



# TABLE TABLE

IOWA'S ORIGINAL FOOD RESCUE ORGANIZATION



## Impact Report July 2020 - June 2021

### Letter from the Director

When I think of this past year and the challenges it presented, I keep coming back to an overwhelming sense of gratitude; gratitude to you, the staff, volunteers, and each of our partners. It's also difficult to summarize a year that feels like a decade, but I'm going to try.

We have learned a lot in our 25 years of operation, yet this year highlighted the challenges we face in fighting food insecurity. Most notably, how the inequalities in our food system are underpinned by structural racism and social inequality. It is a stark reminder that **this crisis existed long before the pandemic and that food waste is inextricably linked to equity.** As you'll read in this report, in partnership with the incredible hunger relief network, we found even more ways to reclaim resources and increase food access.

Partnerships are the foundation that enable us to act quickly, expand, and diversify the ways we meet the changing needs of our community. We found new sources for our most requested foods and delivered more of these resources to the agencies that are on the front lines of a once-in-a-generation national hunger crisis. **In a year when food was scarce and the need was greater than ever, Johnson County food pantries distributed more pounds of food per person than in the previous two years.**

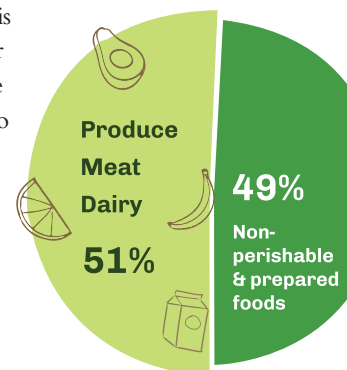
Our community understood that the first priority during a crisis is to make sure people are fed. Our daily work was made to do exactly this, feed our neighbors. To do this, we lean heavily on the collective power of people. You fueled our response – **you are why, despite continued uncertainty, we're in a position to serve our community for the months and years ahead.**

Let me express one more time gratefulness for our T2T team and the staff and volunteers of all our partners who work tirelessly. Their commitment was unbowed by the sustained adversity of this year. Their work, guided by their hearts, their creativity, and courage allowed us to innovate and lead. I am incredibly proud to see them do what sometimes seems impossible.

In gratitude,

*Nicki Ross*

Nicki Ross  
Executive Director



### Many thanks to T2T Board of Directors and staff:

#### Board of Directors

**Christy Fehlberg**, Chair  
**Shawn Meaney**, Vice-Chair  
**David Frisvold**, Treasurer  
**Michelle Croft**, Secretary  
**Amelia Akers**  
**Laura Burkamper**  
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**Allie Gnade**

**John Greve**  
**Kaily Hoard**  
**Howard Horan**  
**Tom Jepson**  
**Molly Johnson**  
**Will Keen**  
**Patty Meier**  
**Renee Smith-LaBarge**

#### Staff

**Frank Lalor**, Founder and recently-retired food rescuer  
**Nicki Ross**, Executive Director  
**Emily Meister**, Program Manager  
**Jared Long**, Volunteer Coordinator  
**Ezra Schley**, Program Coordinator  
**Steve Noack**, Part-time Program Assistant  
**Anne Langebartels**, Communications & Development Coordinator  
**Celia Eckermann**, Part-time Bookkeeper

#### AmeriCorps Members

**Joey Aulino**  
**Jake Campbell**  
**Alex Courtney**  
**Cheyenne Davis**  
**Nora Garda**  
**Isabel Hogg**  
**Jayne Meacham** (Iowa Gleaning Network)  
**Bella Myers**

*and to the 350 volunteers who served more than 20,000 hours this year.*

### Celebrating 25 years

Keep an eye out for our 25-year report, packed with Table to Table's history, growth, and new initiatives, coming in 2022!



### Rescue food with us:

[www.table2table.org/volunteers](http://www.table2table.org/volunteers)

### