



2019 ANNUAL REPORT



Feeding hungry people today and working to end hunger tomorrow.



HARVESTERS IS THE COMMUNITY'S RESPONSE TO HUNGER.

HARVESTERS' NETWORK PROVIDES FOOD
TO MORE THAN 141,500 PEOPLE EVERY
MONTH IN OUR 26-COUNTY REGION.

Thanks to the support of our donors and volunteers,
we give sustenance and hope to families, children and
seniors in need. We are committed to finding long-term
solutions to hunger by providing education, awareness
and advocacy throughout northeastern Kansas and
northwestern Missouri.

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Kansas City Chiefs

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DEAR FRIENDS,

Thank you so much for your generous support of Harvesters and hunger-relief this past year! Every dollar you donated helped Harvesters' network provide three meals to hungry families, children and seniors in our community. Every hour you volunteered helped us sort and repackage food and contributed to a total volunteer commitment equal to 85 full-time employees. And, every can of food you gave helped us meet and surpass our food acquisition goal of 55 million pounds of food.

This past year marked our 40th year serving this region. When we began operations in 1979 and distributed 155,000 pounds of food that first year, we could not imagine the need we would encounter and the impact we would have.

Thanks to your support, we've been able to rise to meet the challenges, extend our reach well beyond our initial service area and feed more hungry families every year.

This report highlights some of our accomplishments over the last year. We hope you'll take special note of the new work we've begun in the area of hunger and health partnerships. Our mission is to feed hungry people today and work to end hunger tomorrow. And, while much of our focus remains on meeting the immediate needs of our hungry neighbors, we know real, lasting solutions, lie in finding new ways to stabilize lives and bring long-term hope to those in need.

As we start a new year and new decade, we look forward to your continued support and to this organization evolving and responding to meet the challenges ahead as quickly and efficiently as we can.

Dan Crumb
Chair
Harvesters Board of Directors

Valerie Nicholson-Watson
Harvesters President & CEO



VALERIE NICHOLSON-WATSON
President & CEO



DAN CRUMB
Chair, Board of Directors

YOU'RE FEEDING *Children*

Because you choose to give, Harvesters is able to connect students across our community with healthy food each weekend through the BackSnack program.

Tatiana, 8, is one of 75 students at Turner Elementary School who receive BackSnacks every Friday to keep them from going hungry without school meals on the weekends.

"They help when we don't have food," Tatiana says, looking down at her BackSnack filled with healthy food.

Tatiana hopes to become a teacher when she grows up, and even plans to return to teach at Turner Elementary. Right now, she says her favorite school subject is science — but a close second would have to be recess.

Children like Tatiana have the energy to run and play, and the concentration to learn in class thanks in great part to your generous support. And because they have nutritious meals today, they'll have less risk of illness in the future.

Tatiana tells us her favorite part of the BackSnack is the "little milks." With that milk and all the nutritious food inside the pack, Tatiana and so many more students will have the nourishment they need to thrive. Thank you!



TATIANA

- The BackSnack program served 19,015 children during fiscal year 2019.
- Harvesters' Kids Cafe program provided 71,332 summer meals and 203,309 after-school meals at 65 sites.
- Harvesters' School Pantry pilot program shared full-size grocery items and fresh produce at 21 elementary schools.

YOU'RE FEEDING *Families*

Your partnership helps local families overcome hardships like illness, job loss or costly home repairs by giving them access to consistent nutrition. Countless parents like Christina give thanks for you.

Christina's raising little Waylon, 2, on her own in Odessa, Mo. Unfortunately, she's out of work and struggling to buy groceries without an income.

"Food is so expensive, and it's hardest to buy fresh stuff," Christina says of her family's situation. "Things are just super, super tight."

Her mom offered to help care for Waylon while Christina looks for work. Until she finds a new job, she's so grateful she can pick up nutritious food for her growing son from Odessa Community Services, a Harvesters partner agency near her home.

Waylon loves vegetables — especially green beans and corn — and it gives Christina peace of mind to fill his plate with healthy meals.

"The people who care keep us from going month to month with nothing," she says of you and your gifts. "[Your support] is greatly appreciated."

Thank you for sharing hope with local families!



