering support, we will continue to redefine

Sustainability



the limits of what's achievable in the fight against hunger in our community. Your continued generosity is our beacon of hope for so many of our neighbors.

Thank you for standing with us. Together, we are stronger and able to make a lasting impact.

Warm regards,

Kim Da Silva
CEO



UPCOMING EVENTS

NOV
28

Turkey Trot

We invite you to join your neighbors and friends on Thanksgiving morning in supporting Community Food Share and helping provide families, children, and older adults with access to fresh, nutritious food.

DEC
10

Colorado Gives Day

Your contribution on this special day goes further, thanks to matching gifts that multiply your impact. Don't miss the chance to make a bigger difference — plan to give and support our community!

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