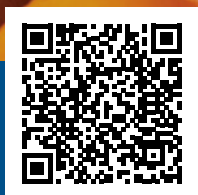


FISCAL 2025

Impact Report



Download your own fresh
food phone background



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For the purpose of this annual report, the fiscal year will be referred to as 2025. The actual dates are July 01, 2024 – June 30, 2025.

Strategic Directions from the 2026 – 2028 Strategic Plan

ELEVATING OUR CORE
ADVANCING FOOD SECURITY

VISION

**A British Columbia
where everyone
has access to
healthy food
through better
distribution,
innovation, and
partnerships.**

MISSION

**Providing
healthy food to
those in need.**

VALUES

**Responsibility,
Collaboration,
Innovation,
Fun**

A Message From Leadership

FIONA MACDONALD, BOARD CHAIR

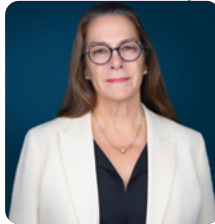
As the Greater Vancouver Food Bank concludes our 2025 fiscal year, we reflect on a season of challenges, progress, and meaningful change. Persistent economic pressures have continued to deepen food insecurity across our communities, increasing strain on households and critical support networks.

In response, we remained a vital resource, welcoming new clients and agencies while upholding our reputation as a 5-star-rated charity, as recognized by Charity Intelligence.

This year, we finalized plans to purchase our first-ever permanent home, a milestone that signals more than real estate. This transformational change is a long-term investment in Vancouver's food security, and it will allow us to grow core programs and pursue innovative initiatives, such as food preservation and new partnerships with social services.

Thanks to the continued support of our partners, dedicated staff, and compassionate community, we are building a workplace that is equitable, empowering, and forward-thinking. We are proud to be a Living Wage Employer and committed to developing future leaders within our organization.

On behalf of our Board of Directors, I extend sincere gratitude to our donors, volunteers, staff, leadership team, and in particular to our CEO for his leadership through another challenging but very successful year. With your support, we step confidently into a new year, ready to provide fresh, nourishing food to those who need it most.



DAVID LONG, CEO

Since 2018, I've witnessed firsthand the unprecedented growth in food insecurity across our region—with demand for our services increasing and with expanding demographics, including working families and seniors, seeking support for the first time. The scale of this challenge has transformed our communities, yet my vision remains unwavering: to reach a future where the need for our services is greatly decreased or no longer exists.

As British Columbia's largest food bank, we carry the responsibility not just to meet growing demand, but to lead meaningful change in how we address food insecurity. This year, we served over 440,000 visits directly and over 160 agency partners, equally distributing over 9,400,000 lbs. of food to both channels, while continuously exploring innovative approaches to deepen our community impact.



This year marked a transformative milestone: finalizing the acquisition of our first-ever permanent facility. This 16,000 sq foot hub integrates direct and agency distribution, additional

refrigeration for our operations and free partnered social services for our clients all under one roof. Most importantly, this space makes the GVFB a more dependable, reliable, and sustainable resource for our communities.

My deepest gratitude goes to our incredible team, generous donors, Board of Directors and tireless volunteers who made this pivotal year possible.

Together, we have navigated supply chain disruptions, adapted to changing community needs, and achieved this historic milestone and it is because of your unwavering support that we continue moving forward with both urgency and hope.

A Year of Milestones

2025 was full of celebrations and ground-breaking achievements.



New Merchandise. In September, the GVFB kicked off an exciting new merchandise collection with a celebrity campaign featuring David Suzuki, Andrea Brooks and Sarah McLachlan!

The campaign provided insight to the public that it takes more than food to provide healthy food to those in need. The impact of farmers, volunteers, and generous donors all help us to achieve our mission.



[Learn More](#)

REEL Thanks Challenge Returns.

The REEL Thanks Challenge is an annual two-week-long fundraising event, presented by the Directors Guild of Canada, BC. Our October 2024 challenge was hugely successful, with 20 participating productions and an extensive list of industry sponsors, raising \$213,754 – a remarkable outcome following a one-year hiatus in 2023.



40,000 Pounds of Potatoes.

When the Grassy Lake Potato Company found themselves with 40,000 pounds of surplus potatoes and nowhere for them to go, The Farmlink Project stepped in to redirect them to the GVFB! Thanks to our fantastic volunteer community, we were able to quickly sort and package these potatoes for our agency partners and clients, even shipping some of them to other food banks across the country.

