



NY

COMMON

PANTRY

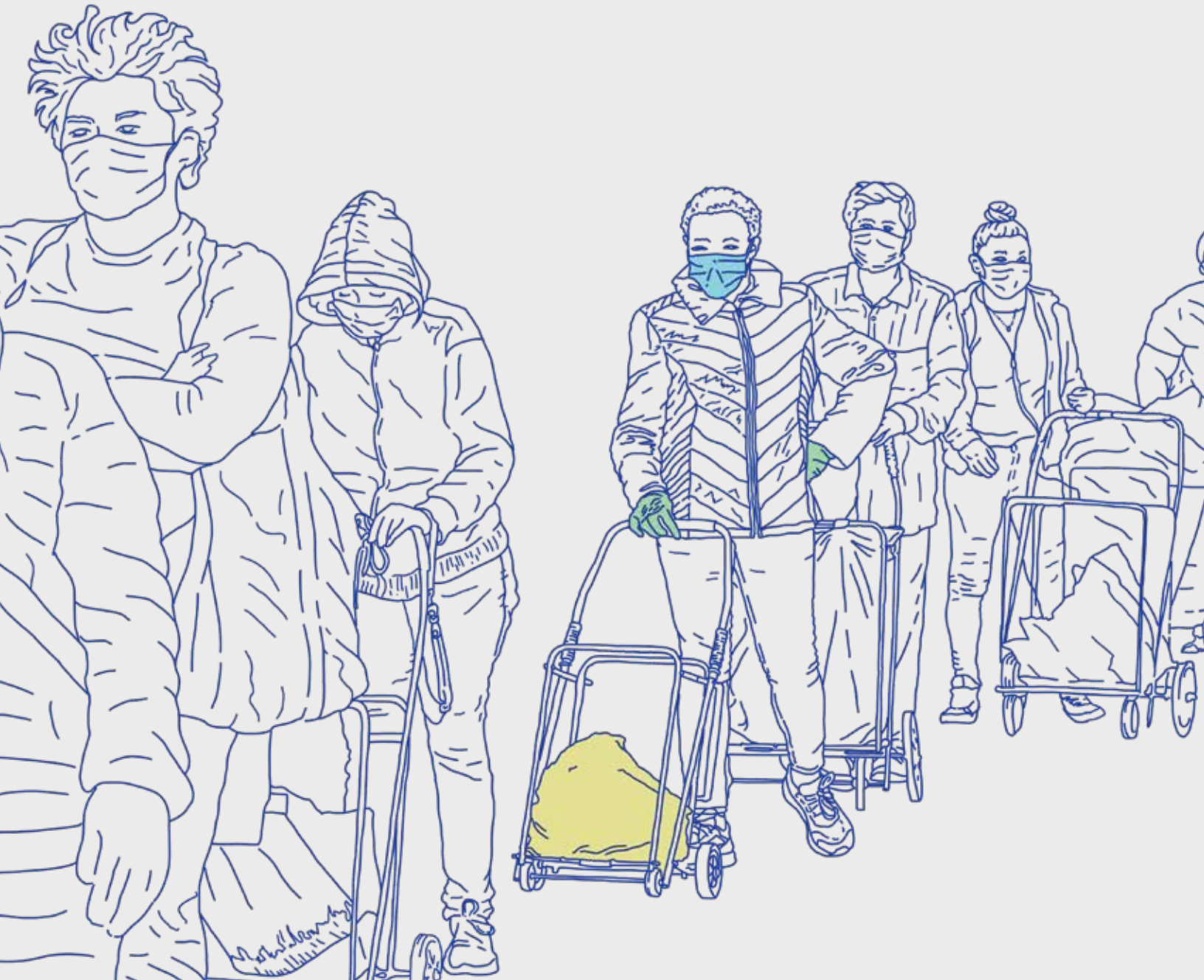


2020
ANNUAL
REPORT

FIRST WE
EAT



THEN WE DO EVERYTHING ELSE.



NEW YORK COMMON PANTRY LEADERSHIP *As of October, 2020*

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1 IN 4 NEW YORKERS IS FOOD INSECURE



For too many New Yorkers, food insecurity is not a new concept, but a pervasive and persistent problem that has dogged them over the course of their lives. Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, 1.2 million New Yorkers were food insecure, meaning they lacked consistent access to enough nutritious food to have an active, healthy life. After the onset of the pandemic that number nearly doubled to 2.2 million due to record-high unemployment, lost wages, closed schools, shelter-in-place directives, and increased food prices.

