Over recent years New Yorkers have experienced a series of local, national, and global crises that have tested our perseverance and resilience. We weathered the financial crash in 2008 and Superstorm Sandy in 2012, and we continue to negotiate a profoundly changed reality instigated by the start of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020.

For some of us, the impact of these crises is temporary—when the headlines switch to new stories or when we no longer feel the effects directly in our daily lives, our attention turns elsewhere. For many that New York Common Pantry (NYCP) serves—those living hand to mouth, struggling to pay the rent and other bills, and finding it hard to feed their families—the crisis generated by COVID-19 is still ongoing and they are unable to simply move on.

1.5 million New Yorkers, including one in four children and one in five seniors, are food insecure. Across the city, individuals and families already hindered by an inefficient health system and a stagnant minimum wage have been devastated by even greater rates of crushing poverty and pushed to their breaking point. More than ever, our neighbors need our support. Over the past two years NYCP has stepped up its programming and reach to serve more meals, more people, and more communities.

In FY21 and FY22, NYCP served 3 million more meals annually than in 2019—breaking the 9 million meals served mark in FY22. Our Mobile Pantry program, a cornerstone of how we support New Yorkers in the neighborhoods where they live, served 77% more visitors. We continued to improve access to high quality nutritious food for neighbors like Melissa Fernandez in the Bronx. We provided farm shares with fresh fruit and vegetables along with guidance through our nutrition programs so she and her 6-year-old son, who has a chronic kidney disease and needs a special diet, can lead better, healthier lives.

We see partnerships as essential to finding long-term solutions to nutrition insecurity and poverty. Together with individual and corporate supporters, fellow community organizations, elected officials and volunteers, we’ve found ways to cut costs, minimize waste and duplication, and increase ways to provide greater service and support.

And today we look forward to the start of a new chapter in 2023 when NYCP will unveil a modern receiving, packing and distribution center in the Bronx called The Hub. This facility will allow us to centralize our food operations, double the meals served in key food programs, and leverage greater economies of scale.

We have climbed many hills, though more await. Thanks to you, we will climb many more.

Stephen Grimaldi, Executive Director
Elaine Clark, Board Chair
New York Common Pantry reduces hunger and promotes dignity, health and self-sufficiency.

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New York City is entering another phase of crisis. Inflation—with its higher utility prices, exorbitant food costs and soaring rents—is impacting all New Yorkers. Anyone who has purchased a bag of groceries recently has experienced the shock of higher prices at the grocery store check-out counter. But for those struggling to stay afloat—those we serve whose budgets have no wiggle room—these higher costs are devastating.

Meanwhile, the pandemic marches on, continuing to wreak havoc on the finances, health, and emotional well-being of families and the communities we support. While New Yorkers are resilient, the continuation of hardship is wearing people down. When you don’t know where your next meal is coming from, or where you might sleep for the night, even the strongest person can lose hope.

New York Common Pantry (NYCP) itself has not been immune to the double-edged sword of inflation and COVID-19. Rising costs have impacted our ability to purchase food at reasonable prices and at times illness has affected our Pantry family, making it harder to maintain consistency in operations—causing us to juggle schedules, case management services, and deliveries around absences. We have had to be nimble and adapt to constant change.

In a year of yet more instability and grim headlines, NYCP has remained steadfast, expanding our services, partnerships and staff to better serve our growing community of neighbors in need throughout the city.

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New York Common Pantry is working hard to do more than ever to meet the unmet needs of New Yorkers.

With 1.5 million New Yorkers experiencing food insecurity, we are needed more than ever. In response to increased demand, we are renovating new spaces to provide more food for more people, returning our sites to in-person service, streamlining our operations and bringing down the cost per meal.

Additionally NYCP is partnering with more community-based organizations to bring food and services to areas throughout the city. We are collaborating with other emergency food providers to purchase shelf-stable staples in bulk, allowing us to spend less on food purchases. And we also have reinvigorated our food rescue efforts, enabling us to deliver more healthy food and reduce waste in landfills. We innovate, we evolve, and resolve to do more for our neighbors in need every day, together with your support.

NYCP is bridging the gap in need.
Waldina Valle

NYCP Guest
Choice Pantry Bronx

Originally from Honduras, Waldina Valle has been living in the Bronx for five years. She has three children and takes care of her two granddaughters as well. It has been increasingly difficult for Waldina to afford food for her family. “Access to the Pantry has helped me a lot,” she said. “It’s very difficult for me to buy things at the supermarket now because they’re more expensive.” At the Bronx Pantry, she is able to receive some of her family’s favorites, such as plantains, beans and pasta. “What the Pantry does, providing nutrition, is very important. It’s a big help for me and the community.”

