

The Food Bank our Community Needs

Marion Polk Food Share urges support for SB 452 to provide \$6 million for a new, expanded facility. This will join over \$18 million in matching funds.

Our community has experienced a surge in need for food assistance in recent years. Since the pandemic, **food pantry visits are up 60%**, and **need for Meals on Wheels has increased by 55%**. Yet our services are constrained by outdated facilities.

Since we moved into our current building 20 years ago, our food distribution has doubled from 4.5 million pounds to more than **9 million pounds of food per year**. Our food supply has shifted from almost all shelf-stable to more than **50% fresh or frozen**.

This project will construct a **new, highly efficient warehouse and kitchen**, which will be the hub of our food banking and Meals on Wheels programs and **serve our community for the next 30+ years**.

Communities can only thrive when individuals and families have access to the healthy food they need. For **more than 62,000 people each month** in Marion and Polk counties, that food is out of reach without food supplied by Marion Polk Food Share.

Key Outcomes



Nutritious food for kids & families



Highly efficient warehouse



Expanded cold storage for fresh food distribution



Unified Meals on Wheels kitchen to serve seniors



Space designed for volunteers



Disaster response preparedness

Annual Food Share Impact



210K

Household Pantry Visits



7.9M

Meals Provided



3K

Volunteers Engaged



70

Partner Agencies



20K

Kids Served Monthly

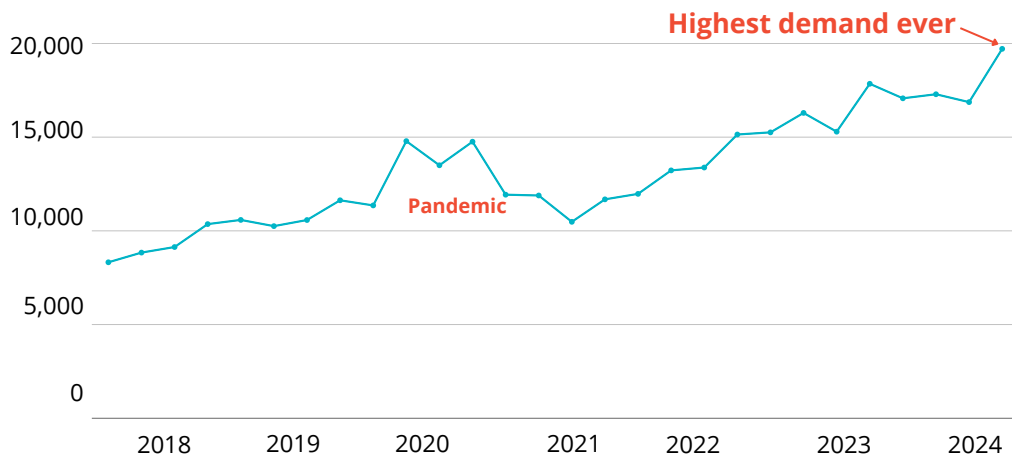
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MARION POLK
FOOD SHARE

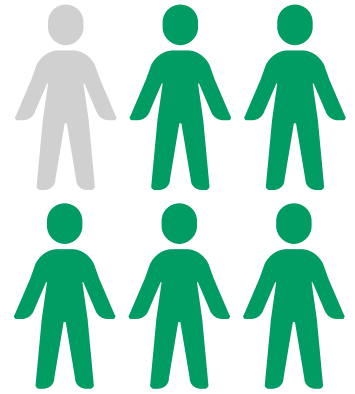


SIGNIFICANT INCREASE IN NEED



Average Monthly Household Pantry Visits

CHILDREN ARE HUNGRY



1 in 6 Children in Marion and Polk counties face hunger

ECONOMIC PRESSURES ON HOUSEHOLDS



COST OF LIVING

Source: Composite Cost of Living Index 2023



COST OF RENT SINCE 2019

RENT INCREASES

Source: Zillow® and StreetEasy® rental data



MONTHLY BENEFITS

SNAP REDUCTIONS

Source: Oregon Office of Economic Analysis



COST OF FOOD SINCE 2019

PRICE INCREASES

Source: Economic Research Service, USDA Consumer Price Index Data

KEEPING FAMILIES HOUSED

Food assistance prevents homelessness and helps people stay in their homes.

\$200+

When people visit a food pantry and receive groceries worth \$200-\$300, they can put that money toward rent, utilities, and other expenses.

The Food Share provides food to every major organization in our community which serves our unhoused neighbors, including Union Gospel Mission, The Salvation Army, ARCHES, Church at the Park, and Northwest Human Services. The food we distribute, free of charge, allows these partner organizations to use their funds towards other services, such as providing housing and rehabilitation.