CHRISTINA & HER SON, WAYLON

- Harvesters provided more than 48 million meals to people living in northeastern Kansas and northwestern Missouri during fiscal year 2019.
- With your help, we shared nearly 53 million pounds of nutritious food through our network of more than 760 partner agencies.
- During the Government Shutdown of 2019, Harvesters provided 46,000 pounds of food to federal employees and their families.

YOU'RE FEEDING *Seniors*

Vickie, 66, and Demaris, 81, are good friends. That's why Vickie made sure to let Demaris know about the healthy groceries she could find at the food pantry at Doorstep, a partner agency of Harvesters.

Vickie says she volunteers at Doorstep, and she's also grateful to take home groceries to help stretch her budget. She doesn't drive but can walk to volunteer and pick up groceries.

It's also particularly important that both Vickie and Demaris have access to nutritious food. Both ladies have diabetes and say they can even find groceries like sugar-free bread at the pantry — something that's typically too expensive on their limited incomes.

"We keep each other out of trouble," Demaris says, smiling.

Older adults like Demaris and Vickie have helped make our community what it is today — and you're giving them the dignity they deserve. Thank you.



DEMARIS & VICKIE

- Through the USDA Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP), Harvesters was able to provide 1,939,861 needed meals.
- Senior mobile food pantries provided 926,956 pounds of fresh nutritious product across Harvesters' service area — the equivalent of 772,463 meals.
- In Topeka, Harvesters expanded the use of the Produce Bus (donated Topeka Metro Bus) resulting in more than 260 additional seniors gaining access to fresh produce every month.

YOU'RE ENCOURAGING *Good Health*

Good health starts with proper nutrition. But nutritious items like fresh produce tend to be among the most expensive at the grocery store. Fresh fruits and vegetables are often out of reach for families like Lindsay's.

Lindsay and her husband have four young children, ages 6, 5, 4 and 2. Lindsay says her husband works, and she currently receives disability benefits. Her husband makes too much to qualify for SNAP benefits, but his pay alone isn't enough to keep enough nutritious food in the home.

"My fridge is empty," Lindsay says. "I just wanted to make sure the kids have something to eat."

Lindsay is so grateful she can pick up nutritious groceries for her family from the food pantry at Heart of America, a partner agency of Harvesters. Her first visit there was on her birthday, and she had nothing but good things to say about the gift of good, nutritious food you help provide.

"I appreciate the help," she says. "It's been a blessing."



LINDSAY'S & DERRICK'S YOUNGEST CHILDREN, TATIANA & DERRICK JR.

- One-third — or nearly 18 million pounds — of the food Harvesters distributed last year was fresh produce.
- Our network of partner agencies accessed 45,187 units of dairy (milk, yogurt and cottage cheese) through the Milk2MyPlate Program (a dairy purchase program in partnership with Hiland Dairy).
- Harvesters launched a mobile Shopping Floor in Kansas City which delivered 131,000 pounds of produce to agencies in targeted counties helping to shorten the time from acquisition to client receipt of this limited-life, perishable product.

YOU'RE GROWING *Hunger to Health Partnerships*

Hunger is a health issue. Harvesters is actively working at the intersection of hunger and health to maximize existing and new partnerships to reduce food insecurity and promote client stability. These efforts are aimed at encouraging long-term health and wellness.

New strategic partnerships include mobile distributions at Clay County Public Health and the Veteran's Administration Honor Annex.

