



HUNGER
FREE COLORADO
COMMUNITY POWER FOR TRANSFORMATIONAL CHANGE



**CELEBRATING
15 YEARS
OF IMPACT**



2009-2024 Impact Report

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LETTER FROM THE CEO



Dear Friends,

Since we were founded by Kathy Underhill in 2009, **Hunger Free Colorado has been a bold force working to end hunger in Colorado and achieve food justice.** Beginning with the creation of a statewide Food Resource Hotline in 2011 and the passage of Breakfast After the Bell legislation in 2013, we have been connecting people to food resources and driving major policy change to reshape systems to be more equitable and just.

Our impact has only continued to expand over the years:

- In just the last four years, **we assisted Coloradans in securing more than \$180 million in SNAP benefits** – money that provides security and choice for families and puts healthy, culturally relevant food on the dinner table.
- Between 2009 and 2022, through policy change and the development of robust SNAP Outreach, we helped drive a tremendous increase in SNAP utilization - **moving statewide SNAP participation from 42% of likely eligible individuals to 78%.**
- **We led advocacy over the last six years to secure more than \$30 million in state funds for food pantries and food banks** and helped re-focus the charitable food system to be more community-centered – focused on listening to communities, providing more of the types of nutritious, culturally relevant foods that communities want, and sourcing food from local farmers and ranchers.
- **In 2022, we spearheaded a community-driven campaign to pass Proposition FF, Healthy School Meals for All**, to make Colorado the 3rd state in the nation to permanently provide access to free, nutritious school breakfast and lunch for all public-school students.

Our success has come from building community power – rooted in the values of racial justice and food sovereignty – to pursue and achieve transformational change. **This is only possible when community advocates and grassroots leaders from across the state join forces, with the support of allied organizations and individuals, and backed by generous funders.**

In short, it takes a movement to drive change – and we will need to continue to grow that movement to take the next steps in our journey to ending hunger and achieving food justice. Thank you so much to the many, many people who have been on this journey with us. **We look forward to seeing what we can accomplish together in the next 15 years!!**

Sincerely,



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Marc Ja'.

Marc Jacobson
CEO

**Since 2009,
Hunger Free
Colorado has
been a bold
force working
to end hunger
in Colorado
and achieve
food justice.**



ABOUT HUNGER FREE COLORADO

Over the last 15 years, Hunger Free Colorado has been both a collaborator and a disruptor, focused on radically transforming systems to make them more equitable and just. We have built a robust community support team and an extensive network of partners that are working together to overcome the many barriers keeping people, especially in BIPOC communities, from successfully applying for and accessing SNAP and other resources needed to obtain nutrient-dense, culturally relevant food. At the same time, we have worked to re-shape SNAP and other nutrition programs to eliminate inequitable barriers to access and boost benefit levels.

Our north star towards ending hunger is the pursuit of racial justice and food sovereignty. Through successful community-driven policy and systems change, including the ground-breaking passage of Healthy School Meals for All, we have shown a path forward based on building community power to drive transformational change. Only through collectively re-imagining and re-shaping our food systems to dismantle systemic racism and center community voice and power can we achieve our goal of food justice.



OUR CORE VALUES



EQUITY

We will not successfully end hunger unless we achieve justice and inclusion for all by overcoming and repairing the harm imposed on persons and communities by racism, classism and gender discrimination in our society, institutions and government policies.



AGENCY

We're cultivating an environment for advocacy and self-determination. Individuals, families, and communities know what they need to thrive and be nourished. When solutions and policies are crafted with this principle in mind and are shaped by those most impacted by hunger, people and communities can play a greater role in shaping their food systems and what's on their kitchen tables.



COLLABORATION

One organization cannot end hunger alone – it will take deep partnerships with many organizations, communities, leaders, and elected officials to leverage expertise, resources and perspectives across a broad-based, intersectional movement for food justice, economic justice and racial justice.



RESPECT

We live the world we wish to create by treating all with dignity and empathy. We value the perspectives, experiences, and insights our diverse staff and partners bring to the mission of Hunger Free Colorado.



INNOVATION

Creating transformational change requires looking beyond the status quo to boldly envision new ways of doing things. There can be no meaningful change without taking risks and trying new ways of working that value voices and ideas outside of dominant perspectives.



IMPACT

We must strategically focus our energy and resources to create positive and meaningful, sustainable results.

ACHIEVING OUR VISION

15
years

Our vision is that every Coloradan has equitable access to nutritious, culturally relevant food. That vision can only be realized by following the lead of community members directly impacted by hunger, building a community-centered food system, and overturning the structural racism in our institutions and government policies that result in Black, Indigenous, Latinx, immigrant and other communities of color being disproportionately impacted by hunger and poverty.

