



Fiscal Year 2023
GRANTS
ANNUAL REPORT



A Note from Leadership

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Erica Yaeger, Chief External Affairs Officer
Bill Garza, Chief Financial Officer
Suzanne Drotman, Chief People Officer
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**Ex-officio member*

Equipping Our Partners

As we strive to create lasting change while closing the hunger gap in North Texas, we know that we are stronger when we work together.

That is why we are proud to share that Fiscal Year 2023 marked our largest grant cycle to date. Thanks to the generosity of our donors, the North Texas Food Bank awarded more than \$6 million in grants to nearly 70 partner agencies!

These grants helped community organizations in our Feeding Network to add or repair refrigeration, expand their food pantries, purchase trucks for the transportation of food, establish or expand wraparound services and more.

This work started in 2015 when, as part of the North Texas Food Bank's 10-year strategic plan, we raised funding to help our partner agencies invest in expansion, understanding that when they are better equipped to serve, more neighbors will have access to the nutritious food they need to thrive.

And with 90 percent of our food being distributed through our Feeding Network, we know that an investment in our partners will ultimately lead to transformation in the lives of the neighbors we serve.

In this report, we want to give you a glimpse at what some of these grants have accomplished. You'll get to know Brother Bill's Helping Hand and learn how they used grant funding to expand into a food desert in South Dallas by establishing a market in partnership with BridgeBuilders. At Lake Area Shared Ministries, grant dollars supported the nonprofit in growing from 400 families served per week to 500.

In FY23, we also piloted two new programs: the Hope for Tomorrow Grants, which equip our partners to provide wraparound services that address the underlying barriers to food security, and the Leadership Development Scholarships, which provide resources for agency leaders who want to grow their skills by earning a Nonprofit Management Certification.

As we look ahead, we know continued investment is necessary to sustain these bold grants, and ultimately the work we and our Feeding Network are doing to close the hunger gap in North Texas.

None of this would be possible without the support of our community. Thank you for partnering with us.

Gratefully,



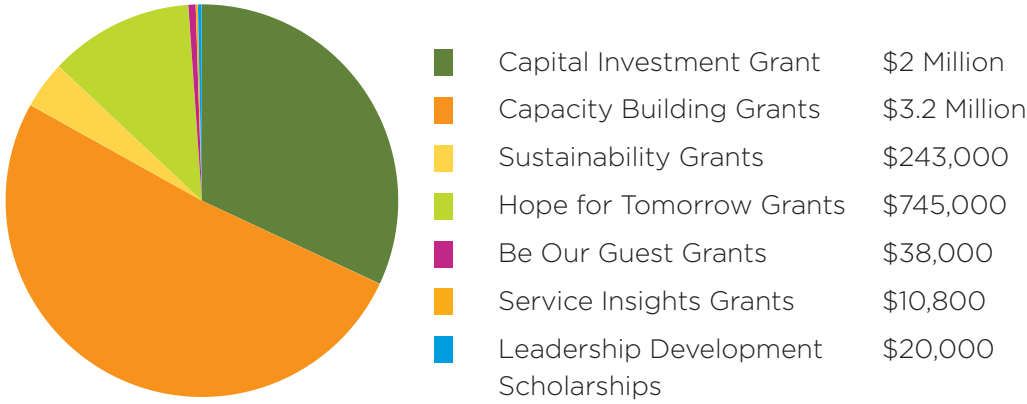
Trisha Cunningham
President and Chief Executive Officer