Omar Alvarez

NYCP Food Programs Manager
Choice Pantry Bronx

Omar Alvarez began as Food Programs Manager for Choice Pantry Bronx five months before the pandemic hit. It was trial by fire, but the new distribution strategies he created meant the community continued to receive their nutritious Pantry packages. “A big reason I landed at NYCP is that I needed to find something bigger, with a bigger purpose,” Omar said. He most enjoys being out front, speaking with Pantry guests. Growing up in NYC, he relates to a lot of them, whose stories remind him of family. “It’s fulfilling, making a difference and contributing to other people’s lives.”
More food.

The amount of food we serve and the money we spend on it continues to grow. Due to the increased need for healthy, nutritious food that we witnessed across the city and to cover higher food costs, NYCP had to spend 35% more on food purchases than budgeted for in FY22. We also saw a deeper reduction in food donations, with only 30% of the food we serve contributed by individuals, groups and corporations. We’ve continued to be nimble, finding more vendors so we can negotiate the best prices for the goods we need to purchase. This is especially important as we purchased 1.5 million pounds of produce, striving to provide our Choice Pantry members with 40% fresh fruit and vegetables in their packages.

9.3 million pounds of food distributed

1.5 million pounds of fresh produce served

Quantity matters, but so does quality. NYCP not only provided more food than ever in 2022—it made sure that the options given were fresh, culturally relevant, and nutritious.
**Jenny Coraisaca**
NYCP Nutrition Program Manager  
*Live Healthy!*

Live Healthy!, NYCP’s nutrition education program, has grown tremendously since Jenny Coraisaca joined the Live Healthy! team eight years ago. In her many roles over the years, she has built lasting relationships with the community members she serves. Jenny wants participants to build resilience and create healthy lifestyles for themselves and their families. “We want to improve their quality of life through healthy behavior changes,” she said. “Through Live Healthy!, we complement the other Pantry services with knowledge, nutrition information and skills. It’s not just ‘here’s a bag of food.’ It’s also, ‘here’s what you can do with it to get the nutrients you need.’”

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**Blanca Mateo**
NYCP Guest  
*Live Healthy!*

While working as a charitable organization’s coordinator for community partnerships, Blanca Mateo promoted NYCP’s Live Healthy! program and decided to enroll. Blanca learned about the nutrients contained in specific foods, the importance of portion sizes, how to read product labels to select healthier foods for her family and the importance of physical activity. “I participate in the nutrition classes and Recipe Club and have started walking and counting my steps every day,” she said. After nearly a year in the program, Blanca received good news. “My doctor said I no longer have hypertension and don’t need to take medication anymore. I tell everyone about the Program.”
More guests.

As more communities struggle with stagnant wages and keeping up with inflation, NYCP has seen more program visits and enrollment than ever before. On average, NYCP served nearly 3,200 guests each day across all our programs. Our programs are designed to support a diverse contingent of constituents including seniors on fixed incomes who are in need of nutrition security, the unhoused who are in need of shower, laundry, and mail services as well as housing assistance, and individuals and families who don’t live near our brick and mortar facilities and need to access services in the communities where they live. As a result, in FY22 we served 16,725 seniors each month, saw 133% more visits to our hygiene and case management services, and increased Mobile Pantry special distributions by 94%.

591K
individual visits

41%
of guests served were first-timers

As our lines grew, we met the demand.
All NYCP programs saw an increase in demand in FY22 and we served 18% more guests on a daily basis.
Lloyd Jefferson
NYCP Guest, Project Dignity (formerly), Choice Pantry Manhattan (currently)

Lloyd Jefferson’s construction career was cut short by an injury requiring surgery. Struggling to land on his feet, he ended up in the NYC shelter system. Three years ago, Lloyd connected with NYCP for hot meals, showers, laundry, and a pathway back to normalcy. After seven long years of being unhoused, our Project Dignity team helped Lloyd secure permanent housing. “It’s overwhelming, having an apartment. This is the best thing that could ever happen,” he said. With a kitchen for the first time in years, Lloyd receives NYCP Choice Pantry packages and eats nutritious meals he prepares himself.

