

FISCAL 2026

Impact Report

THE GREATER VANCOUVER FOOD BANK



Pictured: *Baby Steps (13-24M) Nutritional Program Pack*

Our Mission

Providing healthy food to those in need.

Our Vision

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

Our Values

Responsibility
Collaboration
Innovation
Fun

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For the purpose of this annual report, the fiscal year will be referred to as 2026. The actual dates are July 1st, 2025–June 30th, 2026.

STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS FROM THE 2026-2028 STRATEGIC PLAN

Elevating Our Core
Advancing Food Security



Fiona Macdonald,
Board Chair

The 2026 fiscal year reflected the Greater Vancouver Food Bank's continued growth, innovation, and resilience. As rising living costs kept demand for food support high, we strengthened operations, expanded partnerships, and remained a reliable source of healthy food across our communities.

One of our proudest moments was making our Vancouver facility the GVFB's first permanent home, providing long-term stability and helping ensure access to healthy, nutritious food for generations to come. Throughout the year, we also remained committed to accountability and operational excellence, recognized through our 5-star rating from Charity Intelligence Canada.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I thank our employees, volunteers, donors, community partners, and leadership team. Together, we are advancing our vision of a British Columbia where everyone has access to healthy food.



David Long,
CEO

Over the years, I have seen food insecurity affect individuals, families, children, and seniors who never expected to need support. These challenges have also revealed the compassion, resilience, and generosity within our communities. My vision remains a future where everyone has reliable access to healthy food.

As British Columbia's largest food bank, we have a responsibility to provide consistent, nutritious support at scale. In 2026, we continued distributing more than 75% fresh food, serving thousands of clients, and supporting our network of agency partners. Securing a permanent home has also been a long-term dream of mine, giving our clients, volunteers, and staff greater stability and confidence that our support will be here for the long term.

Realizing that dream was deeply emotional, and I am grateful to everyone who played a part. Thank you to our staff, volunteers, donors, board of directors, and community partners for another remarkable year. Together, we continue building stronger, healthier communities across British Columbia.

Our First Permanent Home

After years of relocating between multiple facilities, the GVFB has established a stable, purpose-built Vancouver facility designed to support our growing impact. This milestone is a testament to our ambition, innovation, and unwavering focus on creating a lasting impact across British Columbia.

The building enhances our ability to serve the community with expanded cold storage for fresh food, dedicated refrigeration aisles for our agency partners, and offices for our FRESH Start program, which connects clients with essential wrap-around social services.

"I've seen firsthand how the GVFB is leading systemic change, closing distribution gaps, and serving our community with care and respect. Owning your first permanent home is a huge achievement and an incredible impact that will be felt far beyond the kitchen table."

Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia, The Honourable Wendy Cocchia, C.M., O.B.C., LL.D. (Hon)



