



# Telling Our Story

## Our Mission

Our mission is to assist individuals and families meet their basic needs by providing resources in a healthy and caring environment. Through these actions, we build hope and support self-sufficiency.

## Executive Committee

- Dave Otto - President
- Steve Grubish - Vice
- Vicki Skala - Secretary
- Daniel Struss - Treasurer

## Directors

- Martha Castaneda
- Jennifer Copeland
- Amanda Floy
- Karen Hale
- Mark Rahrlick
- Katie Wanous

I am frequently asked what I like most about my role here at Community Pathways. As cheesy as it sounds, I really do love every aspect of it. However, if I am forced to pick one thing, it is quite simple: The best part of my job is having the opportunity to tell our story. Giving a tour, presenting to a group, writing an article, working with our local media, or taping a segment on Owatonna Live are all chances for me to help the community see who we are, and how we impact the lives of those we serve.

Two stories in 2022 stand out. First, was the completion of our expansion project and how it has changed how we serve those who count on us. I remain in awe of my predecessors (Nancy and Maureen) who had the vision and wisdom to know the expansion story needed to be written. The second, I did not even realize would be so important to tell at the start of 2022. That story was the staggering increase in need we would experience as record numbers of families looked to us for help. Food insecurity has hit levels never seen before and we continue to rise to the challenge and take the worry of food off the list for the Steele County families who need us.

However, the most important story I got to tell is the tale of partnerships and how we cannot do what we do alone. Every chance I could, I would share with anyone who would listen how they could help and how they could make a difference in the lives around us. I now look back and can say, with 100% certainty, you heard me. As you scroll through our Annual Report, please know that this is not just the story of us here at Community Pathways, but also a story about our community and a story about *you*.

Thank you for helping us write an incredible story in 2022 and we look forward to you helping us write an equally exciting one in 2023.

**Dom Korbel**  
**Executive Director**



# Program Highlights





## **Total Families Served**

- 1,870 total families served in 2022 (1,183 in 2021)
- 755 first-time shoppers in 2022 (225 in 2021)
- 532 shoppers per week in 2022 ( 254 in 2021)
- 23,000 total shopping visits in 2022

## **Pounds of Food Distributed**

- 1.05 Million total pounds distributed in 2022
- 253,000 pounds of fresh produce distributed
- 51 pounds distributed per family each visit
- 11 pounds of produce distributed per family each visit



## Deliveries

- 603 total deliveries in 2022 (914 in 2021)\*
- 115 families served in 2022 (162 in 2021)\*
- 213 individuals in 2022 (290 in 2021)\*
- 50 pounds of food distributed per delivery

## Communities Served

- Owatonna
- Blooming Prairie
- Medford
- Ellendale
- Claremont
- Hope

\*2021 numbers are reflective of Covid-19 trends.



## **Total Shopping Visits**

- 13,925 in 2022 (7,945 in 2021)
- Average of 300 shoppers per week in 2022 (200 in 2021)

## **Total Distribution and Sales**

- \$167,000 of free clothing, small home goods, and basic necessities distributed in 2022 (\$90,000 in 2021)
- \$38,000 worth of cash sales in 2022 ( \$16,000 in 2021)

## **Donations**

- Approximately 3,000 donations drop-offs in 2022
- Approximately 3 bags per drop-off in 2022

Our first annual Prom Drive was held on March, 19th of 2022. It was a resounding success with nearly 100 dresses distributed.