In 2020, one in four New York City households is food insecure and the pandemic has

highlighted the stark reality that many families in our city live paycheck to paycheck and cannot cover any unforeseen expenses.

The pandemic deepened New York's hunger crisis and New York Common Pantry has stepped up to the plate in response, pivoting its operations and innovating its partnerships to help New Yorkers navigate the new normal while ensuring the safety and health of its guests and staff. New York Common Pantry has invested deeply in finding new ways to carry out its mission without the scores of volunteers and mass dining events on which it has traditionally relied in order

to serve a record number of households in 2020.

As New York City faces the daunting reality of rebuilding while many businesses have closed their doors, schools and restaurants face challenges to reopen, and the theme of uncertainty continues to be a common thread across the country, New York Common Pantry, now more than ever, is committed to combating food insecurity and the attendant issues of cyclical poverty to help individuals, families, and communities in need. Your support is necessary to help us fulfill our mission and help New Yorkers reimagine and rebuild a better future.

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2020 ANNUAL REPORT

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FOOD IS A HUMAN RIGHT.

New York Common Pantry reduces hunger and promotes dignity, health and self-sufficiency.

“First we eat, then we do everything else.” — M.F.K. Fisher

Steam rising from a bowl of mashed potatoes on the dining room table, surrounded by colorful, bright, fresh vegetables and sliced pieces of steak on each family member’s plate. The vision of “family dinner” is built on images from magazines, movies, tv shows, but it is a luxury for far too many. In every culture sharing a meal is how we show love and care for one another, yet many New York City families struggle to access nutritious, culturally-appropriate food. For them, food is their number one priority. Without food, the other essentials—housing, work, education—cannot happen either.

Adding to the already high numbers of people who were food insecure, the COVID-19 pandemic caused unemployment to skyrocket in NYC. Many New Yorkers who were not food insecure in February now find themselves making hard decisions between feeding their families, paying bills and figuring out how to survive on limited income. At New York Common Pantry food is often what first brings our guests to our door, but once there, they are provided a host of other services—access to benefits, hygiene services, and community resources—that help the whole person. New York Common Pantry has been on the front lines of the COVID-19 outbreak, managing the effects of the virus on the food insecure.

The onset of the COVID-19 pandemic dramatically increased food insecurity for New Yorkers and limited their ability to access nutritious food.



THOUSANDS OF WORKERS LOST THEIR JOBS

689,000 jobs were lost in New York City from July 2019 to August 2020. The unemployment rate is 16% compared with 3.4% before the pandemic.¹



THE COST OF GROCERIES DRAMATICALLY INCREASED

The cost of groceries in the U.S. increased by 3.1% from February to April, 2020. The cost of groceries typically increases by 0.1% from month to month.²



MORE ADULTS ATE LESS DUE TO A LACK OF MEANS

34% of adults and 37% of adults with children skipped meals or cut portions because they lacked enough money for adequate food.³



Shelby Bennett
NYCP Guest • Choice Pantry

His Nashville accent still apparent, Shelby talks about adjusting to life in New York City, getting work, making friends and building a community. Earlier this year, things were going well for him. He enjoyed his work, spent time exploring his new home and was looking forward to summer. When the pandemic hit, Shelby's industry was among those that suddenly closed. Saved money disappeared quickly and Shelby could not stretch his budget any further. As his economic situation grew more dire, Shelby came to our East Harlem Pantry and signed up for bi-weekly packages. "Opening a pantry bag is like Christmas for me, now that I'm not working and I have to figure out how to make my food last until my next visit."



Suheddy Pena
NYCP Social Care Network Resources & Referral Manager • Help 365

Learning how to pivot during the pandemic became second nature for many staff members at NYCP. Personnel from all departments pitched in to pack pantry packages and work outside their normal roles to help serve our neighbors in need. For Suheddy Pena, previously a Live Healthy! staff member, the longer lines ignited a passion to transition to a new team to work more directly with pantry members during such a crucial time.

"Working closely with the Help 365 team provided an opportunity for me to gain a deeper understanding of our organization and the need it serves. The greatest lesson that the pandemic has taught us as a team is that we are all in this together."

We enrolled a total of 2,294 new Pantry members from March through June 2020.⁴

¹ David, Greg, *NYC Unemployment Pain Far Worse Than Nation's in Lagging Pandemic Recovery*, published in "The City" online on September 17, 2020.

² Food Bank for New York City, *Fighting More Than COVID-19: Unmasking the State of Hunger in NYC During a Pandemic*, June 2020.

³ Ibid

⁴ Compared to 1,658 newly enrolled to same period in 2019. Total includes both the Harlem and Bronx locations.