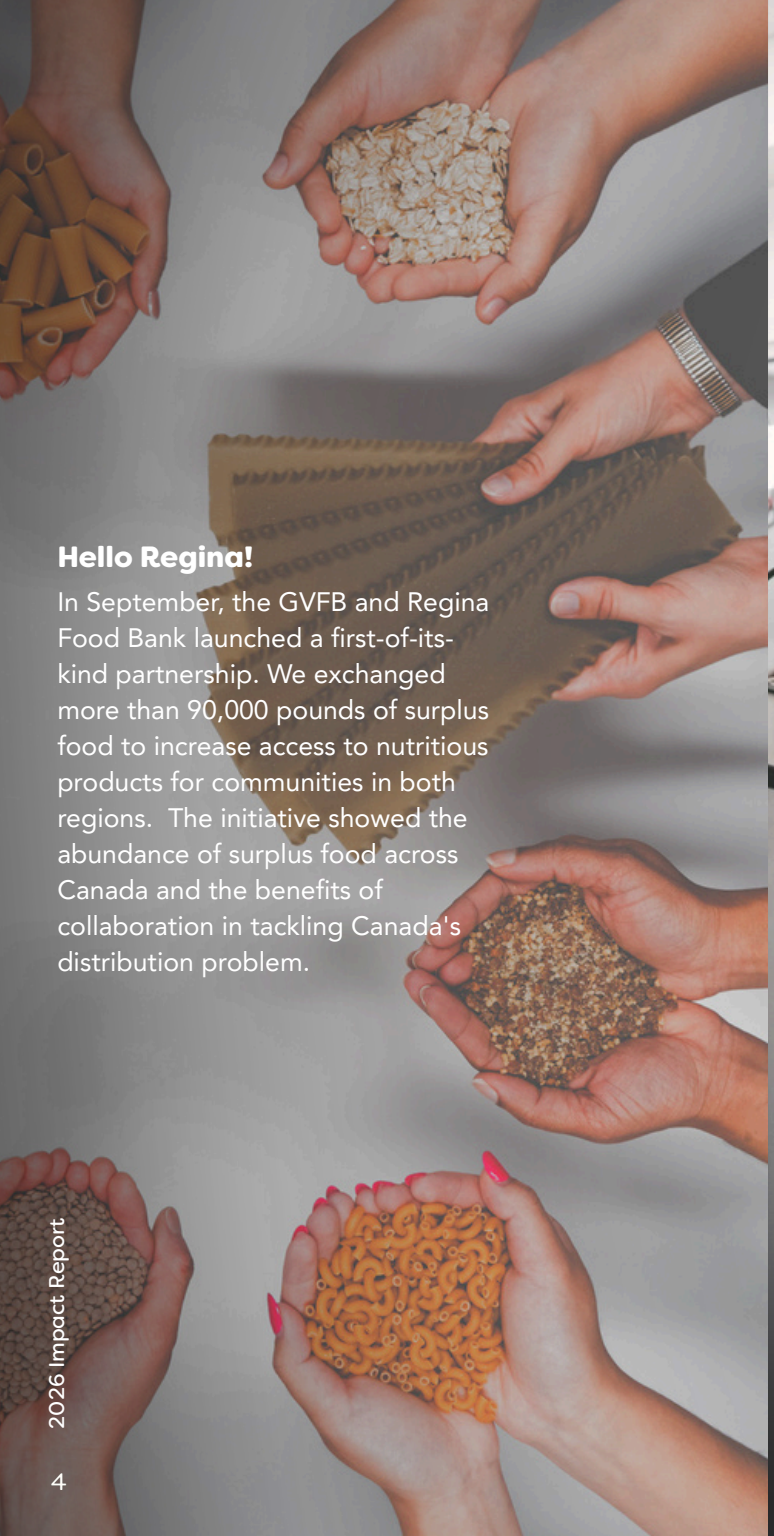


A Ribbon Cutting to Remember

Our Ribbon Cutting Ceremony brought together the people and organizations who believed in what was possible and turned that vision into reality.

Pictured: **David Long, Fiona Macdonald, Cindy Beedie, and Ryan Beedie**

September 16, 2025



Hello Regina!

In September, the GVFB and Regina Food Bank launched a first-of-its-kind partnership. We exchanged more than 90,000 pounds of surplus food to increase access to nutritious products for communities in both regions. The initiative showed the abundance of surplus food across Canada and the benefits of collaboration in tackling Canada's distribution problem.