Supporting BC Farmers.

After providing storage and packing services for BC fruit growers for almost 90 years, BC Tree Fruits announced a sudden and devastating closure - leaving 200+ BC farmers at a loss. We sent our team to support these farmers by purchasing the entire apple crop of three Okanagan orchards. Through these apples, we are supporting the struggling farmers while providing healthy, fresh food for our clients.

Video



BC The National.

Our CEO, David Long, joined CBC's The National, hosted by Erica Johnson, to share our story and explain why focusing on fresh food is vital to our operations and

clients. Scan the QR code to hear how he is using his experience as an executive chef to disrupt the traditional food bank model, providing healthy food to those in need.



More Info



Donation to the VSB.

In spring 2025, we learned that the City of Vancouver would discontinue funding for the Vancouver School Board's Food4Schools

program after their agreement ended. Unable to stand by as fewer students in Vancouver would have access to food, the GVFB partnered with John Nicola of Nicola Wealth to provide a large one-time donation, ensuring support for over 2,000 children.

"We need to set children up for success... hunger leads to poor grades, bullying, stigma and lifelong mental health issues."

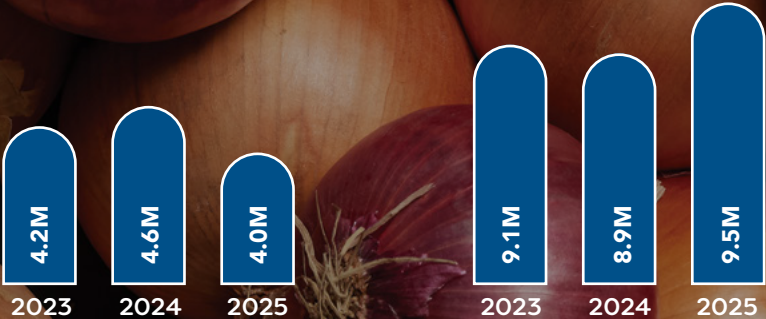
DAVID LONG, CEO



A Year of Data: Fiscal 2025



*We have seen an abundance of donated produce through the BC Farmers' Tax Credit and have achieved 75% fresh outbound food!