To build a more just future, our work is focused on six intersecting areas:

- 1 SNAP POLICY**
- 2 SNAP OUTREACH AND FOOD RESOURCE NAVIGATION**
- 3 FOOD SOVEREIGNTY**
- 4 RACIAL JUSTICE**
- 5 COMMUNITY ORGANIZING**
- 6 HEALTHY SCHOOL MEALS FOR ALL**

Our vision is that every Coloradan has equitable access to nutritious, culturally relevant food.



SNAP POLICY

EVERY \$
DOLLAR
in SNAP Benefits
GENERATES
\$1.79
in economic
activity.



The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) is the largest federal nutrition program and has the potential to make a huge impact towards ending hunger, but only if it is fully accessible and robust in the benefits provided. **From our very first year, Hunger Free Colorado has been focused on fixing inequities in access to SNAP and working to boost historically insufficient benefit levels** to make them more adequate in allowing families to obtain the healthy, culturally relevant foods needed to thrive. **Our understanding of SNAP's barriers and challenges is rooted in the thousands of interactions we have with families each year through our Food Resource Hotline, Mobile Outreach team and community partners.**

In 2010, we passed legislation establishing Colorado's first state SNAP Outreach plan to provide support to eligible families in overcoming barriers to applying for benefits. **In recent years, we've successfully advocated for up to \$1.5 million in state funds, which are 1:1 federally matched, to support SNAP application assistance.** The investment in outreach has led to hundreds of millions of additional SNAP benefits reaching Colorado families, a massive return on investment.

Every dollar in SNAP benefits generates \$1.79 in economic activity.

In a state where SNAP is administered at the county level but regulated at the state level, **we have been an effective partner to the Colorado Department of Human Services (CDHS) to boost their resources to effectively provide oversight and support to counties** (including through Senate Bill 190 in 2016). We have worked closely with CDHS to significantly expand SNAP access through a shortened SNAP application and by addressing inadequate income limits. One key state regulatory change we supported was the elimination of mandatory work requirements for many SNAP households that were rooted in racist narratives around poverty.

Denver SNAP Task Force

In 2018, Hunger Free Colorado convened the Denver SNAP Task Force, in partnership with Food Research & Action Center and The Food Trust, and co-chaired by Todd Jorgensen, former deputy executive director for assistance at Denver Human Services, and Sandra Stenmark M.D., clinical professor of pediatrics at University of Colorado. The Task Force was composed of public, private and nonprofit sectors, including health, education, government, philanthropic and community-based partners, food retailers and people with direct experience of hunger and SNAP. They met to explore the barriers to SNAP enrollment and participation and to identify a series of policies and practices for the City and County of Denver to assist eligible individuals in obtaining SNAP benefits. The resulting report outlined recommendations to close the Denver SNAP gap by enrolling 80 percent of low-income Denver residents. At the time, this would have brought nearly \$16 million per year to more than 20,000 low-income Denver residents and generated an additional \$28 million in local economic activity. **The initiative helped spark meaningful investments in outreach at the county level and Denver reached its goal of surpassing 80% enrollment among low-income residents in 2021!**



15
years

We have also worked at both the state and federal level to boost SNAP benefits.

We worked, alongside Energy Outreach Colorado and the Colorado Blueprint to End Hunger, to pass legislation that sets up an Energy EBT program, which will provide energy assistance, while also significantly boosting SNAP benefit levels for many households.

During the pandemic, we advocated to boost SNAP benefits federally, through an emergency allotment and then through a temporary across-the-board increase. We also supported the Pandemic-EBT (P-EBT) program, which provided funds to families with kids while school was out. We conducted a massive statewide outreach campaign for P-EBT including statewide webinars, partner trainings, paid media and in-person outreach when it first rolled out and later worked with CDHS to transition the program to auto-enrollment, instead of an application process, so that more kids could be reached using existing school district data. Ongoing federal work also includes protecting and defending SNAP adequacy and choice through the federal Farm Bill.

The change to auto-enrollment provided \$125 million in additional benefits to more than 126,000 children.

This past year we co-led community support for legislation to establish Summer-EBT in Colorado, a permanent program that builds on the success of Pandemic-EBT. This program provides more than **550,000 Colorado children with \$120 each in food benefits during the summer months** when school is out, and child food insecurity is at its highest levels.

The change to
auto-enrollment
PROVIDED

\$125

MILLION

in additional
benefits to
more than



126,000
CHILDREN.



SNAP OUTREACH & FOOD RESOURCE NAVIGATION

“Working with Hunger Free Colorado has made a huge difference for my family. They genuinely care, they do not judge and they really go the extra mile to facilitate the process of obtaining benefits like SNAP. I wouldn't be in the program if not for their help.

– Heather M.

