

# Marion-Polk Food Share 2014 Gratitude Report

*Leading the fight to end hunger... Because no one should be hungry.*



# *Message from the President*

Dear Friends,

With your support, over the last year Marion-Polk Food Share has been working to build a stronger community by feeding people. Community is built by providing emergency food boxes and community meals to those struggling with hunger. It is strengthened with community gardens that allow people to grow their own nutritious food, and with vocational training programs that help people develop job skills to find better employment. It is enriched with nutrition education programs that teach children and adults how to prepare and eat healthy food. All of these programs are tools in the strategy of ensuring that everyone has access to healthy, nutritious food every day.

We are grateful to the thousands of donors, supporters and volunteers who work toward the goal of ending hunger in our community. On behalf of the staff and board of Marion-Polk Food Share, thank you.

With gratitude,



Rick Gaupo  
President and CEO

*This is what you accomplished last year. Thank you!*



Provided 112,542 emergency food boxes.



Gave food to 16,000 children every month throughout Marion and Polk counties.



Served 621,324 meals at community meal sites.



More than 25,000 volunteers gave 200,000 hours of service.



Grew 172,036 pounds of fresh produce at the Food Share's Mill Creek Farm.



Supported fresh, healthy produce for families at 53 Community Gardens.

## How You've Helped

*“At our Wednesday night community dinner, a homeless man came in, soaked from the rain and also without shoes or socks. People who had been in line with him ran home and brought back shoes and men’s clothing. There was a big bag of shoes and clothing beside him by the time he was eating a warm, nutritious meal. We just provide the space and the warm meal, and the community does the rest.”*

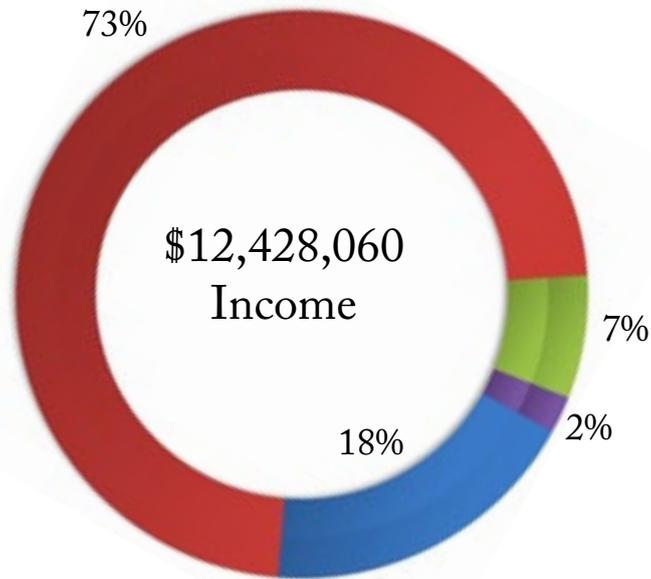
*– Pastor Steve Knox, First Christian Church in Silverton, a partner agency of Marion–Polk Food Share*



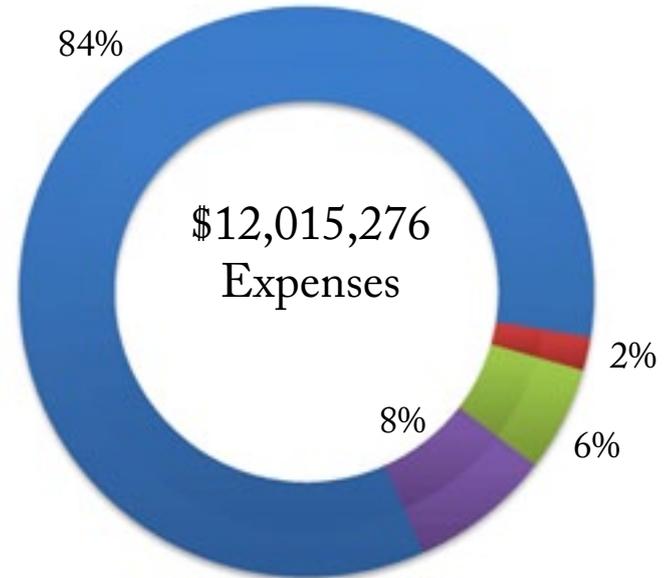
*“My kids and I moved out of the house with everything we owned in the trunk of our car. It was a domestic violence situation and we had to get out. Because of community organizations like Marion–Polk Food Share and their volunteers, I was able to get an apartment and an emergency food box. The kids ate first and then I ate what was left over.*

*Now we’re doing good. For the first time in a long time I have my own debit card, and I can manage my own life. I brought my daughter to volunteer at the Food Share to see the love and dedication of the volunteers who make sure that people can eat.” – Karen*

# *92% of donations go toward programs that end hunger*



- Donated and USDA Food
- Financial Donations
- Grants and Contracts
- Miscellaneous Revenue



- Programs - Food Acquisition and Distribution
- Administration and Fundraising
- Programs - Farm and Garden
- Programs - Food Purchasing

## Board of Directors

Mike Garrison - *Chair*  
Alex Beamer - *Vice Chair*  
Esther Puentes - *Secretary*  
Jim Green - *Treasurer*

Frances Alvarado  
Warren Bednarz  
John Burt  
George Happ  
Courtney Knox Busch

Bernadette Mele  
Cheryl Wells  
Dick Yates  
Dennis Young  
Eileen Zielinski



Marion·Polk  
**FOOD  
SHARE**

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