TOTAL FOOD PURCHASED IN POUNDS

POUNDS OF OUTBOUND FOOD*



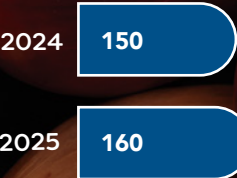
FUEL COSTS



FOOD COSTS



CLIENT VISITS



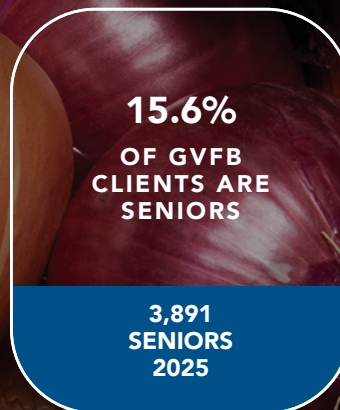
AGENCY PARTNERS



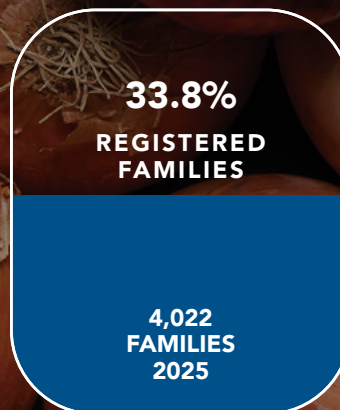
AGENCY PARTNERS' CLIENT VISITS

Demographics

CLIENTS



HOUSEHOLD



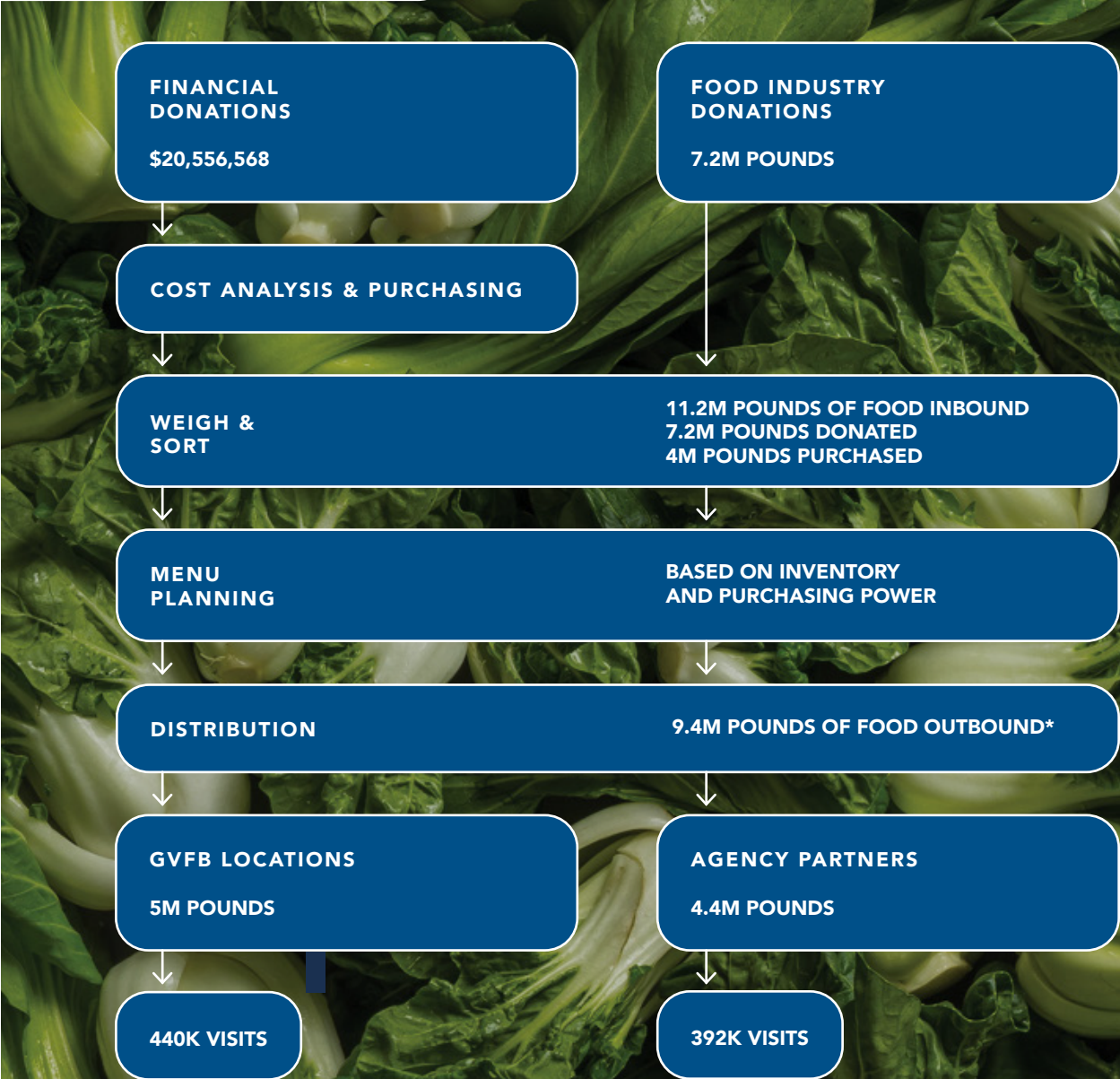
TOTAL GVFB
VISITS



NEW CLIENT
REGISTRATIONS

With your
support in
2025, we
continued to
welcome new
clients.

How Does the GVFB Work?



*Additional inventory is being held for later distribution.

FRESH FUTURES

Our first Capital Campaign

In 2025, the GVFB launched its Capital Campaign to establish a permanent home for our operations, and we will be purchasing a building that marks a major step forward in our vision to strengthen the future of food security in our region.

After years of operating in temporary spaces, this purchase represents stability, growth, and the ability to deepen our impact. This is a defining moment for the GVFB, and we invite our supporters to join us in making this vision a reality.



Read the digital report



Our new permanent home will become the foundation for an even greater impact across Greater Vancouver and beyond. It will feature increased cold storage for fresh food, space for wrap-around social services that address the root causes of food insecurity, and enhanced logistics for efficient food distribution. Clients will experience a more dignified, accessible, and consistent service, while our partners and staff benefit from a centralized, purpose-built facility.

More than just a building, it represents stability, innovation, and the power to scale our proven model to build healthier, more resilient communities.



