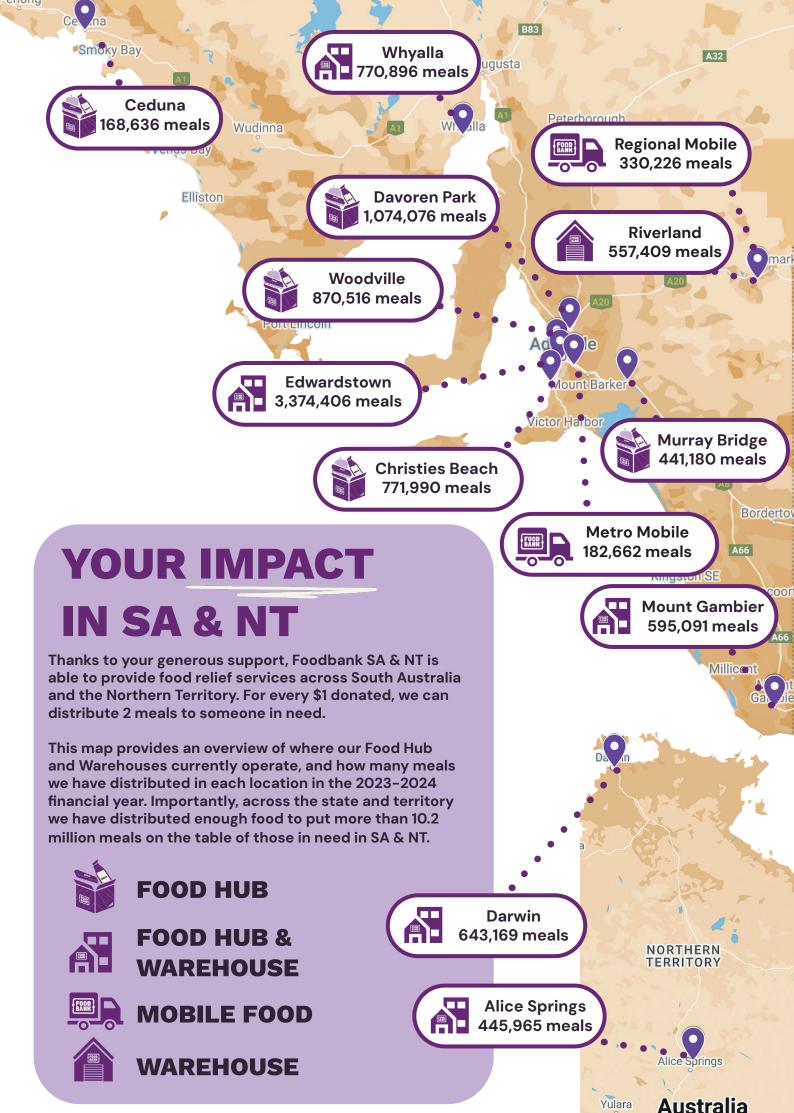


# FOODBANK SA & NT 2023/2024



# **ANNUAL REPORT**





# **OUR IMPACT 2023-2024**



152,000+

SOUTH AUSTRALIANS & TERRITORIANS ASSISTED EVERY MONTH.



2.3 M kg

OVER 2,391,994 KG SAVED FROM LANDFILL.



10.2 M

DISTRIBUTED ENOUGH FOOD FOR 10,226,222 MEALS.



130k+

130,000 HOURS OF VOLUNTEER TIME.



700+550

SUPPORTED 700 AGENCIES & 550+ SCHOOL PROGRAMS.



**5.1 M Kg** 

DISTRIBUTED MORE THAN 5,113,111 KG.



# CLIENT STORY Sally

This year we met Sally... a devoted Mum doing everything she can to care for her children.

It was thanks to your generous contributions that we were able to make sure that Sally and her children had enough food in the pantry to put meals on the table.

Sally shares her gratitude:

"You may not see firsthand how important your support is to Foodbank. But I can assure you that when I load my groceries into my car knowing that I can feed my kids for that week – please know that your contribution is much more than just the food on the table. It's also allowed me to breathe a sigh of relief knowing that if all else has failed in my life there are still beautiful people in this world doing beautiful things – so thank you. You made our Year!

My youngest started school, and I found a casual job in my field. This gives me hope things will settle down for us in life. One day, I hope to be able to give back to Foodbank to help other families in need, in the same way you have supported us."

Sally is determined to break the cycle of poverty she has found herself in, to be able to provide a better future for her children. Thank you for helping families like Sally's this past year. Your donations have provided so much more than food; your kindness has given hope for the future.



