


ANNUAL REPORT 2019



**AIRDRIE
FOOD
BANK**



**43% OF THE
PEOPLE WE
FEED ARE
CHILDREN**

OUR VISION

Neighbours Helping Neighbours

OUR MISSION

To collect and distribute food to those in need and help our community find solutions to hunger related issues

CORE VALUES

- The Airdrie Food Bank is available for everyone in need
- We treat people with dignity and respect and are non-judgmental
- We value and support our community
- We value people's talents and abilities
- We are recognized as community leaders and good stewards



"We are so grateful to everyone in our community for their on-going generous support throughout the year..."

With a drastic increase in demand, we couldn't have provided food to those in need without your help.



PRESIDENT

JACK LUMLEY

What a year it has been at the Airdrie Food Bank as the number of families and individuals accessing support increased once again meaning 2019 was our busiest year ever. Predictably, the need continues to grow month after month. As one would expect under the circumstances, our school breakfast, lunch and snack programs set record numbers of usage. We know kids are hungry in Airdrie and we strive to meet this need as best as we can. With such a young community it's not a surprise that over 43 percent of our clients were children in 2019 and it's also no surprise that when our economy lurches our need becomes ever greater. Meeting this growing demand is an ongoing challenge as 2019 donations decreased and yet the need increased. During my time on the Board one thing that has become crystal clear is that the need for monetary donations has become ever greater as the complexities of providing food support to the community grow in scale. We recognize the reality that many of our neighbours circumstances are shifting and thank all for your dollars, food donations and time that empower us to provide vital services to the Airdrie community. Our great Volunteers are key members of the team at the food bank and we aim to foster a volunteer experience that is valuable and rewarding for those that choose to share their skills, time and hearts with us. Initiatives for our volunteer program this past year included: capacity building, formalizing board processes, community outreach, and training on new technology. It's also important to note that through partnership with Food Banks Alberta we were able to take on some capacity building projects that work towards optimizing our ability to support our community and neighbouring food banks. Through this we formalized our role as a food distribution hub to strengthen the network of food banks in Alberta to receive and provide support to fellow food banks as needed.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

LORI MCRITCHIE

As I complete my 14th year at the food bank I am humbled and blessed to be able to lead our community in caring for each other. I believe that food banks can be the barometer of a community, a well-supported food bank is an indicator of an engaged community that lives "Neighbours helping Neighbours". Airdrie and area is that and so much more. We have seen the need in our community grow as a result of our current uncertain economic times. Our ability to provide food support to our children in schools, families that live here, and community partners that work with those who struggle, is only possible because as a community you reach out to help. On behalf of each and every one of those we serve together, I say THANK YOU!

HOW YOU HELPED

BECAUSE OF YOUR SUPPORT LAST YEAR
we were able to provide:



10,363
VISITS FOR
BREAD
& EXTRAS



2675
HAMPERs



279,360 LBS
from our community
store bins & food drives
360,368 LBS
food recovery
from businesses



6207
BREAKFASTS
THROUGH R.J.
HAWKEY
BREAKFAST
PROGRAM



33,197
SNACKS TO
SCHOOLS



8154
SCHOOL
LUNCHES
MADE BY
VOLUNTEERS

..... **TOGETHER WE IMPACTED LIVES**

WHO WE HELPED



.....

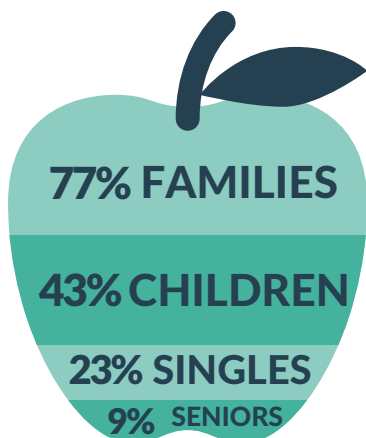
"The Airdrie Food Bank is able to provide vital services and programs to the community because of the support of our community & partners"

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32

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LOCAL AGENCIES WITH
FOOD IN 2019



OUR VOLUNTEERS

357
VOLUNTEERS

.....
*"The greatest gift
someone can give,
is the gift of time."*
.....



DID YOU KNOW?

CHURCH GROUPS
SPORTS CLUBS
YOUTH GROUPS
CORPORATE TEAMS &
COMMUNITY GROUPS
HELP US EVERY
WEEK AT THE
AIRDRIE FOOD BANK

DID YOU KNOW?

SHAMROCK SHIMMY

Our **Annual Shamrock Shimmy** fundraiser, brought many people in our community together to raise money in support of our programs.



10% Government Grants
90% Community Supported

EMPTY BOWLS

The **Annual Empty Bowls Festival** raised awareness and funds to help feed people in our area by bringing our community together through food and art.



*"Together we
made a
difference"*

COMMUNITY EVENTS

In **2019** many individuals, organizations and businesses hosted events, food drives and fundraisers on our behalf. We are so thankful for our community's support!

MAKE MEALS MAKE FRIENDS

The Airdrie Community Kitchen is a place people can connect and gain cooking skills; a place where groups can come for team building and community partnering. In 2019 we had over **120** individuals participate in over **30** programs!





**“TOGETHER WE
ARE BUILDING A
STRONGER
COMMUNITY IN
WHICH
NEIGHBOURS
HELP
NEIGHBOURS”**

**THE AIRDRIE FOOD BANK IS PROUD TO BE A MEMBER OF
FOOD BANKS ALBERTA & FOOD BANKS CANADA**



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