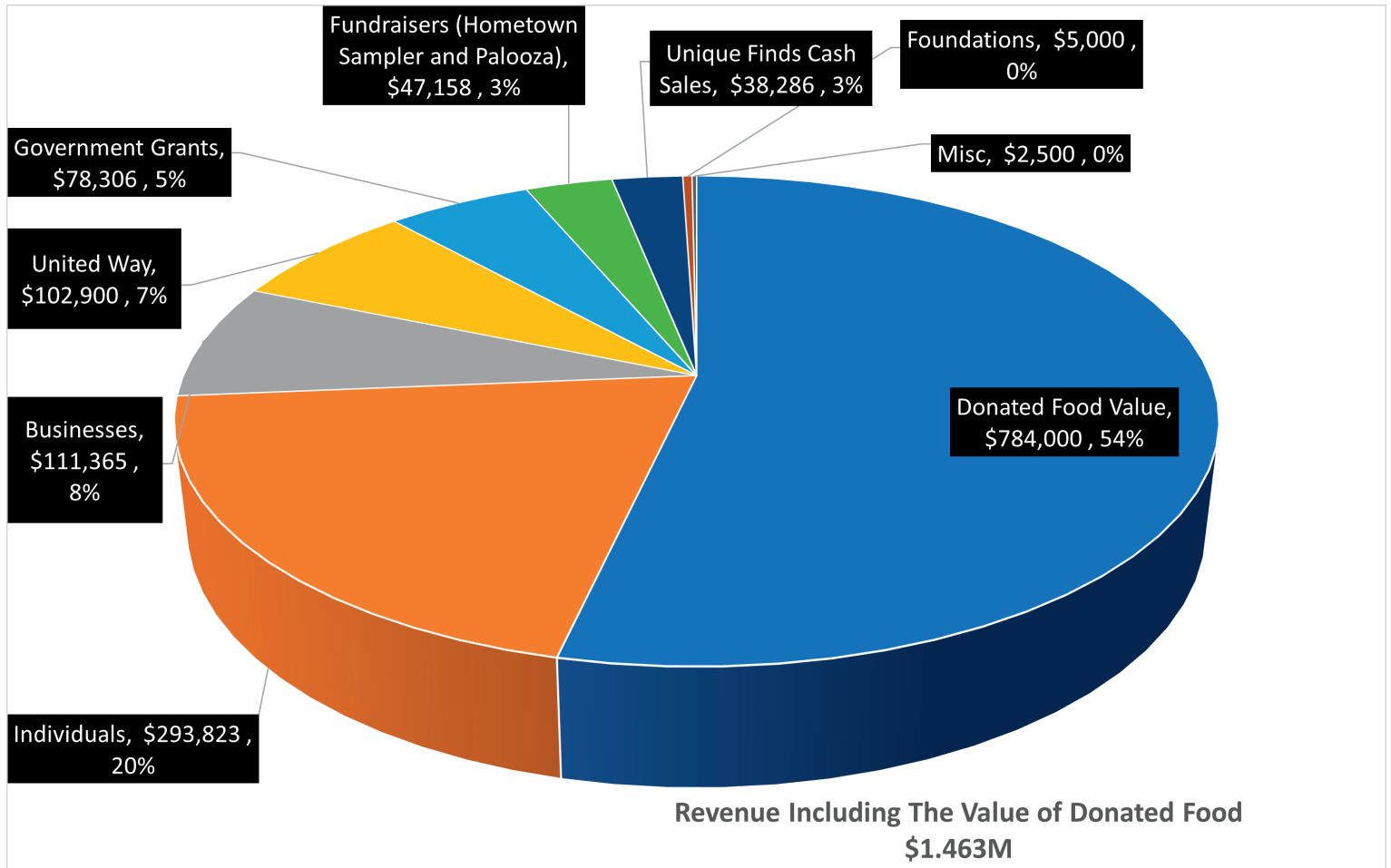


**Financial**

**Highlights**

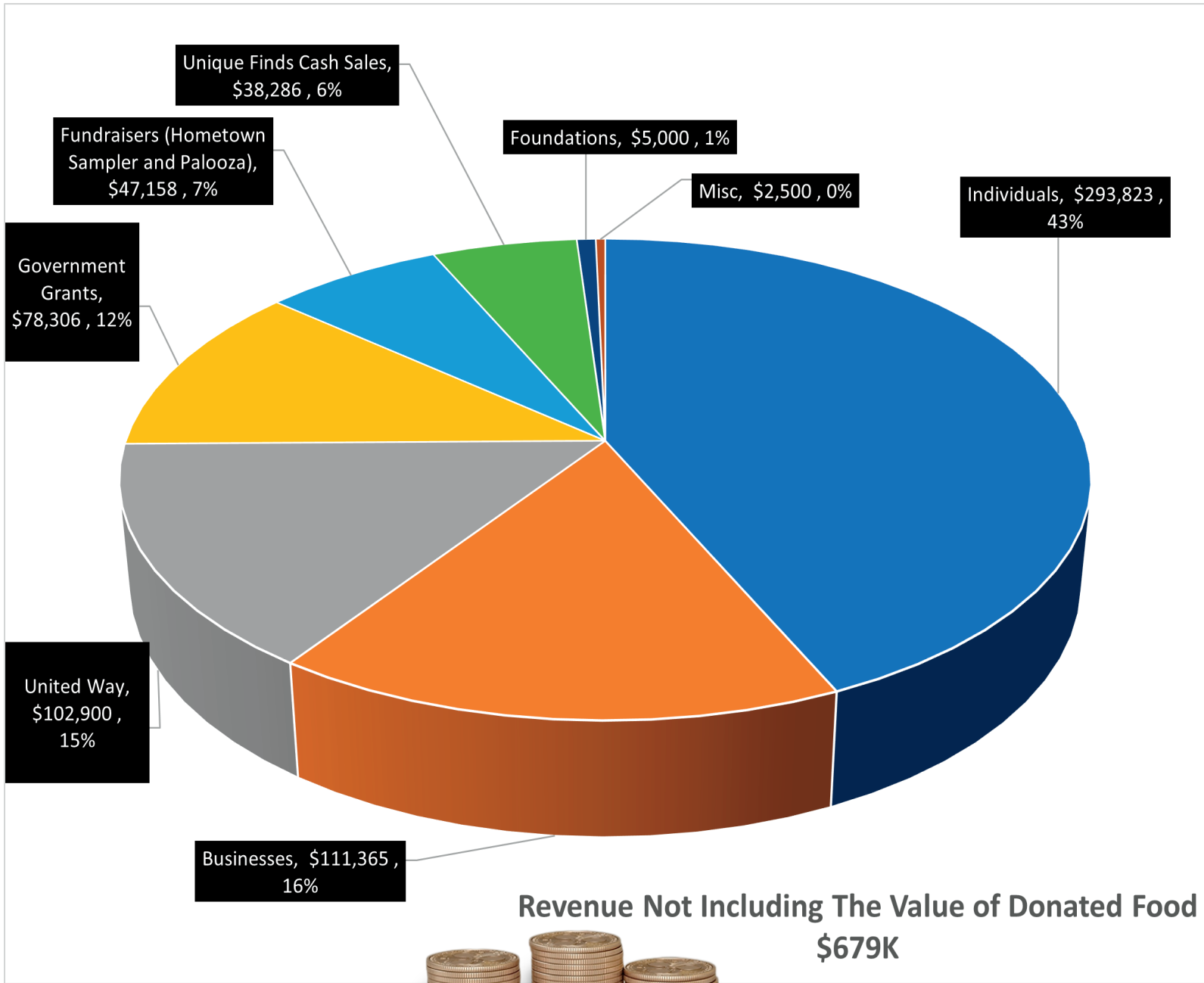
# Revenue Including Donated Food

Over 650 Different Individuals, Businesses, Churches and Service Groups from across Steele County made financial contributions to us in 2022!



