



EAST WEST
• FOOD RESCUE •

2020 ANNUAL REPORT



Our Mission:
Supporting farmers and
caringly feeding our neighbors
in need.

LEADERSHIP LETTER

To Our Supporters,

EastWest Food Rescue started as a grassroots effort in May 2020 during the COVID-19 pandemic to decrease food waste and address hunger in Washington state. EWFR's strategy is to acquire surplus from farmers, organize transportation, and ensure rescued food is given to people with food insecurity for free.

In our first annual report, you can learn about what we achieved with a volunteer-led organization in only 8 months—we **saved or acquired more than 35 million pounds (28 million meals)** of predominantly fresh food and **distributed it to over 700 community food relief organizations** with the help of our partners:

Food Distributed by Food Agency Type	%
Faith-based Organizations	37.30
Non-Profit Community Organizations/Kitchens	25.40
Native American Tribes	20.10
Traditional Food Banks	15.00
All other	2.20

The pandemic is waning, thankfully. However, even with many Americans going back to work, food security remains an issue, and farmers still have surplus, nutritious food that can be leveraged to address community needs. In Washington, 2021 research data indicates that 27% of households are food insecure, and 33% of households with children remain food insecure (<https://nutr.uw.edu/cphn/wafood/brief-8>).

Those in need include working families and people ineligible for government food benefits. Traditional food banks play a key role in supporting food needs; however, many people who are food insecure cannot or do not regularly access food via traditional food banks. Based on our research, non-traditional food agencies and food drives can provide an easier means to access sufficient quantities of free, fresh, nutritious food without requiring a significant time away from work or family commitments. Today, there is a clear need to address the both the hunger and nutrition gap as well as the service gap through working with a broad range of food agencies.

Our 2021 plan includes a focus on:

- Purchasing crops to support farmers and bringing free food to community food agency organizations;
- Expanding our logistics so that we can bring more food to smaller food agency groups;
- Building grassroots farmer agreements including growing and gleaning contracts; and
- Expanding distribution within Washington State.

EWFR has low overhead and is nimble; we work to access surplus food to take advantage of very short notice opportunities and distribute fresh food quickly without needing to store it. Our low per-pound food acquisition cost (currently at less than .10/pound) extends our ability to leverage donations.

We remain committed to fulfilling our mission, **supporting our farmers and caringly feeding our neighbors in need**. Thank you for your generosity and commitment to EastWest Food Rescue.

KAREN MANUEL
Interim Executive Director

GEORGE AHEARN
Co-Founder and Board Chairman

Our story reflects the heart-moving commitment of our partners and community.

Our distribution would not have been possible without the devotion of over 700 food agencies and other food community organizations. Many of these started as a grassroots effort to help the hungry in local neighborhoods as they saw that the surge in food insecurity could not be addressed by the current food relief system.



Special thanks to Farmer Frog, our main distribution partner in 2020. Their devoted team worked long hours in all weather conditions to stage and help distribute food to our food agencies.



We cannot thank our farmers enough: many of whom donated excess food for free or nominal amounts in the initial stage and who today work with us to provide excess nutritious, high quality produce, dairy, and protein at costs that can feed many.





At a Glance in 2020

What have we accomplished together?

1 IN 4
AMERICANS



have insufficient access to
affordable, nutritious food

+

18,500 lbs



first convoy rescue

+

140,000 lbs



second convoy rescue

35.4 million

POUNDS OF FOOD ACQUIRED AND MOVED

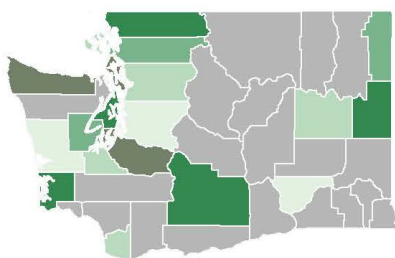
28.3 million

MEALS PROVIDED TO INDIVIDUALS



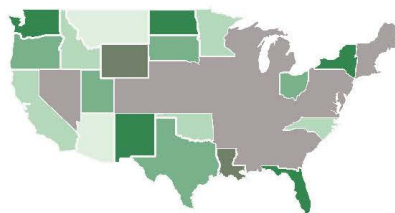
2,809,930 DIFFERENT INDIVIDUALS SERVED

DISTRIBUTION BY LOCATION



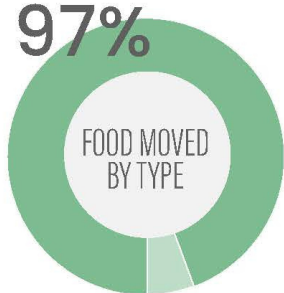
19
COUNTIES

& 19
STATES



85% TO WESTERN STATES

97%



PRODUCE, DAIRY, & PROTEIN
*ADDRESSING FOOD & NUTRITION INSECURITY

700+
FOOD AGENCIES
SUPPORTED

67%



BIPOC
*INDIVIDUALS SERVED ON A PER MEAL BASIS



\$729,693

TOTAL FINANCIAL SUPPORT IN 2020



650+

VOLUNTEER LED ORGANIZATION

5 NATIONAL
NEWS STORIES

ABC World News Tonight (2)

USA Today Human Kind

Rachel Ray Show

CNN

Our Donors Made Possible



With the generous financial support provided by approximately 1,800 individuals, family foundations, corporate partners, and grants, EWFR was able to help farmers and caringly feed our neighbors in need throughout 2020.