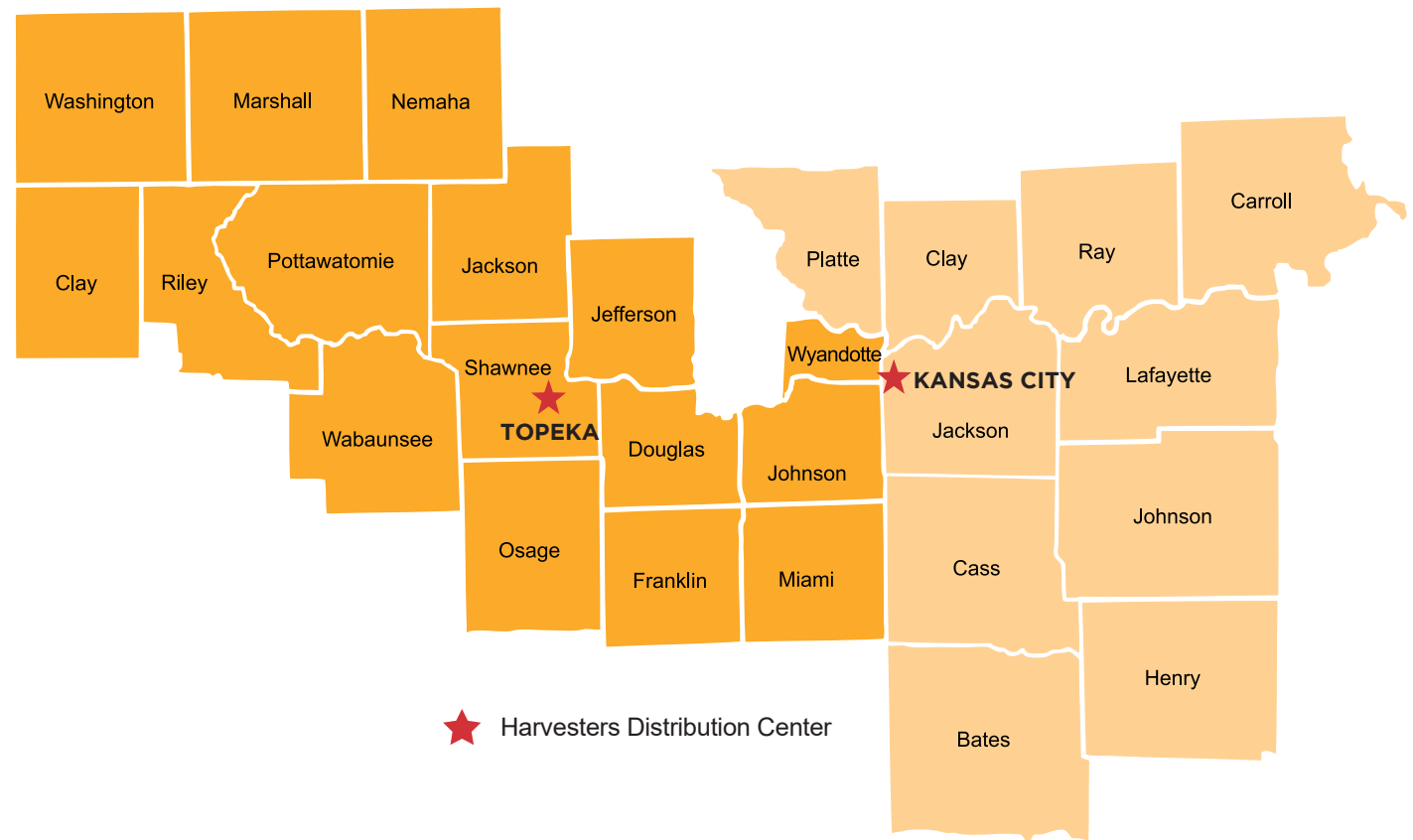
Multiple local hospital systems and clinics are also now screening people for food insecurity and referring people in need to Harvesters' network of agency partners for assistance.

A partnership with Humana led to the launch of a mobile distribution with a health clinic in Wyandotte County and planning continues on a program to provide food boxes through local pharmacies.



KAREN, ISABELLA & AMARA

HARVESTERS' SERVICE AREA



HOW YOU CAN HELP

WAYS TO TAKE ACTION AGAINST HUNGER



GIVE MONEY

In Fiscal Year 2019, friends of Harvesters gave more than \$14.3 million to support our vital hunger-relief work.

[Consider a gift](#) today to join the fight against hunger, or [learn more](#) about other giving options like making a planned gift, joining the *Harvest 365* monthly giving group or donating stock.



GIVE FOOD

A total of 3,585,836 meals were provided through local Harvesters food drives this past year! [Find out](#) how to support Harvesters with food and product gifts or through a virtual food drive at your workplace or organization.



GIVE TIME

We couldn't have provided more than 48 million meals during 2019 without the help of our dedicated volunteers.

