Mary Myers lives in Hell’s Kitchen and visits New York Common Pantry on East 109th Street for its comprehensive services.

“New York Common Pantry is the place to go to get things taken care of.

My SNAP was cut off and my friends told me to come here to get help. Other food pantries are not like this. They have everything here and will provide a case worker, help with housing, and emergency food. It’s a wonderful pantry with fresh fruit and vegetables. I live in Hell’s Kitchen, that tells you how good it is—it’s really a great place.”
When we look at our community and our nation what we see is daunting. The cost to live in New York City was jarringly high with an average rent of $3,585 as of June 2018. While we read of low unemployment, many employed New Yorkers are living in poverty and one in ten working New Yorkers is food insecure. Additionally, one in five seniors relies on soup kitchens and food pantries. Overall, forty-two percent of households in the City can’t cover basic necessities but costs continue to rise.

In Fiscal Year 2018 New York Common Pantry (NYCP) brought over six million meals and $8.6 million in economic resources to New Yorkers in need. We brought 22,000 volunteers offering help together with nearly half a million people seeking that help. In this report you’ll see stories of both. Yet slashing cuts to the Federal food budget could put our services at risk. We have to ask the tough question, “If NYCP wasn’t here, where would people go?”

The fact is, there is no good answer. It’s essential that NYCP remains a resource for low income New Yorkers, but to do that we need your support more than ever. When you’ve read our report, put yourself in the story, and ensure through your support that NYCP continues bringing people together to reduce hunger throughout New York City.

Stephen Grimaldi, Executive Director
Annie Huneke, Board Chair
New York is both a wonderful and a tough place to live. It's diverse, vibrant, and dynamic. It's crowded, expensive, and challenging.

All New Yorkers experience this, but the gap between what low-income residents need and the resources they have remains staggering. Even New Yorkers who work are living in poverty, and it isn’t right. Hundreds of thousands are sick due to bad nutrition, and that is unjust.

Conditions are severe, and the need is urgent. Despite 3.9 percent unemployment, in FY18 many employed New Yorkers made only the minimum wage. In June 2018 average rent was $3,585, a pound of organic bread at a popular supermarket cost $7.59 and allergy medicine was $2.50 a pill. However you slice it, a low minimum wage won’t go far to cover everyday essentials for New Yorkers.

As a result, in 2017, 20.3 percent of all New York City residents lived below the poverty line. Childcare, commuting, payroll taxes, and health care are all factors that contribute to poverty, beyond the cost of food, rent, and clothing. Many living in poverty rely on inexpensive, calorie-dense food, and a related result is that 987,000 city residents have Type II diabetes, and 40 percent of elementary school children are overweight. Yet many remain hungry, with New Yorkers missing an adequate diet by 225 million meals each year. And while so many people are hungry, an estimated 30 – 40 percent of the food supply in the U.S. is wasted each year, and almost 50 percent of fresh produce.

New York Common Pantry serves these New Yorkers by linking them to healthy food, economic benefits, and education on nutrition and wellness.

New York Common Pantry is dedicated to reducing hunger throughout New York City while promoting dignity and self-sufficiency.

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6 Rain Maker Insights/RentJungle
7 Mayor's Office for Economic Opportunity
8 NYC Department of Health
9 Food Bank for New York City
10 US Department of Agriculture
New York is consistently ranked within the top three most expensive U.S. cities in which to live. People from all walks of life struggle to make ends meet. Nearly 1.1 million New Yorkers live in households that cannot always afford enough food.  

In FY18 New York Common Pantry was there to meet the daily needs of New Yorkers.  

Nearly 1 in 5 New Yorkers live in poverty  
NYCP served  
498,366 New Yorkers  

1 in 5 New York children live with food insecurity  
NYCP distributed  
6,096,448 meals  

NYC is home to the poorest U.S. Congressional District  
NYCP accessed  
$8,600,000 in resources  

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11 Hunger Free America  
12 Mayor’s Office for Economic Opportunity  
13 Duplicated individual visitor count  
14 Hunger Free America  
15 Food Research & Action Center  
16 Total resources accessed by NYCP staff and onsite partners
New York Common Pantry is filling cupboards and hearts to help people have fuller lives through its programs and whole-person approach.

**Comprehensive Programs**

**Choice Pantry** offers nutritionally balanced grocery packages, allowing visitors to order their food in person or through our online service, Pantry Direct. In FY18 it provided food for over 2.4 million meals including thousands of pounds obtained through food rescue.

**Hot Meals** serves daily breakfast and hot dinner three times a week serving over 60,000 meals to over 10,000 homeless and low-income guests in FY18.

**Help 365** provides case management for all pantry guests, including screening for benefits like SNAP and SSI. Help 365 also provides brown bag meals on days the Hot Meals program is not in service. In partnership with on-site service partners it brought in over $5 million in resources in FY18.