We launched a statewide Food Resource Hotline in 2011 and established a Mobile Outreach team soon thereafter to provide SNAP application assistance and additional food resource navigation to Coloradans, offering a listening ear and a friendly, respectful experience. In 2018, we launched our SNAP PEAS (Partners Engaged in Application Services) program to support and train trusted community organizations across the state to provide SNAP application assistance.

Through our Hotline, we support people in every corner of the state, including those who experience barriers to mobility due to disability, illness, lack of transportation, or other reasons. As a phone-based resource, we are also able to assist those who may lack fluency with or access to technology, including many older adults. All our Hotline navigators are fluent in Spanish, and many are immigrants themselves, which ensures we can provide trusted, culturally fluent support to Latinx immigrants. Additionally, we use a translation service to assist callers in more than 150 languages.

“Working with Hunger Free Colorado has made a huge difference for my family. They genuinely care, they do not judge and they really go the extra mile to facilitate the process of obtaining benefits like SNAP. I wouldn't be in the program if not for their help.” – Heather M.

Our Mobile Outreach team, all of whom are also fluent in Spanish, goes directly to key areas in the community where people may struggle to access county offices or resources, making it easy and convenient for people to apply. This is particularly important in helping people experiencing homelessness, who often lack consistent access to phones, computers or other means of engaging remotely and need immediate assistance.

Our SNAP PEAS are a robust and diverse network of 54 partner organizations that are rooted in and have trusted relationships with a variety of communities, including rural, Latinx and refugee communities. Through our partnerships, we provide joint training and advocacy opportunities to build bridges and share best practices across organizations and regions of the state. **We also partner with WIC agencies to provide cross-enrollment with WIC, with health care providers to cross-enroll with Medicaid, and with many colleges and universities to support student enrollment.**

“Having a partnership with HFC has been a real godsend. Mountain Family Center is a rural family resource center. When I started as a SNAP PEA up here in the mountains, I thought I would be on my own, having to figure things out, but that has never been the case. I can't tell you how many times I've had questions and could not find the answers on my own. I would send an email to Marie and Karina, not expecting to hear from them that same day and within an hour, they responded to me with an answer. I'm just astounded with this! They are a phenomenal resource for me. The extra trainings and other information that is in the HFC classroom is so handy! I've also enjoyed the Office Hours where I can pop in with my question or to hear what others are experiencing. We all learn from each other. With their support, I never feel alone. Can't thank them enough!” – Rose N.



Already well established and with a strong track record by 2018, we significantly expanded over the next five years. **In 2018, we assisted about 5,000 households with food resources but by 2023 we assisted over 25,000 households.**

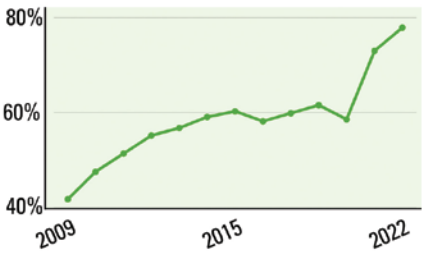
We are constantly listening to the families we support to understand the barriers they are facing, how we can better support them and what we can tackle through policy advocacy and client empowerment. One change we have made recently is that we are now also helping connect families to key non-food resources, such as tax credits, internet access and utility assistance.

Over the last
5 YEARS,
we distributed more than
\$6 MILLION
IN FUNDS

to partner organizations to support
their SNAP outreach efforts.

Just between
2020-2024,
we helped families secure more than
\$180 MILLION IN
SNAP BENEFITS.

Colorado SNAP Participation Among Eligible Households



** SNAP Participation is reported annually by the USDA through the Program Access Index, which measures the share of low-income individuals enrolled in SNAP.*

Between our SNAP policy and outreach efforts,
we have played a major role in moving Colorado from a
SNAP PARTICIPATION RATE OF
42% of likely eligible individuals in 2009
To 78% in 2022.

Map of SNAP PEAS Partners



FOOD SOVEREIGNTY

“It's always difficult to find streams of revenue for our farm that are consistent for our crop year-round... It's wonderful to partner with food pantries that are actually able to purchase from us. Instead of the old, traditional form of donating produce that's about to go bad – they get the first cuts, the best cuts.

- Colorado Producer

Our work within the charitable food system has been rooted in the concept of food sovereignty - that **communities should be able to shape the types of food they have access to, how those foods are sourced and produced, and how they are distributed.**

In 2014, we established a learning cohort of food pantries that led to the creation of the Colorado Food Pantry Network (CFPN). CFPN surveyed more than 3,000 food pantry clients to understand what communities wanted to see at food pantries, as well as ways food pantries could improve how they provided food to communities. Building on the survey results, in 2018 we partnered with CFPN to advocate for state legislation to establish the Food Pantry Assistance Grant, so that food pantries had the resources to purchase the types of locally sourced, nutrient-dense and culturally relevant foods that their communities were asking for.