Generous people gave their time in Fiscal Year 2019 totaling more than 177,000 hours. [Join the effort today!](#)



GIVE VOICE

This past year, Harvesters' tours, displays and speaking engagements educated 72,018 people about the issue of hunger in our community. Lend your voice in support of our hungry neighbors! [Become an advocate.](#)



HARVESTERS BY THE NUMBERS

ASSETS

CURRENT ASSETS	2019	2018
Cash	\$3,080,247	\$8,950,436
Investments — Board Designated Reserve	5,255,857	4,982,100
Accounts receivable	751,852	522,312
Unconditional promises to give, current portion, less allowance for uncollectibles	2,575,969	1,670,976
Prepaid expenses and other assets	230,322	229,780
Inventory	8,354,981	7,274,770
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	\$20,249,228	\$23,630,374
LONG-TERM UNCONDITIONAL PROMISES TO GIVE		
<i>(less current portion above, net of unamortized discount)</i>	271,059	653,599
LEVERAGE LOAN RECEIVABLE		
	7,688,500	7,688,500
PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT		
<i>(at cost, less accumulated depreciation)</i>	17,755,288	17,552,808
INVESTMENTS — OTHER		
	22,898	28,268
ENDOWMENTS		
Investments — Endowment	793,343	458,955
Cash — Endowment	---	237,877
TOTAL ASSETS	\$46,780,316	\$50,250,381

HARVESTERS BY THE NUMBERS

LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS

CURRENT LIABILITIES	2019	2018
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$1,277,777	\$1,475,894
Grants payable	---	---
Current portion of long-term debt	173,634	2,742,547
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	\$1,451,411	\$4,218,441
LONG-TERM DEBT		
<i>(less current portion above)</i>	11,658,767	12,601,380
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$13,110,178	\$16,819,821
UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS		
Undesignated	18,989,939	19,484,832
Board Designated — reserve	5,232,851	4,974,603
Total Food Bank	\$24,222,790	\$24,459,435
Contributed food	7,219,618	6,323,617
TOTAL UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS	\$31,442,408	\$30,783,052
TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED NET ASSETS		
	1,571,854	2,043,631
PERMANENTLY RESTRICTED NET ASSETS		
	655,877	603,877
TOTAL NET ASSETS	\$33,670,138	\$33,430,560
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$46,780,316	\$50,250,381

HARVESTERS BY THE NUMBERS

EXPENSES

FOOD BANK PROGRAM	2019	2018
	\$14,116,315	\$14,010,814
CONTRIBUTED FOOD DISTRIBUTION		
	82,783,261	83,044,375
MANAGEMENT AND GENERAL		
	1,537,369	1,355,144
FUND DEVELOPMENT		
	2,104,214	2,225,159
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$100,541,159	\$100,635,492



1979

Harvesters—The Community Food Network was founded by a coalition of business people, churches and social service agencies and began operations in space donated by Kansas City Cold Storage. During its first eight months of operation, Harvesters distributed 155,000 pounds of food.

THE 80s

Harvesters moved to its first official home on Prospect Avenue in Kansas City, Missouri and later in the decade moved to a larger location on North Topping. Food distribution surpassed the 1 million lbs. mark in 1982 and grew to more than 6 million lbs. annually by the end of the decade.

THE 90s

Two of Harvesters' largest fundraisers, which continue today, began. Check-Out Hunger (a register donation campaign) started with 148 grocery stores and raised \$78,000. Forks & Corks (a food and wine tasting event) began at the American Royal Grand Hall. Harvesters started efforts to respond to natural disasters, providing more than two million lbs. of food,

water and cleaning supplies during the floods of 1993.

THE 2000s

Harvesters moved to its current location at 3801 Topping Avenue and launched two key programs to fight childhood hunger: Kids Cafe, which provides after school and summer meals and BackSnack, which provides backpacks of food to children on the weekends.

THE 2010s

In response to the Recession and growing demand for food assistance, Harvesters opened a second distribution center in Topeka. Throughout the decade, capital campaigns funded further expansion of both facilities, including larger cooler/freezers to allow for more distribution of fresh produce. Harvesters distributed more than 50 million lbs. of food in one year for the first time.

Harvesters initiated a School Pantry program at several schools to feed not only hungry children, but their families as well.



FEEDING FAMILIES FOR FORTY YEARS

Find us on:



Kansas City facility:

3801 Topping Ave.
Kansas City, MO 64129
Phone: 816-929-3000

Topeka facility:

215 SE Quincy
Topeka, KS 66603
Phone: 785-861-7700

HARVESTERS.ORG