**Help 365 Mobile** delivers our case management program to communities around the city. In FY18 New York Common Pantry identified neighborhoods with the highest levels of un-accessed SNAP benefits and brought over $2.4 million in benefits to residents in those neighborhoods.

**Live Healthy!** offered free nutrition education for almost 10,000 participants in FY18. It provides tools for healthy and active living including eating on a budget, smart shopping for vegetables and fruit, and basic cooking and food safety skills.

**Nourish** works to improve the health of low-income elderly persons by supplementing their diets with nutritious USDA foods. In FY18 Nourish reached over 14,000 seniors and distributed over 3.5 million meals.

**Project Dignity** provided over 800 homeless individuals with case management for benefits, housing and medical care in FY18, as well as haircuts, showers, and laundry.

**Whole-Person Approach**

New York Common Pantry’s Whole Person Approach provides access to:

- Healthy Food
- Nutrition and Wellness Education
- Economic Resources
Lester Gunn comes to E. 109th Street every morning for breakfast. He and NYCP Safety Associate Marvin Wells sit together at the front greeting everyone as they come in.

“I’ve known him for a few years, but it feels like a lot longer.

We talk about everything and anything... family, sports, politics. We greet people and make them feel at home. Wells is very personable and is great company. I pick myself up every day to come here, no matter what. It gets me started in the day and I feel like when I leave I’m in a different frame of mind. It makes the beginning of my day extraordinary.”

NYCP connects deeply with the guests who come through its doors.
New York Common Pantry is building critical partnerships in the community to answer to the problem of food insecurity.

**Critical Food Rescue**

With almost 40 percent of the food supply in the U.S. thrown out each year, many people feel the urgency of reducing waste. NYCP supporters from a number of sectors have joined us to partner in Food Rescue—locating good food before it is thrown away, so we can pick it up to distribute to New York Common Pantry’s guests. Our initiatives for Food Rescue in FY18 included online scheduling and new outreach to let businesses know how they can get involved.

In FY18 we added eight new food rescue sites:

- Whole Foods Market, Gowanus, Brooklyn
- Whole Foods Market 365, Fort Greene, Brooklyn
- Trader Joe’s, City Point, Brooklyn
- HMS Host, JFK Airport, Queens
- Clifford Chance, Manhattan
- Alliance Bernstein, Manhattan
- Trader Joe’s, Upper West Side, Manhattan
- Baldor Foods, Hunts Point, Bronx

NYCP fosters mutually beneficial relationships with its food rescue partners—we know that we can rely on them to provide high-quality food and they know they can trust us to get it to the people that need it.

Lucia Albero, Marketing Manager, Community Engagement & Events for Whole Foods Market Northeast Region, and Andre Thompson, NYCP Director of Food Programs, worked together weekly to rescue 34,548 pounds of food (in FY18).

NYCP’s relationship with Whole Foods Market started in the fall of 2017 and we now collect food at three of their stores across New York City. Last winter, the company conducted a register campaign at three of its Manhattan stores that raised $3,553 for NYCP holiday meals.
NYCP gives caring community members effective mechanisms to combat hunger and need.

“Our work with NYCP, allows us to fight food insecurity in many ways.”

MV4NY is one of NYCP’s newest Sponsoring Organizations. The members provide volunteer service, organize city-wide food drives, and provide program support for the Live Healthy! program. “NYCP is a source of infinite inspiration and is an invaluable mentor for us as we grow our organization.”
NYCP recognized The Spence School with the Estée Lauder Companies Distinguished Volunteer Award and Morgan Stanley with our Corporate Partner Award for their extraordinary contributions.

“Our relationship with NYCP helps our students grapple with real-world problems and see themselves as agents of change.”

Danielle Passno, Director of Outreach and Public Purpose, accepted the award on behalf of The Spence School. Since 2005 students and faculty have provided 1,200 hours of service to NYCP’s programs.

Nearly 400 NYCP donors came together to support us and honor some of our most dedicated contributors at our annual Fill The Bag Benefit in March, 2018, raising $917,000.
In FY2018 New York Common Pantry contributors formed a dedicated circle of support for our organization, giving of their time and effort to help us to be there for New Yorkers.

NYCP supporters

**Donated 138,576 lbs of food**
by sponsoring and managing individual collections and community food drives.

NYCP supporters

**Contributed 73,726 hours**
of service by volunteering for our programs including Choice Pantry and Hot Meals.

NYCP supporters

**Rescued 306,641 lbs of quality food**
by joining us in corporate and food-business partnerships.
New York Common Pantry is leading the way among New York City nonprofits. In FY18 it continued to be recognized for its work and readied itself for the challenges on the horizon.