“For years, [our organization] has worked hard to provide fresh fruits and vegetables to our clients. Produce is one of the most requested food items as it is often expensive for our clients and many food pantries only offer shelf stable options. Clients have also requested products that are traditional to the Latino culture. Funds from the Food Pantry Assistance Grant allowed us to not only provide high quality food that our clients request, but it allowed us to source products that are familiar for families and will allow families to prepare culturally appropriate meals.” – Food Pantry Assistance Grantee

“It's always difficult to find streams of revenue for our farm that are consistent for our crop year-round... It's wonderful to partner with food pantries that are actually able to purchase from us. Instead of the old, traditional form of donating produce that's about to go bad – they get the first cuts, the best cuts.” - Colorado Producer



To support building connections between food pantries and local farmers, **we established our Farm-to-Food Pantry Initiative, led by Regional Food Coordinators across the state that understood the unique needs and offerings of their communities.** The Coordinators educated food pantries on the importance of purchasing from small farmers and ranchers to support broader community well-being and guided them through the process of building relationships with farmers and making those transactions.

Since 2018, we have successfully secured more than \$30 million in state funds for food pantries and food banks, to be re-invested in the community by sourcing from local producers and food businesses. In 2024, we partnered with Feeding Colorado to secure ongoing state funding of \$3 million a year to support food pantries and food banks in purchasing nutritious, locally sourced and culturally relevant food for their communities.

Through this work, we helped transform the charitable food system to be more community-centered, both in the foods offered, where it was sourced and how food pantries operated. And, at the same time, **helped build local food system infrastructure through expanded food hubs and increased revenue for small farmers and ranchers, including many young, BIPOC farmers.**

We are now building on that success to transform other food systems to similarly be more community-centered and local food system-focused, including school meals. A core part of our community organizing approach is to support communities in envisioning the changes to the food system that they want to see and building the community power to be part of the decision-making to guide those changes.

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RACIAL JUSTICE

**FOOD
SOVEREIGNTY**



**RACIAL
JUSTICE**



**FOOD
JUSTICE**



Beatriz Beckford, 2019 Keynote:
Strategies for Repairing Harms,
Restoring Dignity & Advancing Equity

Racial justice has become a core guiding value and goal for our work. We believe access to food is a human right. Though, we will never end hunger without addressing the racial and ethnic disparities in access to nutritious food caused by the long legacy and continued impacts of systemic racism that are built into the policies and practices of our economic structure and food systems. Thus, a primary focus of our work has been addressing barriers faced by immigrants and communities of color.

At our **statewide Food Summits** in both 2019 and 2020, our keynote speakers lifted up the importance of racial justice in securing food justice and food security – pointing out, in particular, the **importance of centering the voice and power of BIPOC communities and focusing on dismantling policies and systems**, including SNAP, that were built around the racist narratives of deserving and undeserving.

One huge barrier that immigrant communities faced in accessing nutritious, culturally relevant foods was the Trump administration push to expand the definition of “public charge”, which created fear that family members would face deportation if they accessed government nutrition programs they were eligible for. We started advocating against this federal rule change starting in 2018, along with educating communities about its impact on accessing SNAP benefits – education that continues to this day.

In 2020, we held a **Summit on Immigrant Food Security**, attended by many Latinx immigrant parents and advocates, to dig deeper into the many barriers immigrant communities face in accessing nutritious, culturally relevant foods. Out of that Summit, we co-created a report with the attendees laying out the barriers in access to food pantries and child nutrition programs.

We also **developed a promotora initiative**, a collaboration with 17 grassroots Latinx immigrant-serving groups to outreach to thousands of parents to promote summer meals, WIC, Pandemic EBT and school meals.



2019 Panel Discussion: Incorporating Equity for Mission Success, JoAnna Cintron, Deidre Johnson, Rick Waters, Beatriz Beckford



Leah Penniman, 2020 Keynote:
How Racial Justice Creates a Just Food System

PANDEMIC EBT CAMPAIGN

We partnered with

17 COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

to reach immigrants across the state.

Promotoras and
community leaders helped

15,000 FAMILIES CONNECT

with pandemic food resources.

Through the promotora initiative,
we were able to directly secure more than

**\$1.2 MILLION IN
FOOD BENEFITS**

for over

**4,000 IMMIGRANT
CHILDREN.**

Building on the promotora initiative, we have since focused on supporting and centering BIPOC-led and -serving organizations, both in our SNAP Outreach work as well as through our organizing and policy advocacy. We have also **prioritized language justice in our external and internal communications, incorporating Spanish language translation and simultaneous interpretation in community meetings, all-staff meetings and Board of Directors meetings.**

To further solidify our commitment to racial justice, **we developed a pipeline from community leadership to our Board of Directors, which is now representative of the community, with 80% identifying as BIPOC, and numerous members having lived expertise of hunger.** We have also adopted internal practices of ongoing equity trainings for staff and limiting background checks when hiring to combat the effects of systemic oppression and racism.