Fresh Youth Initiatives (FYI)
NYCP Community Partner

Serving Washington Heights and Inwood, Fresh Youth Initiatives (FYI) provides no-cost, year-round programs that support children’s academic skills and social-emotional wellness. Heightened need emerged during the pandemic and FYI realized that many of their students’ families were struggling with food insecurity. They reached out to NYCP for help. NYCP now provides nearly 200 Pantry packages to FYI families each week. To facilitate this collaboration, FYI established a Food Relief and Social Services department to streamline service. “We depend on NYCP. Having food to bring to our families enables us to better help students,” said Alessandro Guimaraes, LMSW, FYI’s Social Services Director (pictured on left, next to NYCP’s Mobile Pantry driver, Mario Ruiz).
NYCP continues to grow to better serve New Yorkers in the neighborhoods where they live. We’re reaching more communities across the city with our Mobile Pantry program as well as through expanded partnerships with other community-based organizations and collaborations with local elected officials and state government representatives. Working in partnership has allowed us to organize special food distributions and social services case management for constituents outside of our direct programming, extending our reach overall. In order to support this growth we have increased our staff and its expertise (promoting 25 existing employees and hiring 33 new ones), broadened our nutrition programming (moving online to teach families about nutrients in foods, product labels, and how to cook in a healthier way), and are now renovating a new 23,000 sq. ft. facility to allow us to store and distribute 2.5 million more pounds of food each year.

77% more food delivered across NYC

50% more resources accessed for our guests

9% more staff to provide support

Success requires going not just further, but also deeper.
We match critical assets to need. In FY22 we accessed more than $6.6M in resources for our guests and utilized 12,000 volunteers who contributed 31,000 hours to improve thousands of New Yorkers’ daily lives.
**NEW YORK COMMON PANTRY**

**FY2022 Financial Report**

*July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022*

*The information shown here was abstracted from unaudited financial statements for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022. 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 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: $15.6 million

Revenue: $17.6 million

Expense: $17.6 million

- **In-Kind**: 28%
- **Government**: 22%
- **Corporations and Foundations**: 21%
- **Individuals**: 17%
- **Events**: 7%
- **Other Sources**: 5%

Includes sponsoring organizations, bequests, interest, and miscellaneous.

Programs: 81%

Management: 12%

Fundraising: 7%

Cost per Choice Pantry Meal: $1.11
Thank you, 2022 Supporters!

VOLUNTEER HONOR ROLL
Individuals and groups that volunteered 100 hours or more

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FreshDirect
NYCP Corporate Partner

Sometimes synergy happens seamlessly, like when NYCP and FreshDirect (FD) teamed up to provide fresh, wholesome food to alleviate food insecurity during the pandemic. The multi-faceted partnership includes FD helping to design and launch NYCP’s Mobile Pantry vehicle, co-sponsoring a fundraiser with Tribeca Film Festival and supporting our Fill The Bag Benefit. “We’re really proud of the relationship,” said John MacDonald, FD’s Chief Marketing Officer. “It was that gleam of hope that we’re doing the right things not only for our customers, but we’re also helping the community around us.”

We couldn’t do it without you! We appreciate the time you spend as a volunteer, organizing food drives, scheduling food rescue, partnering with us or providing financial support. We’re able to help so many due to your assistance. Thank you!
Bloomberg Philanthropies
NYCP Corporate Volunteer Group

Bloomberg Philanthropies and NYCP paired up in 2013 when they were looking for charitable partners in local communities where their employees live and work. “We wanted to support local food insecurity efforts in East Harlem and the Bronx,” said Nancy Cutler, Bloomberg’s head of Corporate Philanthropy. “Together with NYCP, we are having a direct, positive impact on our neighbors.” During the pandemic, Bloomberg Philanthropies provided 100 hot meals daily to our hungry and homeless guests. This year, more than 160 Bloomberg employees have volunteered at our Pantries at least once each month, contributing more than 560 hours of service. Thank you, Bloomberg Philanthropies.
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Doreen Morales
NYCP Board Member

Doreen Morales was a beloved NYC elementary school teacher for 42 years. Early during her work with NYCP, she learned 50 children served by the Pantry needed holiday presents and asked her students to each bring in one gift. Doreen and her husband, Larry, bought the rest—and the annual Larry Morales Toy Drive was born. “We wanted to make certain that no children were left out and Santa could be real for all,” she said. Now retired, Doreen is the NYCP Board ambassador to the school community, encouraging young people to get involved. “It’s so easy to talk with students about the Pantry because of all the good deeds it does.”
As of August 2022

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NEW YORK COMMON PANTRY

2022 LEADERSHIP

As of August 2022

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Andy Dsida
NYCP Volunteer
Choice Pantry Manhattan

From packing Pantry bags to unloading trucks to database management, Andy is an NYCP volunteer that’s done it all. “I’ve volunteered at other pantries and New York Common Pantry is the best one,” Andy said. “There’s an attitude here that, no matter what, work will get done and the community will be served. The dedication that everyone has here is really motivating.”

GET INVOLVED

Support New York Common Pantry

Volunteer

Our robust volunteer program is essential to our approach to serving New York City.

Partner

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

Donate

From funds to food drives, we are grateful for all the ways you contribute.

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