Trisha Cunningham
President & CEO

By the Numbers

Support by Category in FY23



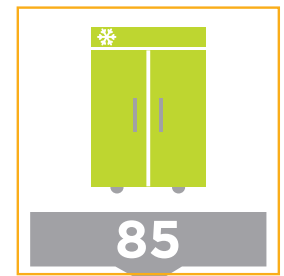
Investments Made in FY23



New Pantry/Warehouse Builds, Renovations and Expansions

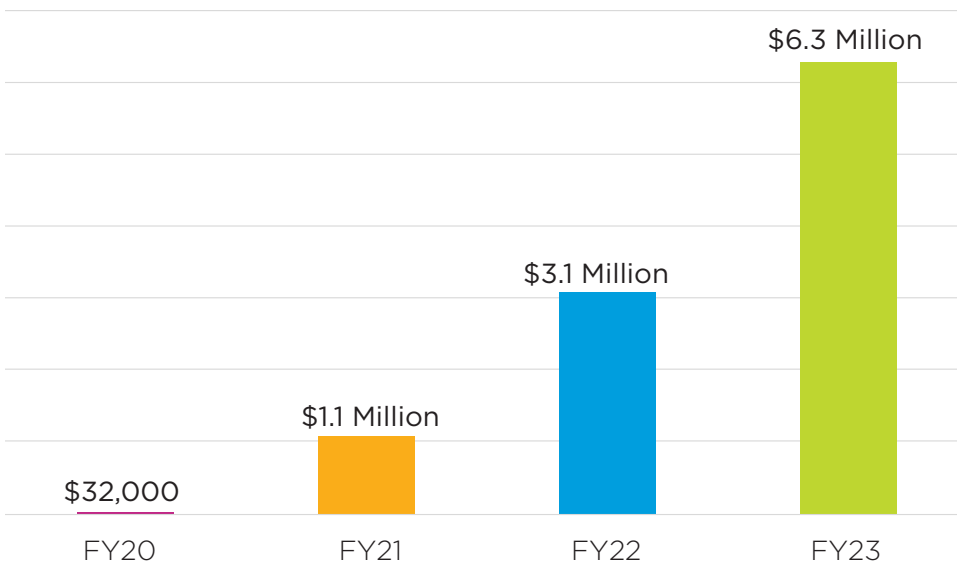


Vehicles



Total Units of Refrigeration

Dollars Awarded in FY20-FY23



The NTFB Grant Annual Report for fiscal year 2023 (FY23) reflects the impact made between July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023. NTFB began awarding grants in 2016.

Our Vision

A hunger-free, healthy North Texas.

Our Mission

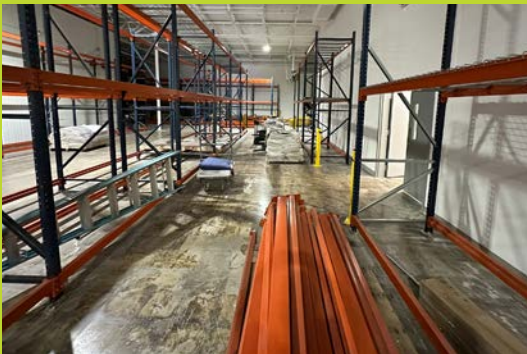
To close the hunger gap in North Texas by providing access to nutritious food.

Capacity Building Grants

Capacity Building Grants help partner agencies grow and expand so they can increase the number of nutritious meals they're delivering to the community. The NTFB, thanks to its generous supporters, awarded **more than \$3.2 million in FY23 to 48 different organizations**. Grants went toward the addition of things like walk-in freezers and refrigeration as well as improvements to pantries or other infrastructure, and the purchase of vehicles to transport food.

FY23 Grant Recipients

- | | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|--|
| 5 Loaves Food Pantry | Crisis Ministries | Lawrence and Marder Church of Christ |
| Amazing Grace Food Pantry | Crossroads Community Services Pantry | Marsalis Avenue Church of Christ |
| Ben Washington Baptist Church | Dallas Bible Church | McKinney Roots |
| Brother Bill's Helping Hand | Dallas College | Miles of Freedom |
| CareCenter Ministries | DeSoto Food Pantry | Neighbors Nourishing Neighbors |
| Carver Heights Baptist Church | Empowering the Masses | North Dallas Shared Ministries |
| Cathedral of Hope | Equal Heart | The Opal J. Smith Food Pantry (Sharing Life Pantry) |
| Catholic Charities of Dallas – St. Jude | Faith at Work Ministries | Seven Loaves Food Pantry (Storehouse of Collin County) |
| Cedar Hill Shares | Foundation Communities | Storehouse Suppers (Storehouse Dallas) |
| The Chocolate Mint Foundation | Grand Central Station | Tabernacle Baptist Church |
| Christian Community Action | Grand Prairie United Charities | True Light Ministries |
| Christian Ministerial Alliance & Hopkins County Community Chest | Hands of Hope Food Pantry | UT Dallas Comet Cupboard |
| Community Food Pantry of McKinney | Homeward Bound | White Rock Center of Hope |
| Community Impart | Hope City Dream Center | YMCA Moorland |
| Community Lifeline Center | Irving Schools Foundation | |
| Covenant Purpose & Restoration | Islamic Association of Collin County | |
| Family Center | Lake Area Shared Ministries | |
| | Lamar County Food Pantry | |



Capital Investment Grant: A New Chapter for Sharing Life

With the support of a \$2 million Capital Investment Grant, Sharing Life Community Outreach moved to a larger facility in 2023 where it can care for more neighbors across its 40-zip code service area in Dallas, Kaufman and Rockwall counties.