COMMUNITY ORGANIZING

“My form of leadership is building a web of trust because trust gives you hope. You need hope in people that they’re working for you and they will help and advocate for you. When you have hope you can take care of other things as they come along. I’m part of the council because I trust Hunger Free Colorado and there’s trust between the organization and the community, so together we can accomplish more.

– Laura S.,
Community
Council Member

Our current focus on community organizing and power-building to drive transformational policy change emerged from an organizational evolution from community listening to more fully centering community leadership.

In 2013, Hunger Free Colorado introduced **Hunger Through My Lens** to provide real-life experts—Coloradans who have experienced hunger firsthand—with a platform to share their stories, through photography, about the realities of hunger throughout Colorado.

In 2019, we established our **Community Council** to amplify the voices and leadership skills of Council Members, providing a platform for them to draw on their unique lived experiences to be influential advocates for food justice in the anti-hunger movement.

“My form of leadership is building a web of trust because trust gives you hope. You need hope in people that they’re working for you and they will help and advocate for you. When you have hope you can take care of other things as they come along. I’m part of the council because I trust Hunger Free Colorado and there’s trust between the organization and the community, so together we can accomplish more.” – Laura S., Community Council Member

At around the same time, we established a **Metro Denver WIC Coalition** that brought together the state WIC office, local WIC agencies and community groups with parent leaders who were, or had previously, participated in WIC. Centering the voices and ideas of parents, we co-created recommendations for improvements to WIC policies, communications and operations, including a push to bolster WIC’s support for purchasing fruit and vegetables. Through meetings with our Congressional delegation, parent leaders and community partners, we supported the successful national advocacy to significantly boost the WIC fruit and vegetable allowance.



15
years

In 2021, we established a **Community Organizing team** that drew from our previous highly impactful work to develop an organizing model built on the intersection of:

FOOD SOVEREIGNTY

Centering community power in shaping food systems to meet community needs.

RACIAL JUSTICE

Centering BIPOC communities and the dismantling of policies and practices rooted in systemic racism.

TRANSFORMATIONAL ORGANIZING

Supporting community leadership development and long-term, solidarity-based power-building, rooted in local action but strengthened through collective statewide organizing.

Rooted in this organizing model, our team works with communities across the state to identify barriers to food sovereignty and use community input to shape policies. This approach proved incredibly successful in securing and passing **Proposition FF, Healthy School Meals for All**, as a referred statewide ballot initiative in 2022.

Watch a video of our organizing team talking about their work on Healthy School Meals for All!



We continue to work to create a path towards food justice that tackles the root causes of oppression, where **BIPOC communities have full access to nutrient-dense, culturally relevant food** that is sourced in ways that supports local Black, Brown and indigenous farmers, protects the environment and pays workers across the value-chain fairly.



HEALTHY SCHOOL MEALS FOR ALL

Rooted in the values of racial justice and food sovereignty, the key components of Colorado's Healthy School Meals for All policy include:

FREE SCHOOL MEALS FOR ALL PUBLIC-SCHOOL STUDENTS – started School Year 2023-2024!

LOCAL FOOD PURCHASING GRANTS to support the purchase of fresh, healthy food from local farmers and ranchers

WAGE BOOST GRANTS to ensure the staff preparing and serving meals are paid fairly

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE GRANTS to incorporate more local food and promote healthier, from-scratch cooking

STUDENT AND PARENT ADVISORY COMMITTEES, made up of district students and parents that help guide school meal nutrition, sourcing and menus

Throughout our organizational history, we have pursued bold policy change rooted in our ambition not just to alleviate hunger but to end it. Shortly after we were founded **in 2009, we launched a 5-year Campaign to End Child Hunger** in collaboration with No Kid Hungry and the Governor's Office, which helped jump start Colorado's efforts to reduce child hunger.

The signature accomplishment was the passage of Breakfast After the Bell legislation in 2013, which made Colorado one of the first states in the nation to require best practices in the provision of school breakfast to ensure more students could eat and **moved Colorado, in just a few years, from 44th to 17th nationally in school breakfast participation.**

During the pandemic, school meals were transformed when the federal government provided free school meals for all public-school students in the '20-'21 and '21-'22 school years. When we had conversations with parents about the barriers to accessing school meals, we heard about the importance of continuing free school meals to overcome stigma and fear caused by public charge, and about the desire for more community voice in shaping meals to be more nutritious, culturally relevant, made-from-scratch and locally sourced.