NYCP PUTS FIRST THINGS FIRST.

“We knew we’d see more people coming to the Pantry for packages and hot meals so we made sure we were ready to innovate and adapt.”

— Stephen Grimaldi, NYCP

In anticipation of COVID-19 arriving in NYC, we started planning early—before the explosion of cases, before sheltering in place, before business closures. Our approach emphasized staying true to our mission while adapting to respond to an unprecedented set of challenges. We focused on:

Leveraging our experience. For decades, we have served NYC communities through sudden catastrophic events like September 11th and Superstorm Sandy. From these, we knew how best to work with government, community organizations, corporate partners, and our neighbors to aptly adjust and innovate as needed.

Ensuring a healthy environment. We immediately took steps to create a safe environment for our guests, staff, and volunteers. We followed best practices of mask wearing and social distancing protocols. We instituted strict cleaning procedures in place to disinfect our offices, Pantries, trucks and carts. We closed facilities and programs where necessary and reduced the usage of volunteers in an effort to keep close contact between people to a minimum.

Maintaining standards and increasing resources. Our staff worked overtime to keep fresh produce and packaged food in our pantries ready for distribution. We carefully managed and grew our monetary resources in order to continue the purchase of high-quality food, personal protective equipment, and cleaning supplies by utilizing traditional channels as well as innovative ones.

NYCP adapted swiftly to confront food insecurity in an extraordinary time, ensuring more New Yorkers and their families could eat.



DISTRIBUTED OVER 6.2 MILLION MEALS TO 502,737 VISITORS IN FY20

After the onset of COVID-19, NYCP provided nutritious food for 108,600 guests through Pantries, Nourish, Mobile, Brown Bags, and Hot Meals.



ACCESSED OVER \$7 MILLION IN RESOURCES IN FY20

Of these, \$825,491 were utilized after the start of the COVID-19 pandemic to help provide emergency resources to the newly vulnerable who suddenly faced wage losses or became homebound.



CREATED A ROI OF \$6.79 FOR EVERY \$1 SPENT ON CASE MANAGEMENT IN FY20

We used our expertise and experience to wisely use our financial resources for maximum impact and benefit. This helped us to successfully intake and serve 2,266 new guests after the onset of COVID-19.



Geisha Jimenez
NYCP Guest • Mobile 365

New York Common Pantry was a source of hope and opportunity for Geisha Jimenez. When Geisha came to New York Common Pantry hungry and scared she had no clue how her life would change. After leaving an abusive long-term relationship, Geisha did not have access to necessities. While residing in a shelter, she visited New York Common Pantry where she was able to access benefits to find an apartment, furniture, and much more. "The staff at New York Common Pantry treated me with compassion, I felt human for the first time in a long time. I was able to find furniture and an apartment and so much more." During the pandemic, Geisha has been grateful for the pantry packages she receives filled with fresh fruits and vegetables. "I can make quick, healthy meals I like with the food I receive. Something I would not be able to do without the pantry."



Luis Guevara
Bilingual SNAP Enrollment Specialist • Help 365 Mobile

The term "frontline worker" usually describes doctors, nurses, sanitation workers, and other highly visible community service professionals. However, the reality is that, both before and during the pandemic, food security workers have also been critical to ensuring the well-being of New Yorkers. Before the pandemic Luis Guevara primarily guided our guests through the complex SNAP enrollment process so they could access much needed benefits. As the fallout from the pandemic continued his responsibilities shifted, reflecting the changing needs of our guests. "I not only helped with access to SNAP benefits but also with access to rental assistance and other social services. It has been rewarding to help so many families who appreciate the work we do."

Between April and June 2020, our mobile pantry program delivered 84,327 meals to 7,124 guests.



OUR COMMUNITY HEADED THE CALL.

In FY20 New York Common Pantry forged critical new partnerships with organizations across the city to extend our reach to new areas and keep families safe. Companies, community organizations, City Council members, and our non-profit peers became our allies in the fight against hunger to ensure that we were able to meet the increasing demand due to the pandemic. With their tactical support, volunteer efforts, and donations, we were able to expand our programming to include Seniors-Only Distribution Hours, To-Go Hot Meal Services, and Mobile Pantry Deliveries in order to ensure that our guests got the grocery packages they needed, even if they were not able to come to us.