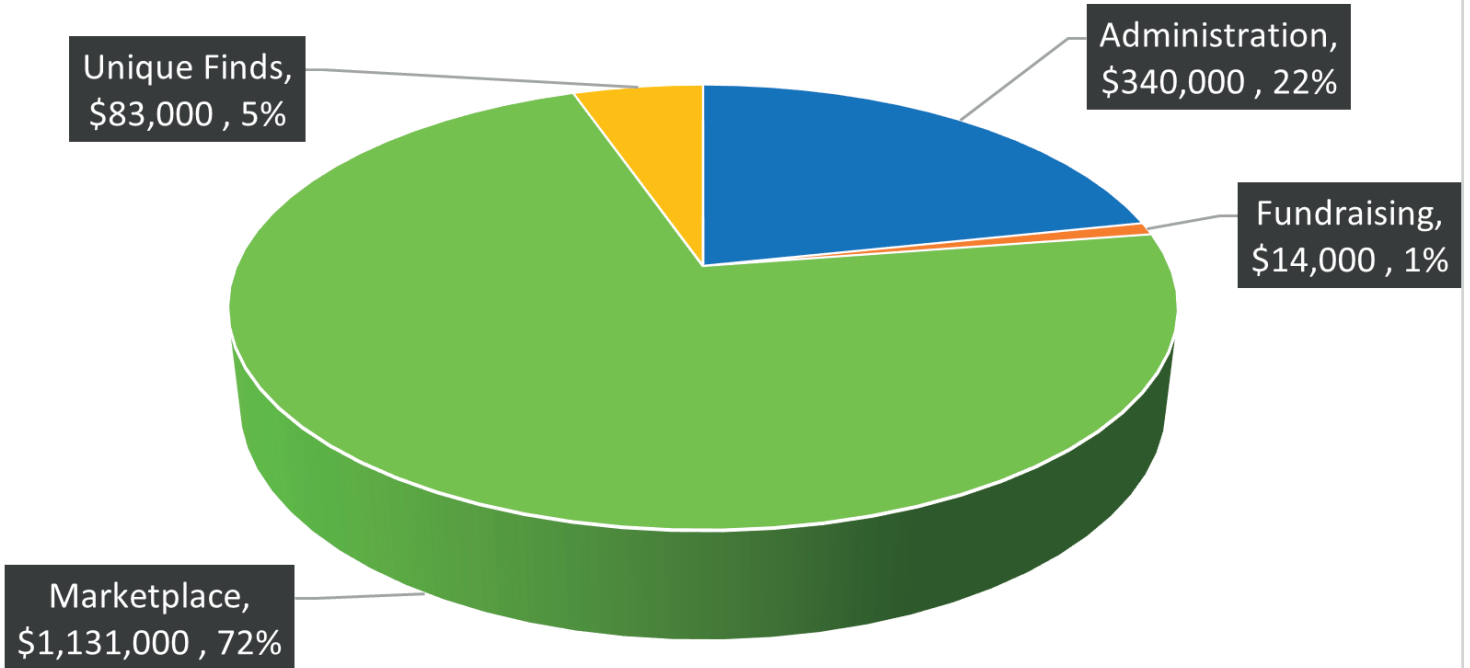


# Revenue NOT Including Donated Food



# Expenses