"Last year a fire came through and burned the majority of my fall pasture. EastWest Food Rescue showed up with donated hay to keep these cows fed through winter. I'm now partnering with them to bring some of these cows over in Spring 2021 to help others in need."

Jeff Zagelow, Zagelow Bar Z Ranch

The recurring donations from many of our individual donors were instrumental in helping create a consistent funding source for purchasing food. Donations like these help for longer-range planning, such as upstream farmer growing arrangements. Here, a farmer will plant crops just for EWFR to distribute across our food agency partners.



Partnering with dedicated social good businesses and food distribution centers, EWFR received in-kind donations like fresh bread over Thanksgiving from Ardent Mills or our numerous healthy products donated from our friends at Amazon. Other donations included trucks, gas, drivers, fresh produce, hay, and sanitizer to list a few!

The impact of the gifts received in our first year has been essential in the sustainability of EastWest Food Rescue being able to help those experiencing food insecurity.

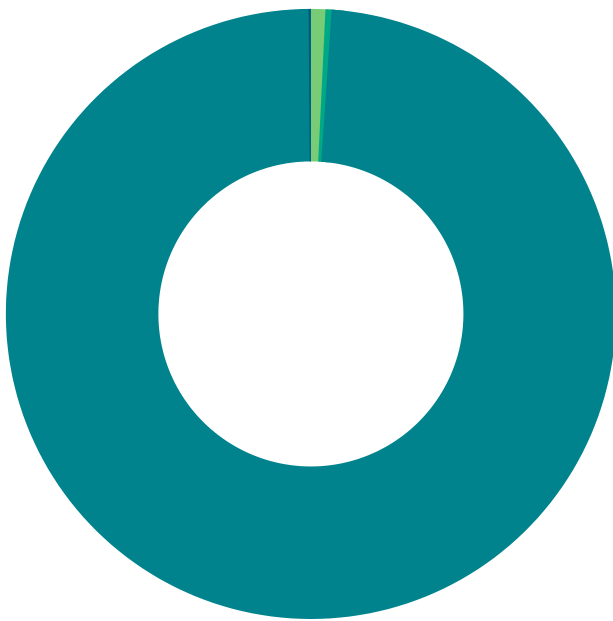
We cannot say "thank you" enough, but we will try!

THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!



Financials

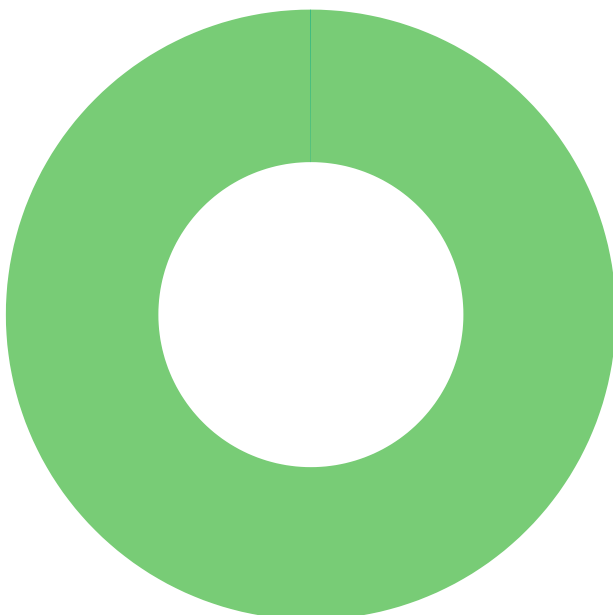
Figures below represent our most recent fiscal year ending December 31, 2020. We are incredibly grateful for the outpouring support from the community in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. With the help of our partners and the USDA, we received and distributed thousands of free food boxes. With this additional food, we focused our spending on specialty crops and other fresh foods to supplement the staples in each box. Thank you for your ongoing support!



OPERATING SUPPORT & REVENUE

\$60,581,346

In-Kind Food Donations (99%):	59,851,643
Individuals (<1%):	461,258
Foundations and Businesses (<1%):	194,945
Government Grants (<1%):	73,500



EXPENSES

\$59,601,122

Program (>99%):	59,584,531
Fundraising (<0.1%):	9,637
Administrative (<0.1%):	6,954

Thank you to our donors, supporters, and fellow non-profit partners for your support in 2020!

Board of Directors:

GEORGE AHEARN

Board Chairman, Co-Founder

JOHN KUNIN

Vice Chairman, Director of Business Development & Strategy

JULIA EAGAN

Board Member, Director of Development

CALEB FITZGERALD

Board Treasurer, Director of Finance
& Board Secretary (as of 2021)

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO DONATE TODAY
PLEASE GO TO
WWW.EASTWESTFOODRESCUE.ORG