In 2021 and 2022, Hunger Free Colorado spearheaded a community-driven campaign to pass Healthy School Meals for All (HSMA) through a state ballot measure, Proposition FF. The Coalition we developed to advocate for HSMA was led by a grassroots, primarily-BIPOC Steering Committee. Additionally, we conducted dozens of community listening and education sessions and provided opportunities for immigrant community engagement to ensure that in both the shaping of the policy and in the advocacy process, community was centered.

Listen to the importance of Healthy School Meals for All and how our organizing supported each community in their advocacy!



The HSMA campaign was successful in passing a ground-breaking ballot measure through an intentional focus on capacity-building for grassroots, primarily BIPOC-led organizations across the state that allowed for broad-based leadership development that could tailor effective outreach strategies in communities across Colorado.

"When Lamar Unidos began to learn about the coalition, in order to pass Proposition FF with Hunger Free, one of the things that was constantly heard is, 'What works for your community?'. Hunger Free has guided us, has given us the freedom to work according to our community and our needs, our traditions, our ideas." – Nancy D., Executive Director of Lamar Unidos

As a result, Proposition FF secured:

57% OVERALL SUPPORT in Colorado.

82% SUPPORT FROM LATINX VOTERS
and majority support even in historically conservative counties like El Paso.

With Prop FF's passage,
Colorado became the

3rd STATE IN THE NATION

to permanently provide access to
free school meals for all.

After passage, our community-driven coalition pivoted to supporting full and community-centered implementation. Due to higher-than-expected program costs, we had to fight in the 2024 legislative session to maintain legislative support for HSMA and our collective work continues to build the community power needed to ensure it continues to be supported and is fully implemented.

When Lamar Unidos began to learn about the coalition, in order to pass Proposition FF with Hunger Free, one of the things that was constantly heard is, "What works for your community?". **Hunger Free** has guided us, has given us the freedom to work according to our community and our needs, our traditions, our ideas.