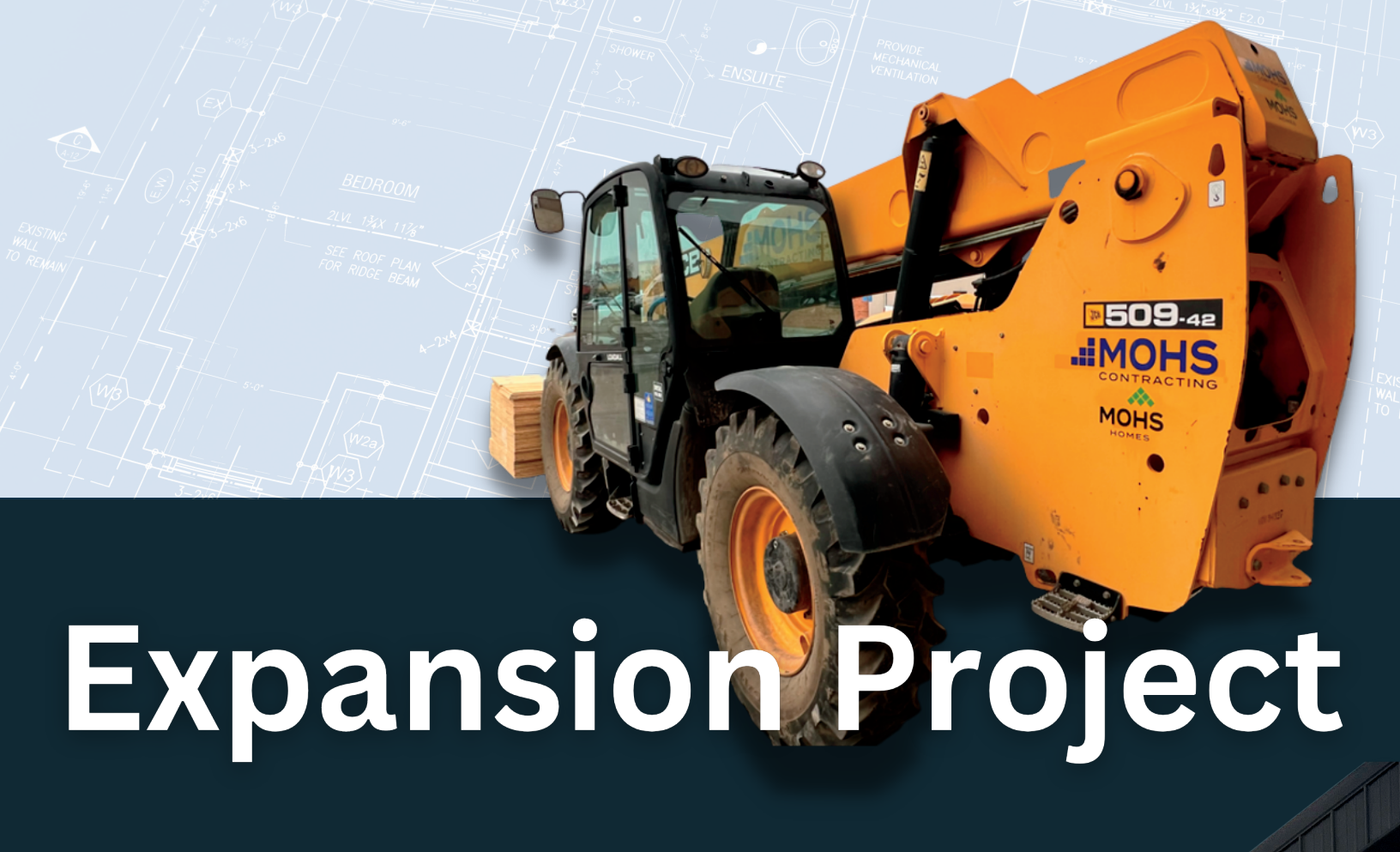
Expenses-Admin & Fundraising versus Program  
Total Expenses \$1,568,000