CHAIR MESSAGE
John Harvey
Chair, Foodbank SA & NT

It's always useful to take some time to reflect on your beginnings at a new organisation. I was appointed to the Board of Foodbank SA & NT at last year's AGM, taking over as Chair in mid 2024 following the retirement of the indefatigable Simon Schrapel after his 22 years on the board, 10 as Chair. It's a decent sized pair of shoes to be asked to fill.

Let me tell you what I found when I joined Foodbank SA & NT...

I found a bunch of experienced people sitting as incumbents on the Board who all looked a whole lot smarter than me. Even though many of my fellow directors had been with the organisation for substantial terms, what was notable by its absence, was any sense of fatigue toward the cause that they served. There's a youthfulness in the approach, even though some of us (particularly me) might not be classified as particularly youthful anymore.

I also found an Executive Team who should all put the following as a tag line on their Foodbank business cards:

"Yep, we can do that."

It's a phrase that you hear a lot at Foodbank. I'm yet to see Foodbank squeeze blood out of a stone (one of my Grandmother's favourite sayings) but if I'm ever going to see that happen, it's probably here.

In 2023, when the Macquarie Dictionary announced that its word of the year was 'cozzie livs' it surprised no one at Foodbank. Because to say that it's been a busy year probably doesn't quite cut it. Foodbank's total distribution of food in 23/24 was up by 34% compared to the previous year.

34%.

I'd like to put that in a context that we can visualise. In terms of tonnes of food, that's about an additional 1.28 million tonnes of food. It depends on the mix of food, but on average a pallet (we talk in pallets) weighs about 500kg, so that's an additional 2,500 pallets. Line all of those extra pallets up end to end and they'd make a line nearly 3km long. Line up all of the pallets distributed by Foodbank in the year and they'd go the length of the City to Bay fun run from the city of Adelaide to Glenelg (the Darwin Esplanade to Nightcliff pool if you are in the Northern Territory).

More than 10,000,000 meals in total.

Quite an effort for a small, dedicated group of full time staff that bring together (in what I'll describe as a wonderfully messy harmony), literally hundreds of fabulous volunteers, dozens of like-minded charities, innumerable donors large and small, supporting retailers, the wonderful folk at the produce market, freight companies and governments of all levels and strips.

As we look 24/25 squarely in the eye, we know that this year will be busier than the last. I'd simply ask everyone in the Foodbank family to stick with us, to recognise how important what you do every day is to the social fabric of the Northern Territory and South Australia and to remember that you don't just provide food, you're also quietly providing dignity every day to people who are just like us.

John



# **CEO MESSAGE**

Greg Pattinson
Chief Executive Officer, Foodbank SA & NT

The 23/24 year saw demand for Foodbank SA & NT's services and support increase substantially compared to any previous year. As cost of living pressures became the primary cause of food insecurity, many working families across South Australia and Northern Territory began to seek supply of food from our Food Hubs, most for the first time in their lives.

The stereotype of the people seeking food assistance also changed – over 60% of people seeking food assistance in 23/24 had jobs, over 30% had mortgages, and there was an increasing geographic spread into suburbs and regions which were previously considered to be well off.

As a result of these factors, Foodbank SA & NT increased its food distribution by 34% compared to the previous year, with some sites, such as Ceduna and Davoren Park, increasing nearly 100%.

This increase in demand created unprecedented pressure right along our supply chain. Our team had to find more essential foods, especially fresh fruit and vegetables and key staple foods, and we were fortunate to be supported by the SA food industry, from the farming sector through to the major retailers. These suppliers stepped up when it was needed, by either donating more food or providing heavily discounted prices. We were also well supported by our freight partners to transport the food to our regional sites.

The 23/24 year also saw Foodbank SA become Foodbank SA & NT, after being invited by Foodbank Australia to assume responsibility for the Foodbank operations in Darwin. After a six month transition, we opened a new warehouse and Food Hub at Palmerston and this site has gained popularity and patronage by local welfare agencies, schools and government such that it is now our fourth busiest site across our region. This site, along with our site in Alice Springs, has firmly entrenched Foodbank SA & NT as the primary supplier of food relief across the whole of the NT and has allowed us to ensure that the NT Government sees us as an essential service partner. We plan to open an additional site in Katherine in the 24/25 year and will then utilise the three NT sites to broaden our food distribution to more remote communities, finally addressing the needs of the most vulnerable peoples in Australia.

Thank you to all of our dedicated staff, volunteers and supporters for caring for people doing it tough. We couldn't do this without your continued dedication and support.