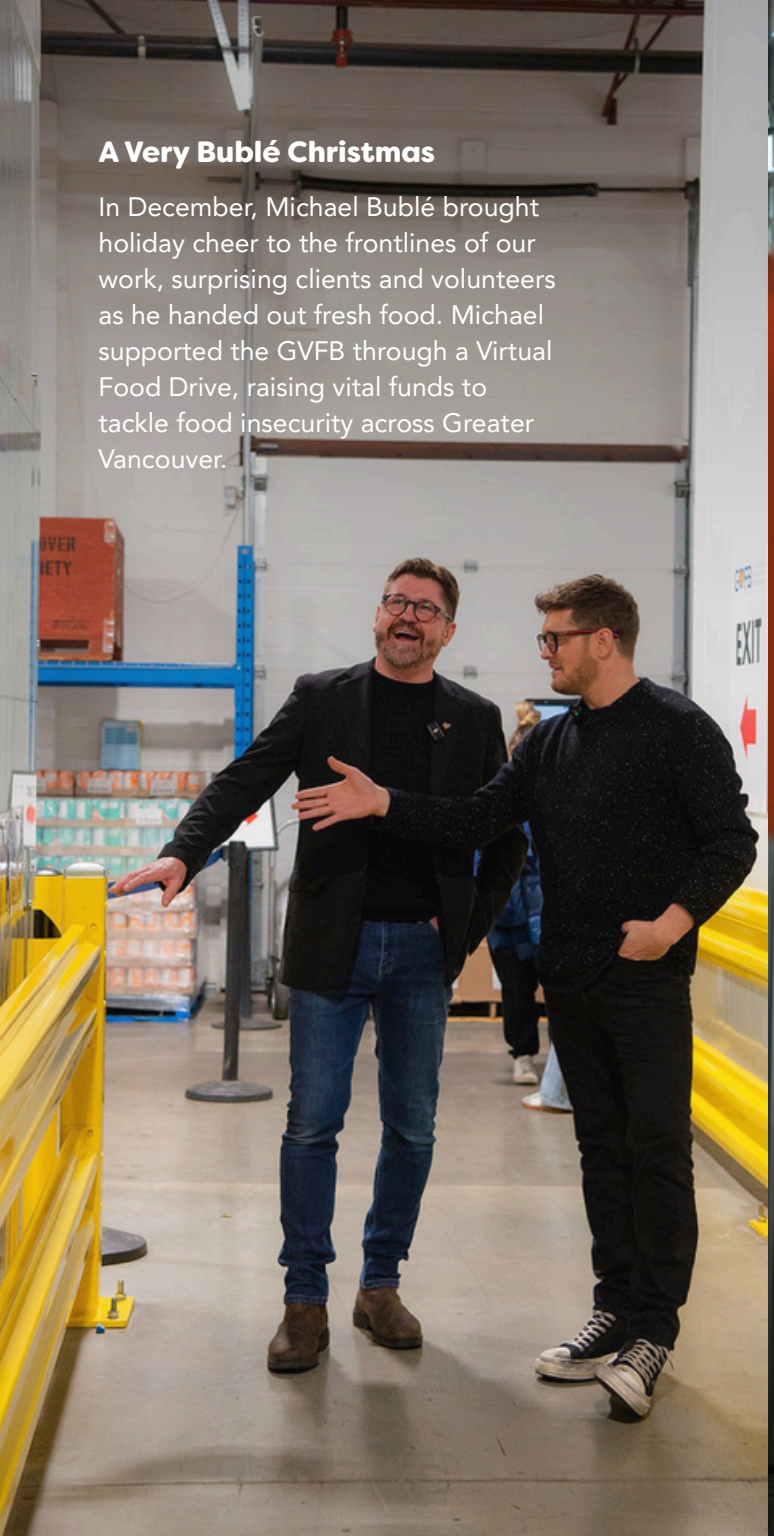


YWCA Opens

In January, the GVFB donated more than 8,000 pounds of fresh food and essential household items to the YWCA's new housing location, Cindy Beedie Place. The donation provided vital supplies for women and children as they settled into their new home.

A Very Bublé Christmas

In December, Michael Bublé brought holiday cheer to the frontlines of our work, surprising clients and volunteers as he handed out fresh food. Michael supported the GVFB through a Virtual Food Drive, raising vital funds to tackle food insecurity across Greater Vancouver.



The Wealth Exchange

In May, David Long joined John Nicola on Nicola Wealth's podcast, The Wealth Exchange. David and John shared a meaningful conversation about food security, innovation, leadership, and changing the food infrastructure in British Columbia for good.

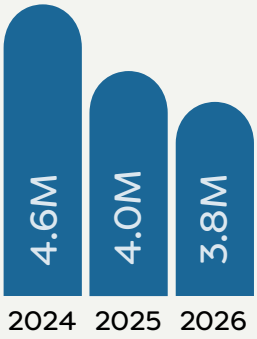
A Year of Data: Fiscal 2026

GVFB food costs have decreased over the past three fiscal years, while donations from local farmers and retailers have increased.

More donated produce means less food we need to purchase, helping us provide more fresh, nutritious food while reducing costs.