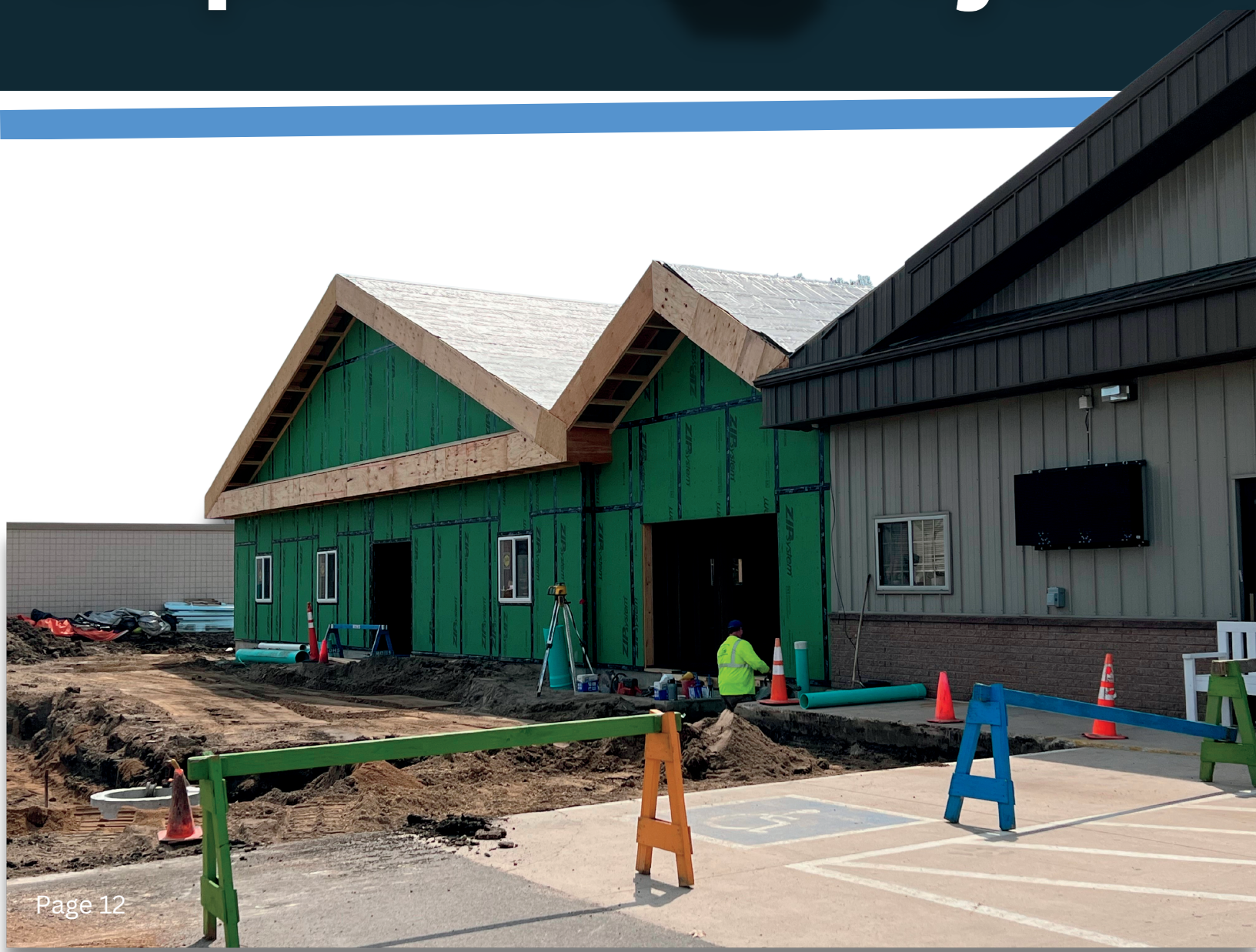
# 2022 Food Costs

To meet the rapid and unexpected increase in the number of families battling hunger in our community throughout 2022 we were required to spend \$267,000 (versus a budget of \$125,000) on purchased food.





# Expansion Project



# Expansion Project Highlights

We would not be able to serve the number of people we are currently serving in our previous space.

- Over 6,000 additional square feet
- Installed a loading dock
- Purchased both a walk-in freezer and a walk-in cooler
- Added a conference room
- Re-designed entrance with a 12 person capacity waiting area
- Added offices for Transitional Housing and a dental clinic for Let's Smile, Inc.
- Included a community room for strategic partnerships