The relocation began in May 2023 when Sharing Life purchased a former Office Depot less than half a mile away from its previous location. By November 2023, it was moving into the transformed facility so it could provide even more services for its neighbors and partners. The new location includes an enhanced Hub — Sharing Life's distribution center where it provides NTFB food to more than 100 partner organizations in surrounding zip codes. It also features a revamped food pantry designed for shorter wait times and more efficient distribution of groceries to neighbors. Plus, it boasts an 8,000-square-foot mezzanine level with classrooms to offer financial education, workforce training and employment coaching.

Brother Bill's Helping Hand Establishes a South Dallas Community Market

Brother Bill's Helping Hand has been distributing food to West Dallas neighbors in partnership with the North Texas Food Bank since 1986. But the nonprofit's leadership didn't want to stop there. They knew that South Dallas — particularly the 75215 zip code — is a food desert, so they partnered with BridgeBuilders and the NTFB to establish a new pantry to help meet the need.

Equipped with a \$111,869 NTFB Capacity Building Grant, Brother Bill's built out a new client choice-style market, purchased supplies (including refrigerators, freezers, shopping carts, office furniture and lobby seating), and supported the first year of staff salaries at the South Dallas Community Market.

In its inaugural year of operation, the market served 2,300 households, 3,300 unique people and distributed 172,000 pounds of nutritious food.

Andrew Crosby, director of partnerships, says the food is crucial to the Bonton and Ideal neighborhoods they serve, but it's also about more than groceries. The market has allowed for relationship building and more face-to-face opportunities, which helps BridgeBuilders to identify other social services their neighbors may need.

Crosby shares that one neighbor who visits them previously owned a grocery store but now has only \$30 in her budget each month for food. She contacted BridgeBuilders for support as the price of groceries rose and was able to request a ride to shop at the market. She's now a regular visitor and is able to put that \$30 grocery budget toward other necessary bills.

"Bringing food access has been impactful and has also created a safe gathering place in the community," Crosby says. "The community has responded positively to the market and values its presence."



More Food is Available for Neighbors in Lamar County

At the Lamar County Food Pantry in downtown Paris, an \$86,128 Capacity Building Grant was used to build and install a 300-square-foot walk-in freezer. One in four people in Lamar County experience food insecurity and Executive Director Allan Hubbard says the freezer, which is stocked with frozen protein, is helping to provide more healthy food to neighbors in need during twice-weekly distributions.

In 2022, the pantry distributed 1.6 million pounds of food. **With the help of the freezer, which was completed in January of 2023, it distributed 2.3 million pounds of food in 2023.**

Says Board President Jerrica Liggins, "The board is proud and grateful to have more frozen storage capacity to be able to provide more pounds of healthy food to our neighbors. This freezer is impressive and makes it easier for our staff to bring in heavy pallets without so much strain on their backs."

Sustainability Grants

Sustainability grants provide support for partners who need assistance sustaining the food distribution they've already established. In FY23, the NTFB granted around \$243,000 to 17 agencies that used the funding to repair or replace equipment, such as refrigerators, so that they could continue to serve neighbors.

FY23 Grant Recipients

5 Loaves Food Pantry
All Community Outreach
Barnabas Center
Carver Heights Baptist Church
Community Garden Kitchen of Collin County

Crossroads Market (CCS Pantry)
Empowering the Masses
Hope for You
House of Bread
Irving Cares
Lake Area Shared Ministries

Manna House
New Beginning Fellowship
Nexus Recovery Center
Salvation Army Paris
Salvation Army Sherman
SVDP Our Lady of Victory



Lake Area Shared Ministries is Growing

With both a Sustainability Grant and a Capacity Building Grant awarded in FY23, Lake Area Shared Ministries in Quinlan had just over \$102,000 to expand and equip its space to serve more neighbors.