A snapshot of our location



Story of a Senior Client

Henry has called Vancouver home since 1980. Now 82, he has lived a full life, from working in computer science to earning a PhD in Languages. But since retiring in 2009, Henry has struggled to get by on a fixed income as living costs rise.

His challenges deepened when his wife was diagnosed with progressive supranuclear palsy, a rare degenerative brain disease. With her hospitalization and the costs of specialized care mounting, Henry found himself overwhelmed.

"I have rheumatism and arthritis. I'm never going to work again, and my wife is in the hospital. My budget was shattered," he shares. "God bless the GVFB. The food I get there saves me a lot of money... especially on senior's week."

Henry now takes the bus daily to visit his wife, bringing her meals he has made with groceries from the food bank. He's especially grateful for the Seniors Nutritional Program Pack. "The protein shakes keep me going now that I do all the cooking."



"My wife says, 'Keep up with the Food Bank, it helps you cook for me.' When I make pasta with the sauce, tomatoes, onions, she says, 'My god, you can cook!' We're not together at home, but I still bring her food. We stick together in a way."

When asked what the GVFB means to him, Henry sums it up in one word: pride. "I'm not ashamed, I'm proud. I'm not the only one going to the Food Bank. They help my family and my budget. I don't miss a week."

Henry emphasizes how critical this support is for people pushed to the brink, people like him.

FRESH Start Program

The FRESH Start Program was created in response to the growing realization that food alone is not enough.

With the Greater Vancouver Food Bank supporting over 440,000 visits directly in FY2024, it became clear that despite the community's efforts, current strategies are falling short. Access to food is essential, but it's only a temporary solution to much deeper issues.



Many individuals still face systemic barriers when trying to access support, whether due to language barriers, complex application processes, or social stigma. These obstacles often lead to emotional exhaustion and disillusionment.

The FRESH Start Program is built on the belief that sustainable change requires a new approach, one that prioritizes empowerment, dignity, and accessibility. By actively collaborating with like-minded partners and centering the individual's experience, FRESH Start aims to meet people where they are and walk alongside them toward lasting stability.



Reasons for visiting the GVFB

2025 OVERVIEW

30%

LOW WAGES OR PENSION

22%

RELOCATION INTERNATIONALLY

17%

COST OF LIVING EXPENSES

17%

OTHER

14%

LOSS OF INCOME

LOW WAGES OR PENSION

2023 12%

2024 24%

2025 30%

New Partners

AMAZON

This year marked an exciting new partnership with Amazon Local Good, Amazon's very first logistical collaboration in BC!

With the launch of the Amazon Local Good program, we were able to revolutionize local pickups and deliveries with the support of dedicated Amazon trucks and drivers. This level of logistical support has made a real impact within the transportation of healthy, essential food items to food banks across the province!

In just the first two months, we were able to move over 200 pallets of food and supplies across our communities and throughout BC. Amazon's team of vehicles and drivers have helped us return truckloads of empty apple bins to the Okanagan and shipped baby formula, menstrual products, and diapers to our friends at the Squamish and Whistler Food Banks. The financial savings alone were over \$23,000, allowing us to purchase even more fresh, local food for our clients and agency partners.



By the end of FY2025, we have distributed more than 40,000 pounds of food through the Amazon Local Good Program.

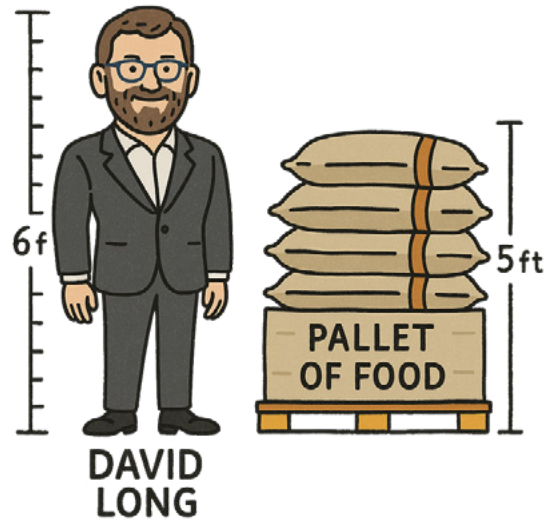
We look forward to continuing this work together and providing more healthy food to those in need.