– Nancy D., Executive Director
of Lamar Unidos

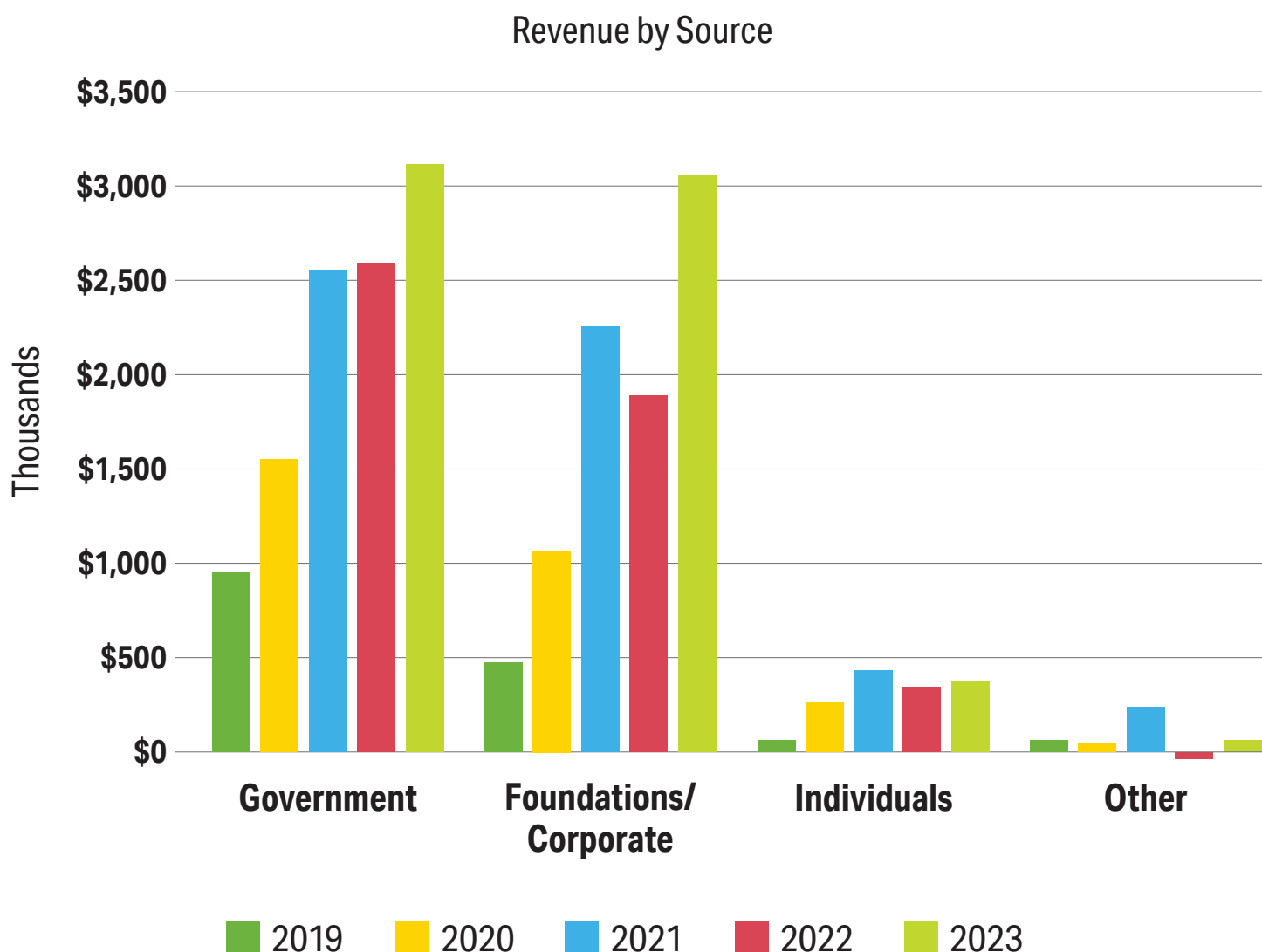


FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

FISCAL YEARS 2019-2023 | July 1, 2018 - June 30, 2023

Revenue by Source

Hunger Free Colorado has seen significant growth in all of its funding sources since 2019. Funding from government grants grew substantially from fiscal year 2019 through fiscal year 2023 largely due to an influx of funding for our SNAP Outreach programs. Additionally, foundation funding for our community organizing efforts has expanded as we've grown the department organizationally. Finally, funding from individual giving received a boost during fiscal year 2021 because of the pandemic and has continued to be at higher levels than pre-pandemic since that time. Though 2024 numbers are still being finalized, like many nonprofits, we have seen a decline in revenue in the last fiscal year post-pandemic.