We are thankful to those partners, new and continuing, who helped us reimagine how to distribute food to our guests after the pandemic began. A special shout out to the following:

**Bloomberg
Philanthropies**

freshdirect



AlRnyc

Banana Kelly

Bridge Builders

Community Partnership

Carter Burden Network

Child Care Centers
of NY

Cityblock

Fresh Youth Initiative
(FYI)

Graham Windham

Holyrood Church

Invisible Hands
Deliver

Miss Abbie's Kids

Montefiore Health
Systems

New York City Football
Club (NYCFC)

Upper Manhattan
Mutual Aid

World Central Kitchen

Corporate volunteering was suspended due to the virus, but our corporate partners stepped up with donations and operations support.



STOCKED OUR PANTRIES WITH READY-MADE PACKAGES OF NUTRITIOUS FOOD

FreshDirect provided ready made “pantry packages” when we were unable to use on-site volunteers, helping keep our labor costs from rising. Their staff volunteered to pack the boxes while their customers raised \$990K through June 2020.



DONATED READY-TO-EAT HOT MEALS TO GO ON A DAILY BASIS

Bloomberg Philanthropies and Green Top Farms each donated up to 100 hot meals every day from March to June 2020.



USED THEIR WHEELS TO GET FOOD TO THE HOMEBOUND

Bridge Builders and Graham Windham donated their expertise, and their vehicles, so we could continue to distribute pantry packages to those seniors, families, and individuals who were immunocompromised or otherwise unable to safely get to our pantries.



FreshDirect
NYCP Partner

Choice, quality, dignity, are all essential words to describe both New York Common Pantry and FreshDirect. As the Northeast’s leading online fresh food grocer, FreshDirect initially partnered with us to help raise awareness about food insecurity during their February “Month of Love” campaign. Shortly thereafter, COVID-19 came to NYC and groceries, fresh food, and supply became top of mind for everyone. Recognizing how much more critical getting groceries and fresh produce to the over 1 million New Yorkers already food insecure would be, FreshDirect became more resolute in its commitment to serving the community. They made 76 deliveries of over 39,000 boxes of groceries and fresh produce to our East Harlem and Bronx Pantries, and they used 15 of their own staff members as volunteers to “pick and pack” Pantry boxes so that nervous New Yorkers could continue to get their packages.

“FreshDirect is committed to partnering with like-minded organizations who are making a significant impact within their communities. New York Common Pantry and FreshDirect share the common values of nutrition, choice and, most of all, fresh food. We commend NYCP on the incredible work and vital services they provide.”

— David McInerney,
Chief Executive Officer, FreshDirect and
Board Member, New York Common Pantry

In FY20, we picked up surplus food and fresh produce from over 30 partners across NYC.

NEW YORK COMMON PANTRY FINANCIAL REPORT

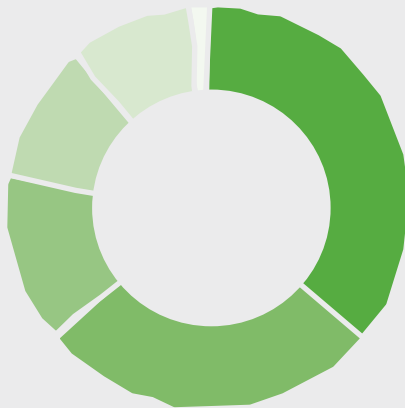
Fiscal Year July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020*

New York Common Pantry maintains strong financial oversight supporting best practices and ensuring accountability. We have robust fiscal policies and procedures detailing controls required for avoiding waste, fraud, and other risks. Our Measuring Impact and Success Policy ensures we have measurable goals and objectives in place to evaluate our success annually.

NET ASSETS: **\$5,854,704**

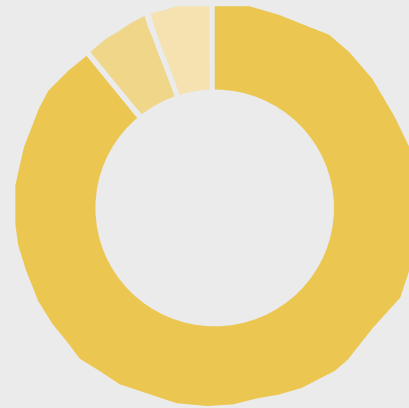
REVENUE: **\$14.1M**

EXPENSE: **\$13.7M**



Revenue by Type

- In-Kind: **36%**
- Government: **28%**
- Corporations & Foundations: **14%**
- Events: **11%**
- Individuals: **10%**
- Other Sources: **1%**
Includes sponsoring organizations, bequests, interest, and miscellaneous



Expense by Type

- Programs: **89%**
- Management & General: **6%**
- Fundraising: **5%**



Cost Per Choice Pantry Meal: **\$1.26**

* This information shown here was abstracted from unaudited financial statements for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020. Audited financial statements are on file at New York Common Pantry, 8 East 109th Street, New York, NY 10029. A copy of the audited financial statement filed with the New York State Office of Charities Registration may be obtained on request from New York Common Pantry or at nycommonpantry.org.