As we increase the proportion of fresh fruits and vegetables we distribute, total outbound weight may decrease. While the overall weight is lower, the focus is increasingly on the nutritional quality and variety of the food we provide.

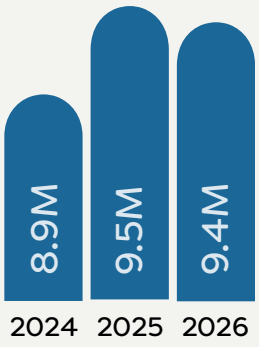
More donated food.
More fresh food.
Lower costs.



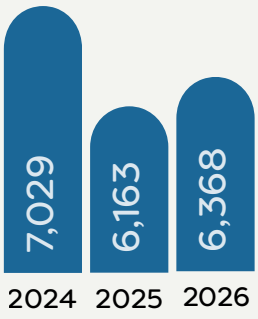
TOTAL FOOD PURCHASED (LBS)



TOTAL FOOD COSTS ($)

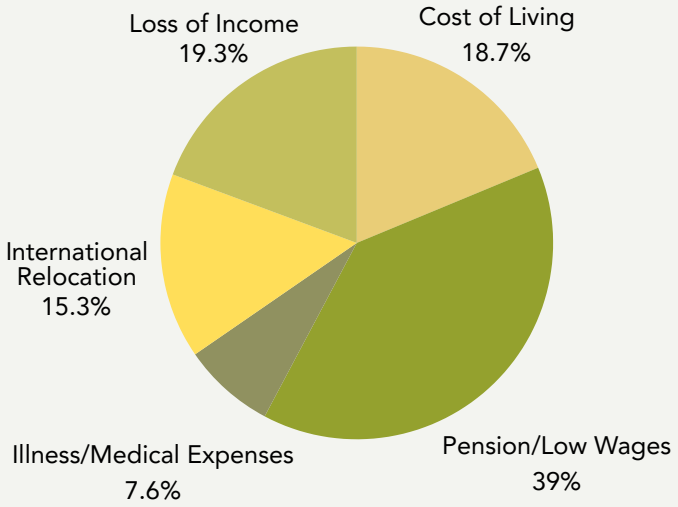


TOTAL FOOD OUTBOUND (LBS)



NEW CLIENT REGISTRATIONS

Reasons for Visiting the GVFB



DID YOU KNOW?

The BC Farmers' Tax Credit donations continue to grow each year, resulting in more than 75% fresh outbound food!