**BEFORE**

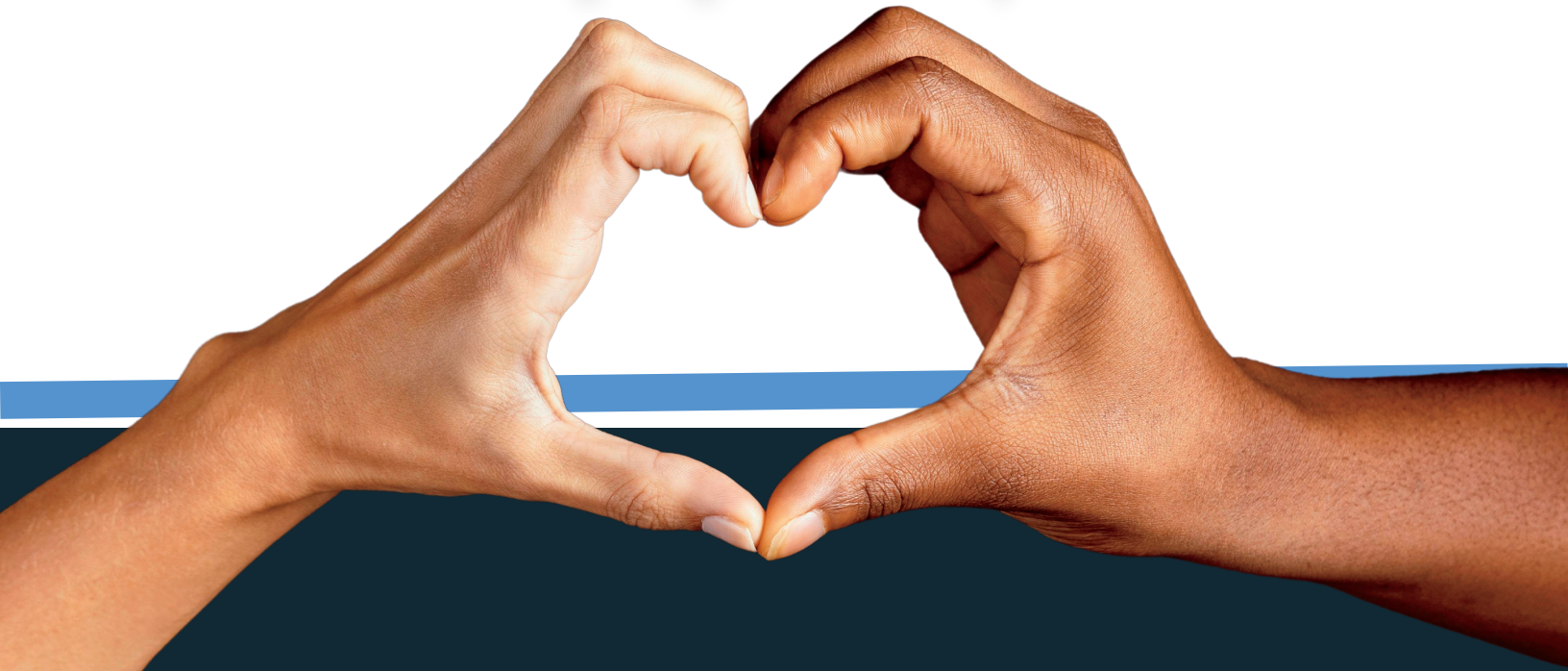


**AFTER**



# Volunteers

compassionate  
loving hardworking  
dedicated dependable  
awesome  
caring friendly kind  
joyful energetic  
passionate flexible welcoming happy engaged  
thoughtful fearless essential selfless loyal joyful passionate flexible welcoming happy engaged  
loyal joyful passionate flexible welcoming happy engaged  
outgoing partnership





## 2022 Volunteer Report

425

Individuals Volunteered  
At Least One Time

11,151

Total Volunteer Hours

5.8

Full Time Employee  
Equivalent

### HOURS BY ROLE

Marketplace Stocker -	2,031
Marketplace Check In -	1,787
Unique Finds Check Out -	1,430
Marketplace Scale -	1,278
Unique Finds Backroom -	1,000
Meat Market -	772
Donation Pick Up -	605
Floater/No Designation -	2,244

### TOP INDIVIDUAL HOURS

Diane Hendricks -	464
Shannon Wait -	462
Mike Guthier -	437
Dina Atkinson -	381
Cindy Pittman -	379
Galen Olson -	371
Maggie Teele -	364
Joyce Hansel -	297
Sharon Gaulrapp -	291
Diane O'Reilly -	290

### TOP GROUP HOURS

Federated Insurance -	307
Owatonna High School (YSL and REACH Classes)	106
St. Mary's School -	76

To say Community Pathways relies on volunteers to succeed is beyond an understatement. Big or small, whether they were a volunteer giving up their time each week, or a large group helping us for just a day (like moving between buildings!), we relied on every one of these sets of hands. The best part is that we continue to grow! As we begin the first full year in our new space, we cannot stress enough how thankful we are to all our volunteers who literally change lives each time they volunteer. We are blessed!



# Partners



**"The greatness of a community is most accurately measured by the compassionate actions of its members"**

**- Coretta Scott King**

# Partnerships

It's also not just financial support that makes what we do possible. Food rescue, volunteer groups, food & clothing drives, onsite partners and invitations to come tell our story across the community are equally important partnerships.

Here are just some of our 2022 partners that went beyond just financial support to help us serve those who need us.