CANADIAN DRY STORAGE

The GVFB has been engaging with farmers for the BC Farmer Tax Credit, redirecting surplus fresh food into the hands of people in need. With farmers donating their excess product instead of leaving it in the field, we have found ourselves with an outstanding amount of donated produce, but not enough space to store it.

Fortunately for us, Canadian Dry Storage (CDS), one of the best third-party logistics services, stepped up to help store this excess produce by providing space for pallets of surplus produce in their refrigerated warehouse – all for free! This partnership presented an exciting opportunity to increase our acceptance of fresh donations from farmers and expand our reach, enabling our direct distribution clients, agency partners, and provincial partners access to even more fresh, healthy nutritious foods.



In FY2025, CDS stored more than 830,000 pounds of fresh, nutritious food for the GVFB! By partnering with CDS, the GVFB managed to save \$32,000 in a single year!

Food Preservation

Across British Columbia, an abundance of produce grows in farmers’ fields each year. Too often, this perfectly edible bounty is left behind, not because it is unfit to eat, but due to industry regulations, cosmetic standards, and the high cost of harvesting. At the GVFB, we see this abundance as an opportunity to reduce food waste and feed more people.

In FY2025, we expanded our preservation efforts with new equipment, including an industrial food dehydrator, juicing systems, and freeze-drying technology. These tools allowed us to run small-batch trials on-site, transforming

surplus produce into shelf-stable, nutritious products. By using multiple preservation methods, we extend the life of rescued food while keeping its nutrition and flavour intact.

We also built stronger partnerships with local farmers, encouraging them to share their abundance through the BC Farmers’ Food Donation Tax Credit. This encourages farmers and farming corporations to donate locally grown food and helps ensure that what grows in our farmers’ fields ends up nourishing our communities.



BC Farmers' Tax Credit Updates

Building on the success of last year's BC Farmers' Food Donation Tax Credit, the GVFB has continued to grow this pilot project, forging new partnerships with local farmers and increasing access to fresh, local produce for those in need.

The BC Farmers' Food Donation Tax Credit is a non-refundable income tax credit that promotes collaboration between local farms and registered charities. Through this program, farmers who donate agricultural products receive a tax credit equal to 25% of the fair market value of their donation.

Austin Dhillon, a Fraser Valley farmer, has donated over 1.3 million pounds of produce to the GVFB since 2023! In return for the generous donation, Austin **received the 25% BC Farmers' Food Donation Tax Credit, equal to over 3 million dollars.** The GVFB then distributes as much fresh food as possible to our clients and agency partners before using the remainder to explore new food preservation methods, turning surplus produce into nutritious, shelf-stable products.



Since first working with farmers for the BC Farmers' Food Donation Tax Credit, the GVFB has rescued over 3,100,400 pounds of food.



Agency Partners

In FY2025, the Greater Vancouver Food Bank reinforced its commitment to community resilience by supporting 160 agency partners, with local community agencies playing a pivotal role. Through targeted programs like Community Market, Community Capacity, Community Pallet, and Market Requests, GVFB distributed over 4.5 million pounds of nutritious food to local organizations serving vulnerable populations.

Beyond nourishment, the GVFB invested in capacity-building: \$300,000+ in grant funding enabled 118 agency partners to upgrade infrastructure, refrigeration, kitchen equipment, staffing, and more, ensuring sustainable food security initiatives.



The GVFB is proud to support Promise, an agency partner dedicated to supporting children and families with after-school care through education, activities, and healthy food.

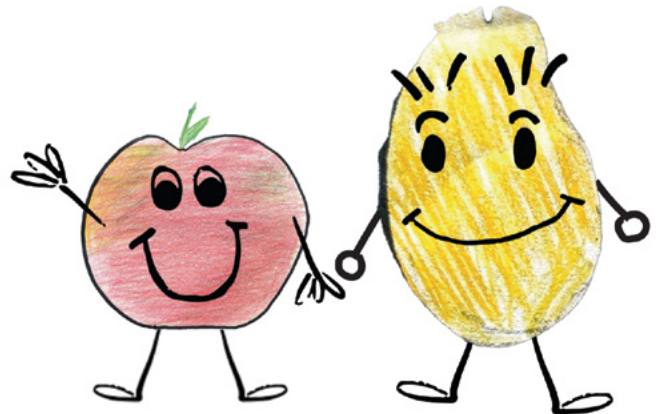


GVFB Agency Partner Feature: Writers' Exchange

“Once upon a time there was an apple and a mango and they became best friends. They went to the playground and played on the monkey bars and watched the sunset. Then they went home, changed into their pajamas, brushed their teeth and went to bed.”