**Meaningful Recognition**

New York Common Pantry received its fifth consecutive 4-star rating, the highest possible, and a score of 100 out of 100 from Charity Navigator during FY18. Overall, across the 9,012 agencies reviewed in 11 categories in the U.S., NYCP was tied for first/highest possible score with only 64 other organizations—the 99th percentile.

**New Strategies**

NYCP secured McKinsey & Company’s pro bono support and embarked upon the opening stages of developing a new strategic plan in January 2018. Having distributed surveys and collected data from NYCP’s boards, staff, and volunteers in April, McKinsey released a provisional plan in June. It is currently under review for recommendation to our Board of Directors for a vote in December 2018.

**Better Systems**

In FY18 NYCP created the new leadership role of Senior Director of Finance in order to strengthen internal finance and human resources systems. Carolyn Hamrak, formerly the Senior Financial Manager for The Metropolitan Museum of Art’s Education Department, was hired as the ideal candidate to fill it. Having worked at large arts organizations as well as at commercial real estate and banking firms, she has an extensive knowledge of budgeting and finance.

Describing her transition into the new role at NYCP, Carolyn says, “In the past I have worked for some very large organizations with a lot of resources. What New York Common Pantry is able to produce with less is incredibly robust. I’m grateful to be able to put my expertise to use here because the human element really hits home. My parents were immigrants to New York City and they depended on community support. When I come to work and see people on the food line, I’m really happy that we are that community.”
New York Common Pantry
Financial Report
Fiscal Year July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018

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. In 2018 we met 81 percent of the year’s set goals.

NET ASSETS: $6,160,654
For fiscal year ended June 30, 2018

REVENUE

$12.9M

EXPENSE

$12.7M

COST PER CHOICE PANTRY MEAL: $1.28
VALUE OF VOLUNTEERS: $2,152,062

22,125 volunteers contributed 73,726 hours altogether, representing the above amount in saved labor costs. Based on NY State 2017 volunteer rates.

17 This information was abstracted from unaudited financial statements for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018. 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.
NEW YORK COMMON PANTRY | 2018 SUPPORTERS

Whether you volunteer, arrange a food drive or food rescue, make a donation, or offer expertise you help ensure NYCP will be here for those in need. Thank you!
Carolyn and William Patterson  
Hunter Philbrick  
Louise Helen Piacentini  
Robert A. Pietrzak  
Cherie Henderson and David Poppe  
Amos Posner  
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“I liked collecting food and giving it to people who need it. I like helping.”  
Four-year-old Belle Henry organized her own food drive to benefit NYCP. “Belle had seen her older brothers get involved with the pantry through their school and she wanted to help, too,” says her mother, Shabnam Henry. “She loved her experience with NYCP and we really like that our whole family can give back through the pantry. We are so proud of her work, and look forward to her second ‘annual’ food drive.”
“Sometimes the problem [hunger] seems too big and it feels like there’s nothing we can do, but when you volunteer at NYCP, you see that is not the case at all.”

Heather Getman and her children learned about NYCP through the Robin Hood Foundation and their schools. Now the whole family actively volunteers. “You can make a real difference to real people every week. My son Jack and I volunteered together every week during his gap year and really bonded in a special way through our hard work together.”

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New York City Department of Design and Construction
New York City Department of Youth and Community Development
New York City Human Resources Administration: Emergency Food Assistance Program (EFAP)
United Way: Emergency Food and Shelter Program (EFSP)
United States Department of Agriculture Food and Nutrition Services: The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP)

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We give special thanks for the support and encouragement of our elected officials.
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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.
Jerry Calderon worked in design, wholesale, and retail for 45 years. As a senior with limited income and health concerns, Jerry says the food NYCP provides improves his quality of life. He visits E. 109th Street for Choice Pantry and Hot Meals, as well as food for his dog, Zara. “I always enjoy seeing the friendly staff members, they go above and beyond.”

New York City seniors like Jerry worked and contributed throughout their lives, yet one in five depend on food pantries and soup kitchens—and their numbers are increasing at a rate approximately 20 times greater than the general population.¹⁸ New York Common Pantry will be here to serve them—but only with your help.

Be here with us—by taking one of the steps below!

VOLUNTEER — At Multiple Locations
We especially need help at our Choice Pantry Bronx. To learn more and schedule a volunteer activity in our online calendar visit: nycommonpantry.org or email volunteer@nycommonpantry.org.

DONATE — By Web, Mail, or Phone
Call us, use the enclosed envelope, or visit nycommonpantry.org to make a donation. To remember us in your estate or investment planning contact Neill Bogan at nbogan@nycommonpantry.org.

HELP RESCUE FOOD — We’ll Pick It Up
Interested in becoming a food rescue partner? Our vans are available to pick up food at your business or organization. Fill out a pickup form at nycommonpantry.org or email foodrescue@nycommonpantry.org.

¹⁸ McKinsey analysis, CAPE ©2016 Experian Marketing Solutions, Inc. All rights reserved.