Demographics: Fiscal 2026

20%
REGISTERED INDIVIDUALS
5,063 SINGLES

20%
REGISTERED COUPLES
4,969 COUPLES

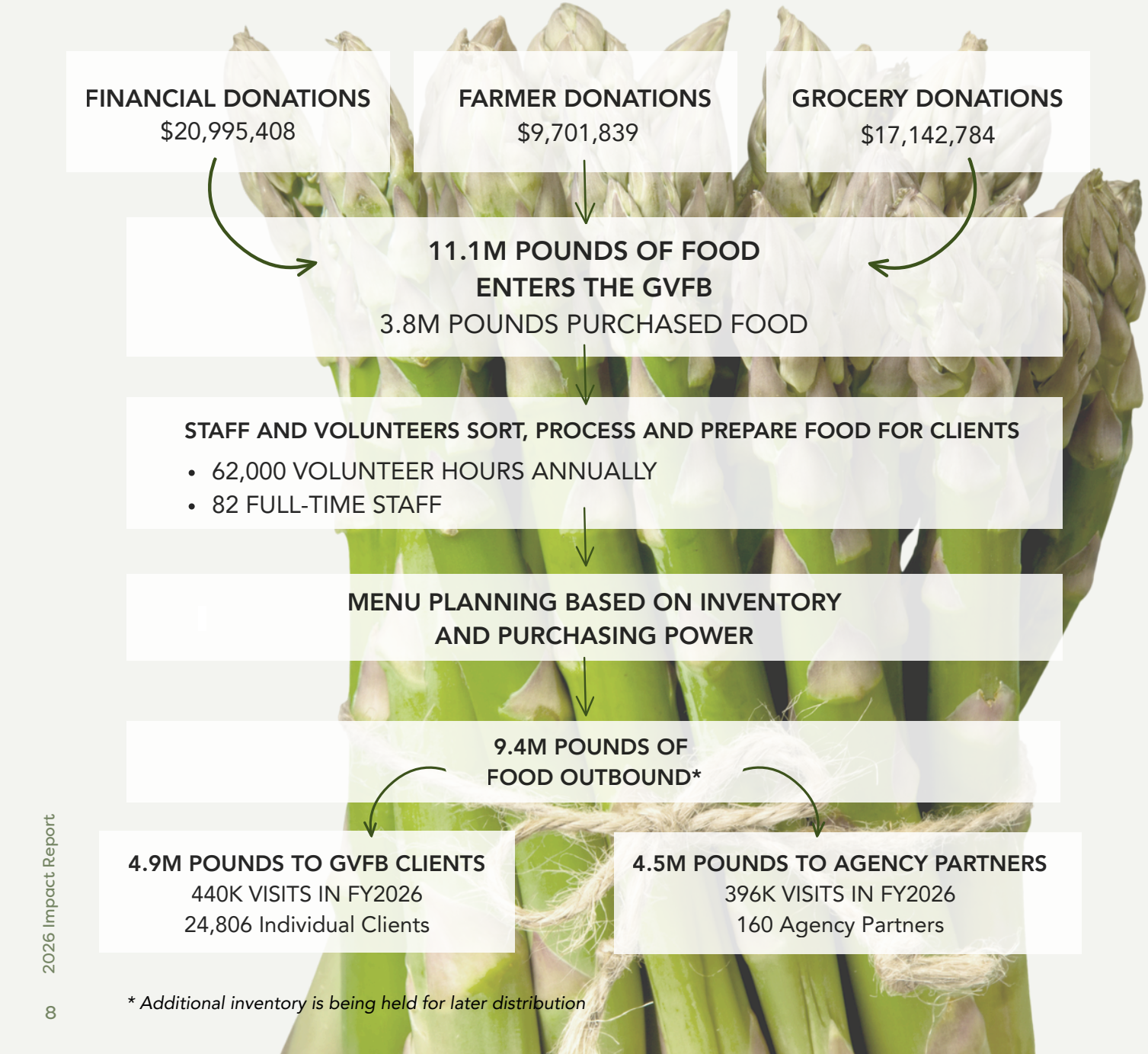
60%
REGISTERED FAMILIES
14,774 FAMILIES

33%
OF GVFB CLIENTS ARE UNDER THE AGE OF 18
8,538 CHILDREN

51%
OF GVFB CLIENTS ARE ADULTS
13,175 ADULTS

16%
OF GVFB CLIENTS ARE SENIORS
4,118 SENIORS

How Does the GVFB Work?



FINANCIAL DONATIONS
$20,995,408

FARMER DONATIONS
$9,701,839

GROCERY DONATIONS
$17,142,784

11.1M POUNDS OF FOOD ENTERS THE GVFB
3.8M POUNDS PURCHASED FOOD

STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS SORT, PROCESS AND PREPARE FOOD FOR CLIENTS

- 62,000 VOLUNTEER HOURS ANNUALLY
- 82 FULL-TIME STAFF

MENU PLANNING BASED ON INVENTORY AND PURCHASING POWER

9.4M POUNDS OF FOOD OUTBOUND*

4.9M POUNDS TO GVFB CLIENTS
440K VISITS IN FY2026
24,806 Individual Clients

4.5M POUNDS TO AGENCY PARTNERS
396K VISITS IN FY2026
160 Agency Partners

** Additional inventory is being held for later distribution*

In FY2026, the GVFB received 1,997,353 pounds of fresh, locally grown surplus food through partnerships with farmers and producers across British Columbia. Much of this produce would have headed to landfill or stayed in farmers' fields because of issues in the food distribution system. Instead, it went to local people in need.