Together we are ending hunger in South Australia and the Northern Territory. - Greg

I would like to acknowledge the outstanding work of the Senior Leadership Team and all Foodbank staff who have all made contributions to the achievements of the past year. Their professionalism, expertise, and sound business knowledge ensured that Foodbank SA & NT continues to be seen as a highly effective organisation by all of our stakeholders.

Greg

# **OUR KEY PROGRAMS**

#### **KEY STAPLE PROGRAM**

Sourcing key staples is the basis of Foodbank's work. Key staples are the items that everyone should have in their pantries. Those long-life shelf products that we all grew up with including: baked beans, rice, pasta, pasta sauce, breakfast cereal, long life milk, tinned fruit and vegetables. We source our key staples through a number of different ways:

- Our relationships with the local and national food industry, retailers and producers enables us to receive donations
- Individuals, schools and workplaces run food drives
- Cash donations from companies, community groups and individuals that are used to buy much needed staples
- A nation-wide Key Staple
   Program puts together
   a number of different
   companies to manufacture
   specific products.

We also continue to procure millions of dollars of food each year to ensure that we are able to offer healthy and nutritious food to those who would otherwise go without.



#### **OUR FOOD HUBS**

Our Food Hubs provide those who are in need with a dignified shopping experience. Foodbank Food Hubs offer choice and provides much greater value for money. Individuals are assessed by our agency members who issue them with a referral voucher. This voucher allows them to access and shop at our Food Hubs in St Marys (formerly Edwardstown), Christies Beach, Davoren Park, Woodville, Murray Bridge, Whyalla, Mount Gambier, Ceduna, Darwin, Alice Springs, Port Lincoln and two Mobile Food Hubs. In addition, we continue to support the Community Food Hub in Port Pirie.

In 2024, we officially opened our new Warehouse and Food Hub in Yarrawonga, NT, moved our Edwardstown Food Hub to St Marys and opened the new Port Lincoln Community Food Hub.



### **SCHOOL PROGRAMS**

Our School Programs are a vital part of our operation. We work to source and distribute food items to support more than 550 School Programs across Adelaide's metro, regional and country areas. In addition, we now operate School Breakfast Programs in 33 Schools in the Top End and 13 School Programs from Alice Springs.

When you are hungry, you can't be at your best. Going to school hungry affects a child's ability to concentrate, to learn and to achieve. This can lead to dire consequences throughout their lives.

In 23/24, we continued the Foodbank Variety School Lunch Program to support some of the most vulnerable children in our community across South Australia.

We also continued to provide other School Programs including the Foodbank Young Women's Program to support those experiencing period poverty.



# **FRUIT & VEG FOR ALL**

At Foodbank's Store 27 in the South Australian Produce Market, we source donations from fresh produce wholesalers to distribute via our warehouses and Food Hubs. We go even further by nurturing relationships with growers and packing sheds in the Riverland, Adelaide Hills and Virginia regions to source produce straight from the farm. We distribute our fresh fruit and vegetables free to those in need.

In 23/24, we hit a major milestone distributing more than 2 million kilograms of fresh fruit and vegetables in a single year.



# **FINANCES & GOVERNANCE**

# **REVENUE**

\$14,422,232

- Operating revenue = 61%
- Donations (Operating purposes) = 17%
- Grants (Operating purposes) = 13%
- Sponsorships (Operating purposes) = 6%
- Grants (Captital purposes) = 1%
- Fundraising (Operating purposes) = 1%
- Other income = 1%



# **EXPENDITURE**

\$13,183,808

- Employee remuneration = 36%
- Food procurement = 29%
- Other expenses = 9%
- Depreciation = 8%
- Warehouse operating expenses = 6%
- Freight = 4%
- Utilities = 3%
- Fundraising expenses = 2%
- Cleaning = 1%
- Property rental and outgoings = 1%
- Interest = 1%

# **OUR BOARD**

#### **Dr John Harvey**



Chairperson Governance Committee

# **Philip Morton**



Deputy Chairperson

#### **Caroline Rhodes**



Governance Committee

**Melissa Harvey** 

## **Allison Giotis**



Finance, Audit and Risk Committee

# **Llewellyn Jones**



Finance, Audit and Risk Committee

## **Helen Sheppard**



Finance, Audit and Risk Committee

# **Cathy Main**





Governance Committee

#### **Jane Aagaard**



**Our Patron** 

Her Excellency, The Honourable Frances Adamson AC

# **OUR KEY PARTNERS**

















































