APPLE AND MANGO –
BY AYLA (8YO), AND AYA (7YO)

The GVFB supports the Writers' Exchange, an agency partner that gives kids and youth who face barriers an opportunity to build confidence and creativity through reading and writing, so they can see that their ideas matter and their voices deserve to be heard.



Volunteers

Volunteers are the heart of the Greater Vancouver Food Bank. Every day, they lend their time, energy, and compassion to help us provide healthy food to those in need across our communities. Whether they're sorting food donations, supporting distribution, or lending a hand at events, our volunteers make a real and lasting impact. Their dedication ensures thousands of individuals and families have access to nutritious food. We're proud to work alongside such passionate people and are deeply grateful for their continued support.

Thanks to the dedication of our volunteers, the GVFB remains a consistent pillar of support for over 832,000 visits and more than 160 agency partners.



Top Individual Volunteer, Marie Nancy

490 HOURS



Top Volunteer Groups

789 HOURS

#1
RBC ROYAL BANK

663 HOURS

#2
MEMBERS
CHURCH OF GOD
INTERNATIONAL

Donors

In 2025, the Greater Vancouver Food Bank’s Full Heart Club, our monthly giving program, was vital in delivering reliable hunger relief across Vancouver, Burnaby, New Westminster, and the North Shore.

Monthly giving grew by 8%, bringing our community to 6,500 strong. This steady support met rising demand, lowered costs, and expanded programs providing fresh food, specialized nutrition for vulnerable groups, zero-waste initiatives, and wrap-around services like financial aid referrals and housing support. It also sustained partnerships with over 160 agency partners. Monthly donors gave us the stability to plan strategically, expand food security programs, and ensure no one is left behind.



Meet Mandy, our dedicated Annual Giving Officer, celebrating five years with the GVFB.

She believes food is a fundamental human right and that no one, especially children, should go without. As a monthly donor herself, Mandy ensures supporters feel valued, connected, and inspired. In March 2024, she led the launch of Full Heart Month, uniting our community with purpose. With a generous matching gift, we welcomed 461 new monthly donors and 535 upgrades. Guided by empathy and transparency, Mandy continues to bring personal dedication and genuine care to building a stronger community of monthly donors to address food insecurity in our community.



Financial Accountability 2025

WHERE GVFB FUNDS CAME FROM

DONATED FOOD & OTHER PRODUCTS	53%	\$25,566,044
PUBLIC SUPPORT	30%	\$14,627,363
FOUNDATIONS & GOVERNMENT GRANTS	5%	\$2,574,288
INVESTMENT & OTHER INCOME	5%	\$2,062,991
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT EVENTS	4%	\$1,695,898
FUNDED COMMUNITY PROGRAMS	3%	\$1,659,019
TOTAL		\$48,185,603

HOW GVFB FUNDS WERE USED

DONATED FOOD & OTHER PRODUCTS DISTRIBUTED	57%	\$25,566,044
OPERATIONS & PROGRAMS	18%	\$8,107,470
FOOD PURCHASES	13%	\$5,979,233
DEVELOPMENT & FUNDRAISING	7%	\$3,139,930
OFFICE GENERAL & ADMINISTRATION	4%	\$1,831,204
AGENCY PARTNER GRANTS	1%	\$296,137
TOTAL		\$44,920,018

Surplus funds will help the GVFB navigate unanticipated challenges and provide stability to meet the demand in future years.

Looking Ahead

2025 marked a pivotal year of growth for the GVFB, demonstrating the power of strategic partnerships and innovation in daily operations.

In FY2026, we will make a transformational investment with the purchase of our Vancouver facility, securing a long-term foundation for food security in our community. This step will also expand our FRESH Start program, housing third-party service providers onsite to address the root causes of food insecurity and so, reduce long-term reliance on food bank services.

We will continue to reduce food waste and nourish more communities by growing our food preservation pilot. With new equipment and processes, this initiative will become a scalable project that generates revenue and shares the abundance of locally grown produce across the region, turning surplus into opportunity.

Reflecting on the past year, we are filled with gratitude and confidence as we work toward a healthier, more resilient future for all.





Providing healthy food to those in need

FOODBANK.BC.CA | @VANFOODBANK
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