A North Texas Food Bank partner since 2009, the organization had outgrown its pantry and used the NTFB grants to add 1,200 square feet of space to its warehouse and to purchase an electric pallet jack, a three-door freezer and a computer with a printer.

“This grant allows us to continue to serve our community,” says Vice President Vonda Jack. “Thank you!” Already, the ministry has been able to increase the number of neighbors it distributes food to each week from 400 to 500.

The pallet jack has enabled volunteers to move food more easily around the warehouse for distribution and the computers allow for client information to be input and processed more efficiently.



Leadership Development Scholarships

Part of our strategic plan to provide Food for Today and Hope for Tomorrow includes equipping our partners so that they can better serve our neighbors' needs. To that end, the NTFB awarded \$20,000 in scholarships so that 19 agency leaders could complete the CNM's (The Center for Nonprofit Management) Nonprofit Management Certification Program last fall. Said one participant, “This was a fantastic opportunity. I was hesitant to participate initially as I wasn't sure I had the time. I am so glad I made the time. With this information, I will be a stronger leader and be able to better serve the community. I am so appreciative of the opportunity and investment that the NTFB made in me and my professional development.”

Hope for Tomorrow Grants

An NTFB pilot program in FY23, Hope for Tomorrow Grants are intended to equip partner agencies in increasing or establishing wrap-around services that address the underlying barriers to food security. Thanks to our generous donors, the Food Bank awarded **six grants totaling around \$745,000** during this inaugural year.

FY23 Grant Recipients

Catholic Charities of Dallas – St. Jude
Jewish Family Services
Kaufman Christian Help Center
Metrocrest Services
Storehouse of Collin County
Wilkinson Center



The Storehouse of Collin County Fosters Long-Term Transformation

The Storehouse of Collin County CEO Candace Winslow points to Andres and Marlene Tovar when explaining why The Academy is so important.

The couple moved from Venezuela, along with their two children, because of political and economic unrest. Andres and Marlene had worked as systems engineers there and Marlene also taught pastry classes. Without knowing English, Andres found a job as a night janitor in Plano while Marlene worked in a warehouse. They were covering all of their bills until the pandemic hit and they were out of work for three months. That's where The Storehouse of Collin County came in.

Along with providing food, the Storehouse referred them to The Academy so Andres and Marlene could learn English. There, Andres also connected with The Academy partner Lux Ice and secured a job with potential for growth. Marlene started a home bakery, which she was able to grow into a storefront by leveraging her English skills.

Their daughter Andrea says the change in her parents has been transformational. **“It was really exciting to see them finally be happy and be financially stable and find their true passion,” says Andrea, who is enrolled in college and is studying to become a nurse.**

Winslow says that is the vision of The Academy – to foster relationships with neighbors and connect them with education and services that can lead to long-term change. Along with ESL classes, The Academy offers education in health management, computers and automotive certification, among other things.

With the \$87,102 grant they received from the NTFB, The Storehouse supported a salary and benefits for an academy coordinator for one year and salary and benefits for an academy director for six months.



Be Our Guest Grants

More than \$38,000 was awarded to three agencies in FY23 to support them in implementing healthy nudges in their pantry and in transforming their space to promote dignity, create a welcoming environment and improve the overall guest experience.

FY23 Grant Recipients

Because We Care
Iglesia del Nazareno Renovacion
Salvation Army Paris

Iglesia del Nazareno Renovacion Creates Neighbor Choice Model

With its \$15,240 grant, Iglesia del Nazareno Renovacion was able to transform its pantry to promote client choice while also increasing access to fresh produce. Senior Pastor Sigrud Blandon says they purchased new gondola shelving that gave the pantry the look of a grocery store and added shopping carts for neighbors to carry food to their cars. A commercial refrigerator increased storage for produce and dairy items while door signs plus Nudge Pantry items are helping to provide guests with an elevated experience. Nudge Pantry items include signs, shelf tags, recipe cards and other materials meant to encourage, or nudge, neighbors to select healthy food items. **“Seeing people smile and be happy about what they carry in their hands is beautiful,”** Blandon says.

Service Insights Grants

The North Texas Food Bank, in partnership with Feeding America, is working with agencies to implement Service Insights, an initiative to gather information with our neighbors so that we can better meet their needs. In FY23, nearly \$11,000 was provided to six agencies to purchase technology, such as iPads, for neighbor intake surveys.



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