The BC Farmers' Food Donation Tax Credit supports collaboration between local farms and registered charities by providing farmers with a non-refundable tax credit equal to 25% of the fair market value of donated agricultural products. The tax credit was originally planned to end in December 2026 but no longer has a deadline in place, meaning this initiative is well positioned for continued growth and long-term community impact.



Partnering with BC Farmers

The GVFB helps turn BC's surplus produce into fresh food for communities experiencing food insecurity—connecting farmers, partners, and people in need.

Food Preservation

The GVFB continued to grow its food preservation and innovation efforts in 2026, preserving approximately 180,000 pounds of surplus produce through juicing and freeze-drying initiatives.

More than 24,000 bottles of juice were distributed through direct distribution and community agency partners, helping expand access to nutritious, shelf-stable food options for communities with limited storage capacity, including school food programs.

The program also advanced three new freeze-dried products toward production readiness: Strawberry Burst, Salt & Vinegar Zucchini Chips, and Pear Fries.

Our food preservation work is helping extend the life of fresh produce while preserving 97% of its original nutritional content. We processed 7,620 lb of apples into 1,283 lb of Apple Fries, and together with our Pear Fries and Blueberry Burst, created enough freeze-dried fruit for an estimated 33,900 25 g bags.



Winner of the Circularity Award at the BC Food & Beverage Rise Awards

Story of Impact: The Kids Come First

"The food bank gave us more than food. It gave us relief, hope, and the comfort of knowing our family wasn't facing this alone."

Hannah grew up in Vancouver and always imagined raising her family in the city she called home.

However, as grocery prices continued to rise, the family faced increasing challenges in making ends meet. "Baby products, such as diapers and formula, became so expensive that we sometimes had to buy second-hand, open canisters of formula just to get by," Hannah shares.

When a friend suggested she reach out to the Greater Vancouver Food Bank, Hannah was hesitant. What she found instead was a welcoming community and a reliable source of support. "The food bank is something we can count on," Hannah says. "It takes a lot of stress away knowing we'll have healthy food for our kids each week."

Fresh produce, milk, eggs, yogurt, pantry staples, and children's nutrition programs have helped stretch the family budget. For Hannah, the support is about more than food; it is the comfort of knowing her family is not facing these challenges alone and the hope that brighter days are ahead.

"We kept saying, 'The kids have to come first,' but there were times when we felt like we were failing them."

Today, Hannah and her husband are working hard to build a stable future for their two young children while he pursues his education to secure a better income.

FRESH Start Program

The FRESH Start Program launched in January 2025 with a clear vision: to support clients beyond food by connecting them with essential services directly on-site at the GVFB.

In FY2026, the FRESH Start program grew to nine partners, delivering a total of 14 programs with support from 29 external staff. Services include employment and settlement support, mental health resources, financial literacy, language classes, programming for single mothers, and more. Group workshops and classes were also introduced alongside one-on-one support, creating more opportunities for learning, connection, and community.

A major milestone in FY2026 was the launch of the FRESH Start Employment Program. With support from lululemon, the initiative provided two GVFB clients facing barriers to employment with paid, full-time Operations Associate positions for 12 months.



Participants earn a living wage while gaining hands-on experience, training, certifications and ongoing wraparound support. The program is designed to build confidence, develop transferable skills, and create sustainable pathways to long-term employment.

By providing food and support services during a single visit, the FRESH Start program offers clients a more accessible and dignified experience.




FRESH START PROGRAM
FOUNDATION
RESOURCES
EDUCATION
SUPPORT
HEALTH
FRESH START
Peer Navigator P
Referral

Agency Program

Our Agency Program continued to support over 160 local and provincial non-profit organizations by providing food support for their community food programs. Partners provide a range of services including drop-in centres, supportive housing, family resources, school programs, and community outreach.

In FY2026, our GVFB Community Markets hosted 5,700 shopping visits, providing choice and autonomy for local agencies. Our Provincial Agencies Program supported over 20 organizations and moved over **820,000** pounds of food.

The GVFB also provided **$300,000** in grant funds to over 127 agencies. Funds were used to support agency food programs in a variety of ways, including upgrading infrastructure, supporting staff, facilitating cooking workshops, and replacing equipment.