2020 SUPPORTERS

Whether you volunteer, arrange a food drive or food rescue, make a donation, or offer expertise you help ensure New York Common Pantry will be here for those in need. Thank you!

VOLUNTEER HONOR ROLL

Groups that volunteered 100 hours or more in FY20

ORGANIZATIONS

AHRC
Big Sunday
Congregation Or Zarua
Experience Mission
FINRA
Gateway Counseling
Harlem Go
JCC Manhattan
Joshua's Expedition
LDS
Lifespire
Margie's Minions
Muslim Volunteers for New York
New York Cares
New York City Church of Christ
Robin Hood Foundation
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SYEP
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Restaurant Associates
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USI
UTA
Wells Fargo

SCHOOLS

Birch Wathen Lenox School
Bronx Science Key Club
The Buckley School
CSM
CUNY Prep
The Dalton School
The Dwight School
Abraham Joshua Heshel School
The Hewitt School
Horace Mann School
International Community High School
John Jay College of Criminal Justice
La Scuola d'Italia
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South Bronx Jobs Corps
The Spence School
Trevor Day School
Winston Preparatory School

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Bread and Butter Membership recognizes individuals who make an annual contribution of \$10,000 or more.

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\$100,000+

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We express our heartfelt appreciation to the hundreds of donors who gave food, toys, and cash contributions in amounts less than \$2,500 and regret that space limitations prevent our listing each name in this report. Thank you all!

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Sara Moss

Vice Chairman, The Estée Lauder Companies
 and Board Member, New York Common Pantry

Passion. Purpose. Connection. As a woman in leadership, Sara Moss exemplifies the word “powerhouse” more than as just a business leader. Sara believes in paying it forward and her involvement with New York Common Pantry holds true to that ethos. She started her relationship with us as a donor, then as a regular volunteer both with her family and her colleagues at The Estée Lauder Companies. Today, she is a valued and long-time board member and most recently our Fill The Bag Benefit honoree and recipient of the Distinguished Partner Award.

“I am passionate about the work of the New York Common Pantry. NYCP provides essential food and services to New Yorkers of all races, ages and backgrounds and every client is treated with dignity and respect. It is a privilege to support the work of the New York Common Pantry, which is more important now than ever.”

The Ramaz School (Upper)
 Regis High School
 Rescuing Leftover Cuisine
 Restaurant Associates
 Sidley Austin LLP
 Sprinkles Cupcakes
 St. Jean Baptiste Catholic
 Church
 Tavern On The Green
 TEFAP - Food Bank

Transfertation
 The Unitarian Church
 of All Souls
 Viacom Entertainment
 Whole Foods
 World Central Kitchen
 You Give Goods
 Zabar's

GET INVOLVED

Support New York Common Pantry





VOLUNTEER.

We hope to be able restore our vigorous volunteer program in 2021 as best health and safety practices allow us to do so.



PARTNER.

From providing tactical support, volunteer efforts, and food rescue, our partners are critical to what we do.



DONATE.

We rely on generous donations from our community. From funds to food drives, we are grateful for all the ways you contribute.



Julie Lundberg & her son Bode NYCP Volunteers

“Do your little bit of good where you are; it’s those little bits of good put together that overwhelm the world.”
— Desmond Tutu

Julie Lundberg has always believed children must learn that we all have a responsibility to help others in our community when we can.

At the height of the pandemic, while quarantined with her son Bode, she wanted to find different ways to teach him to give back to neighbors in need while practicing social distancing.

Making sandwiches and donating them weekly to New York Common Pantry was the perfect way to support their fellow New Yorkers. To be of service together as a family is special.

“We organized a group of friends in the neighborhood to volunteer along with us. Each family now makes 40 sandwiches (from their own homes to stay safe) and we deliver between 120-200 sandwiches each week. It is a beautiful way to help others, give to our community, stay connected, and stay safe. It is beautiful to see my son grow to learn that we receive just as much, if not more than we give, when we are in service to others. Giving feels good!”

[NYCommonPantry.org](https://www.nycommonpantry.org)



@NYCommonPantry

501(c)(3) Statement- New York Common Pantry is designated as a tax-exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and is a publicly supported charity under section 509(a)(1) and qualifies for the maximum charitable contribution deduction allowed to individual donors.

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