- **5 Eyewitness News**
- **Aurora Church**
- **Berne Church**
- **Bethel Church**
- **Big Brother Big Sisters**
- **Blooming Prairie Schools**
- **Bremer Bank**
- **Bushel Boy**
- **CareerForce**
- **Cars N Credit**
- **Casey's**
- **Cashwise**
- **Channel One**
- **Choice Academy**
- **CLA**
- **Community Bank of Owatonna**
- **Costco**
- **Culligan**
- **Daikin**
- **Doherty Staffing**
- **Dream Day Bridals by Marcia**
- **Early Edition Rotary**
- **Exchange Club**
- **Express Employments Professionals**
- **Fareway**
- **Federated Insurance**
- **Foundation For Essential Needs**
- **Fleet Farm**
- **Foremost Brewing**
- **Gopher Sport**
- **Heritage Girls**
- **High Bar**
- **Home Federal Savings Bank**
- **Hometown Credit Union**
- **St. Joseph Parish/St. Vincent DePaul**
- **Bremer Bank**
- **Hometown Credit Union**
- **Hometown Sampler Musicians**
- **Hy-Vee**
- **Kerry**
- **Knights of Columbus**
- **KOWZ/KRUE Radio**

# Partnerships Continued...

- KRFO Radio
- KTTC
- Let's Smile
- Lincoln Elementary School
- Lowe's
- McKinley Elementary School
- Mineral Springs Brewery
- MN Prairie
- Monson Eyecare
- MOPS - Mothers of Preschoolers
- North Risk Insurance
- Old Town Bagels
- Owatonna Boy Scouts
- Owatonna Foundation
- Owatonna Girl Scouts
- Owatonna High School - Key Club
- Owatonna High School - REACH
- Owatonna High School - Robotics Club
- Owatonna High School - YSL
- Owatonna Live
- Owatonna Mayo Clinic
- Owatonna People's Press
- Owatonna Postal Workers
- Owatonna Shoe
- FFEN
- Precision Chiropractic
- Premier Bank
- ReMax
- Revol Greens
- SeniorLinkage Line
- St. Joseph Parish/St. Vincent DePaul
- St. Mary's Catholic School
- St. Paul's Church - Meriden
- Steele County Employment Services
- Steele County Free Fair
- Steele County Public Health
- Steele County Times
- Target
- Transitional Housing
- Trinity Lutheran Church
- Verizon
- Walmart
- Washington Elementary School
- Wenger
- Woman's Club of Owatonna

The level of support from our community is so overwhelming that we couldn't possibly list them all.

# Looking To The Future



# 4 Focus Areas

- **Shopper Experience**

Consistently provide an experience for those we serve that focuses on creating a welcoming, nonjudgmental, and safe shopping environment. This environment allows barrier-free access to the basic necessities needed to live a healthy and fulfilling life.

- **Stakeholder Experience**

Whether it is a gift of time, talent, or money we want to provide our stakeholders an outstanding return on their investment so they can see firsthand the impact they are able to make on our community when they support us.

- **Expanding Strategic Partnerships**

The transformational work we aspire to cannot be done alone. We will continue to develop partnerships with the goal of providing those we serve with increased access to the goods, services and tools needed to help them transform their lives.

- **Inventory Management Analysis**

To continue to meet the significant increase in need for both food and clothing we must develop new analysis tools to be certain we best meet the needs of those we serve and continue to spend money wisely. This includes a deep dive in to where we spend our food dollars to provide the healthiest foods possible as well as improved analysis of the clothing our shoppers need compared to what our current donation mix looks like.

# Thank You

We hold our mission close to our hearts and appreciate that we wouldn't be able to live up to its expectation without the incredible support of our community. It is with your generous spirits that we are able to serve those that seek our aid. Your support has been powerfully impactful in changing the lives of our friends and neighbors in Steele County and beyond. We thank you for everything that you have bestowed upon us and promise to continue to strive for the betterment of all.

Dom Korbel -  
Executive Director

Zach Roberts -  
Operations Manager

Deborah Fearn -  
Marketplace Coordinator

Troy Bice -  
Marketplace Delivery Coordinator

Judy Buenger  
Marketplace Inventory Coordinator

Dakota Krause -  
Unique Finds Coordinator

Kelly Pirkl -  
Unique Finds Inventory Coordinator

Robin Starr -  
Community Navigator



[www.communitypathwayscc.org](http://www.communitypathwayscc.org)