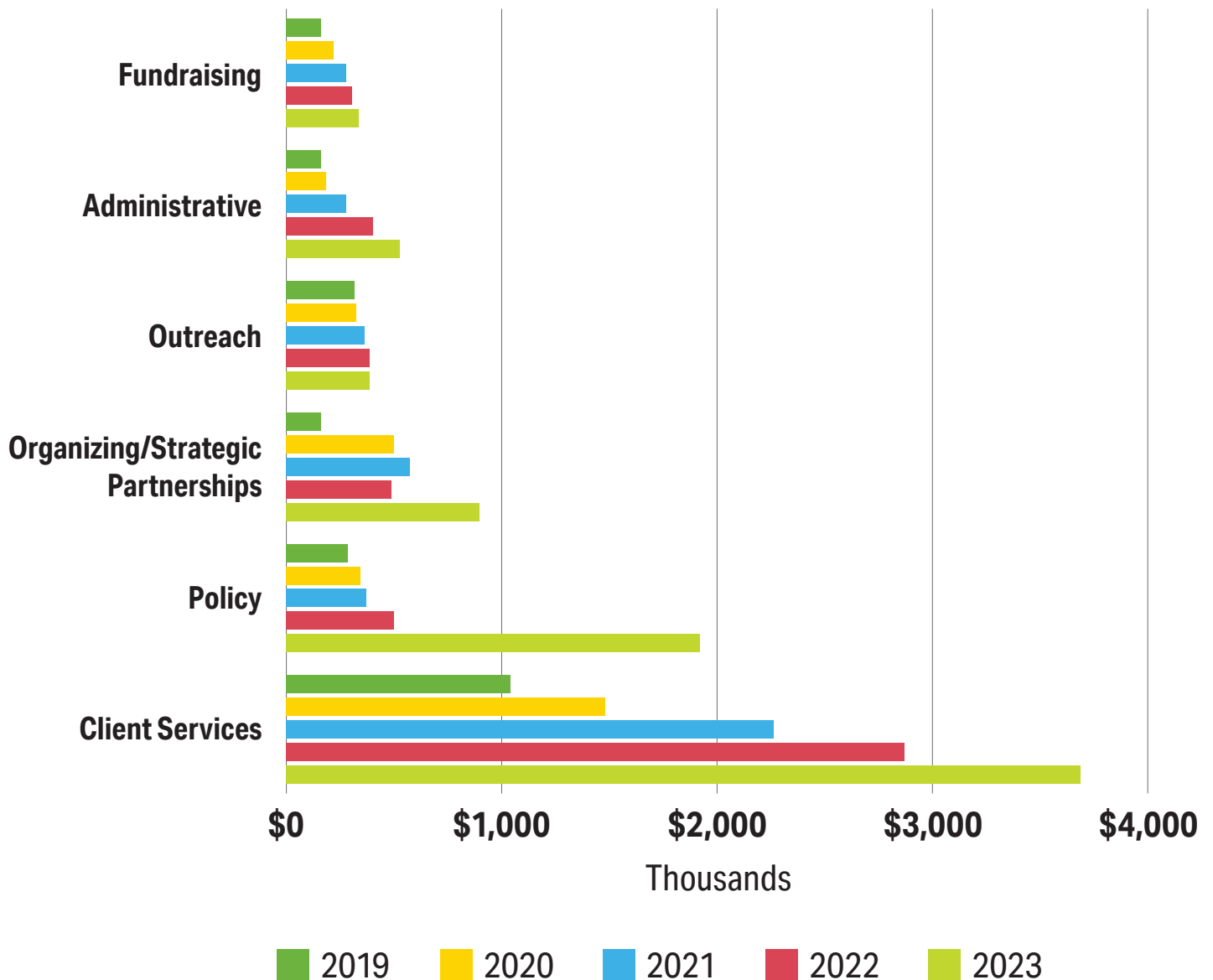


** Please note that the fiscal year 2023 Foundations/Corporate revenue includes \$1.054 million, approximately 34%, in revenue associated with the commonly controlled 501(c)(4) entity, Food Justice for All, under which an issue committee was formed to promote the Healthy School Meals for All ballot initiative.*

Expense by Type

Program expenses for our SNAP Outreach program have grown 243 percent over the past five years, reflecting significant expansion of our staff in this area as well as the funding for over 50 SNAP PEAS partner organizations as of fiscal year 2023. Additionally, we transitioned our Strategic Partnerships program to our Community Organizing program starting in 2021, thus expanding our reach into the community. Our policy team in conjunction with our community organizing team took on the substantial and successful effort to bring the Healthy School Meals for All ballot initiative to the voters in fiscal year 2023.

Expenses by Program Area



* Please note that the fiscal year 2023 Policy program expense includes \$1.5 million, approximately 78%, in expenses associated with the commonly controlled 501(c)(4) entity, Food Justice for All, under which an issue committee was formed to promote the Healthy School Meals for All ballot initiative.

GET INVOLVED



Donor Spotlight

Noël Robbins Congdon (Noëy) served on Hunger Free Colorado's Board of Directors from 2013 to 2019. She supported long-term food security solutions and food justice. As a staunch advocate for Colorado kids and families, Noëy helped us pass the transformative Proposition FF, Healthy School Meals for All Colorado kids. Upon her passing in 2023, Noëy continued her legacy with a generous bequest to Hunger Free Colorado.

We're grateful for her support and the incredible impact she had on our organization as well as philanthropy throughout the state.

Become an Advocate

Together we can show decision-makers at every level how to improve food access for all Coloradans, regardless of zip code. No matter the issue – family nutrition programs, school breakfast and lunch or community food systems – contacting the right elected officials at key times can mean Colorado's children, immigrants, working families and food system workers get the affordable, nutritious food they need to thrive. Visit hungerfreecolorado.org/advocate to sign up!

Connect with Us on Social Media

Follow and engage with us on social media to learn about news, events and opportunities to take action.



HungerFreeColorado



HungerFreeCO



Hunger-Free-Colorado



HungerFreeColorado3626

Make a Donation or Join the Full Plate Society

Hunger Free Colorado relies on the generous support of individuals and businesses across our state to continue our transformative work. Working together, we can change the system and ensure every Coloradan has equitable access to nutritious food.



Please consider joining the Full Plate Society with a recurring monthly donation. This reliable support provides a strong foundation for Hunger Free Colorado's vital work to build the community power needed to end hunger in our state!

Learn more at HungerFreeColorado.org

Visit our website to learn more about our work, find food resources throughout Colorado, stay up to date on hunger facts and news and explore resources for addressing hunger throughout our state. For those seeking food resources, please visit hungerfreecolorado.org/find-food.



INVESTING IN A HUNGER-FREE COLORADO

15
years

Hunger Free Colorado is grateful for the many corporations, foundations and individual donors who have supported us during our 15-year history and are deeply committed to helping us eradicate hunger and achieve food justice in Colorado. Though too numerous to list here, it is their support and dedication that has allowed us to have the impact we do today!

FOUNDING CEO

Kathy Underhill (2009 – 2018)

LEADERSHIP

As of June 30, 2024

2024 Board of Directors

Adela Flores-Brennan (Board Chair)

Carmen Martin (Vice Chair)

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A special thank you goes out to our leadership and board of directors throughout our history for championing our vision for a hunger-free Colorado. Additionally, thank you to our wonderful 15th anniversary campaign sponsors!



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Hunger Free Colorado, a statewide nonprofit organization, connects people to food resources to meet existing needs and drives policy, systems and social change to end hunger.

**EVERY COLORADAN DESERVES EQUITABLE
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