43%
of grant funding went towards food purchasing





Provincial Agency Spotlight: Lake Country Food Bank

With the abundance of surplus fresh food available, the GVFB has been expanding our agency partnerships across the province to ensure available fresh food gets to communities in need. Our partnership with Lake Country Food Bank is one example of what happens through strong provincial collaboration.

A partner of the GVFB since 2022, Lake Country Food Bank and its CEO, Joy Haxton, have helped distribute 593,470 pounds of food across remote Okanagan communities. Joy's local relationships have helped secure affordable transport options and develop relationships between retail partners, local producers, and other food banks.

"Our partnership with the GVFB has been a catalyst for incredible growth that has expanded our network from 30 to 80 partners. Our clients have access to produce that is hard to come by, especially outside of harvest season. We are deeply grateful for this collaboration."

Meet our Volunteers

In FY2026, thousands of volunteers walked through our doors and ensured millions of pounds of fresh food were provided to people and communities in need.

Performing a range of activities, volunteers continue to be the heartbeat of the GVFB. We're so grateful to every single person who volunteered with us this year.

"RBC staff are passionate about supporting their local community. We are proud to partner with the GVFB in many ways to ensure local people have access to fresh, healthy food."

Martin Thibodeau – Regional President, BC, RBC Royal Bank



Top Individual Volunteer: 530.5 hours

Marie Nancy



Top Group Volunteer: 716.5 hours

RBC Royal Bank





Thank you to our Donors

The GVFB is supported by an incredible community of passionate and generous donors. Our donors have enabled us to secure our first permanent home, fund agency partners, provide more than 75% fresh food each week, and grow our FRESH Start network to support more clients.

Our donors make it possible to invest in our communities, strengthen our programs and provide more healthy food to those who need it most.



Monthly & Annual Donors



Legacy Donors



Corporate Donors



Farm & Retail Donors



Securities & Donor Advised Funds



Virtual Food Drives

Spotlight: Virtual Food Drive

In 2022, the GVFB moved away from accepting public food donations and introduced Virtual Food Drives (VFDs), an easy and engaging way to support food security while leveraging our purchasing power.

VFDs provide a digital fundraising platform where friends, families, and co-workers can come together to celebrate birthdays, weddings, and milestones while raising funds to provide fresh, healthy food to those in need.

To learn more or start your own Virtual Food Drive, contact André at andrep@foodbank.bc.ca.

$870,735
Raised through VFDs in FY26



Financial Accountability: 2026

WHERE GVFB FUNDS CAME FROM		
DONATED FOOD & OTHER PRODUCTS	54%	$26,844,623
PUBLIC SUPPORT	32%	$15,683,603
FOUNDATIONS & GOVERNMENT GRANTS	7%	$3,227,150
INVESTMENT & OTHER INCOME	3%	$1,516,338
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT EVENTS	3%	$1,363,481
FUNDED COMMUNITY PROGRAMS	1%	$721,173
TOTAL		**$49,356,368**

HOW GVFB FUNDS WERE USED		
DONATED FOOD & OTHER PRODUCTS	58%	$26,844,623
OPERATIONS & PROGRAMS	17%	$7,999,518
FOOD PURCHASES	12%	$5,544,763
DEVELOPMENT & FUNDRAISING	7%	$3,443,886
OFFICE GENERAL & ADMINISTRATION	4%	$1,917,036
AGENCY PARTNER GRANTS	1%	$353,278
TOTAL		**$46,103,104**



Looking to the Future

With the stability of a permanent home now achieved, the future at the GVFB is looking bright. We know there is no shortage of food – just a distribution problem. And we have a solution.

FY2027 will be a pivotal year for growth, growing our network of farmer partners, our cold storage, and our innovative food preservation work.

Our goal is simple: to get more fresh, nutritious food into the hands of people and communities in need. We can't wait to share more about what's ahead.

Thank you for your support in making FY2026 such an impactful year. We are grateful for your partnership and look forward to continuing this work together in FY2027 as we move closer to our vision of a British Columbia where everyone has access to healthy food.



Pictured: *Rai Farms*



Providing healthy food to those in need

THE GREATER VANCOUVER FOOD BANK

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107449787 RR0001