

# Impact Update



Hello,

We're halfway through the fiscal year and excited to provide an update about what we've accomplished so far and what we're looking forward to in the months ahead.

Since September 2023, **Second Harvest has rescued 41.03 million lbs. of food.** In doing so, we averted **135 million lbs. of harmful greenhouse gases**, equivalent to removing **18,670 cars** from the road for a year.

But there's still so much ahead of us.

In December 2023, Second Harvest surveyed more than 1,400 non-profit organizations with charitable food programs across Canada and asked them to predict the demand for their services in 2024.

What we found is that these critical frontline organizations are expecting to see **more than 1 million new people in need of food in 2024**, and many are struggling to keep up.

Troublingly, we also found that **more than one-third of food charities are forced to turn people away** because they've run out of capacity, money or food, instead adding their names to growing waitlists.

The findings from this survey make it clear why our work is important.

Rescuing food is the right thing to do — to nourish our communities and protect the planet we call home — and your dedication to creating positive changes will continue to drive and inspire us.

In this mid-year impact report, you will see the tangible results of your support, hear from two of our non-profit partners, witness the lives changed and catch a glimpse of the future we are working towards together.

Without you, food rescue wouldn't be possible.

Sincerely,



Lori Nikkel, CEO, Second Harvest

# Impact Update



September  
2023 to  
February  
2024



4,600+ non-profit  
organizations supported



41.03 million pounds  
of food rescued  
**54% of the way towards  
our annual goal**



86% of food rescued  
was perishable



135 million pounds  
of GHGs averted



the environmental  
equivalent of 18,760 cars  
off the road for a year

## Cloverdale Community Kitchen builds a haven where everyone belongs

At Cloverdale Community Kitchen, staff and volunteers know every community member by name.

*“It goes a long way in making our community members know they matter to us,”  
Executive Director Marty Jones said.*

Through Second Harvest, the Surrey, BC-based non-profit receives fresh fruits, vegetables, proteins and milk for multiple programs, including a food bank accessed by about 5,000 individuals every week — many more are on the growing waitlist.

Using rescued food, they also prepare over a thousand hot meals a week for community meals onsite, seniors in the Mobile Meals program, as well as those experiencing homelessness staying in their temporary cold weather shelter.

This small team of 12, supported by an incredible group of volunteers, has made a remarkable impact on thousands of individuals every month. Cloverdale Community Kitchen is building a healthy and caring community where everyone feels they belong.

## Rosemarie Legault: “I like giving back to the community.”

Since 2012, Rosemarie Legault has been a client and a volunteer at Parkdale Community Food Bank, a non-profit partner in Second Harvest’s network in the GTA.

Together with other volunteer leads, Rosemarie oversees a team of 200 members. You can often find her at the food bank, dashing in and out, making sure the food is properly stored and the warehouse is clean and organized. Her infectious energy and crisp laugh keep the team in good spirits and the clients at ease. What drives her every day is “seeing the smiles on people’s faces when they can come here and get healthy stuff that they can’t afford anywhere else.”

These days, the food bank serves about 600 people a day, including seniors, students, and more recently, those who need a little extra to tide them over before the next paycheck.

In 2016, Rosemarie received the Sovereign’s Medal for Volunteers from the Governor General. It’s one of her proudest and most memorable achievements.

*“I like giving back to the community,” she said.*

## Upcoming Events:

**EUREKA! The California Wine Discovery | April 22, The Carlu, Toronto, ON**

Immerse yourself in the world of California wines! Swirl, sip and savour the rich flavours of over 400 wines from more than 100 California wineries. You’ll also be part of “California Wines on a Mission,” a special exhibit dedicated to climate action and the art of winemaking.

**The Second Harvest Truck Pull Challenge | May 15, Nathan Phillips Square, Toronto, ON**

Assemble a team to test your mettle against 20,000 pounds of metal or come cheer for your favourite team in this one-of-a-kind race in support of food rescue.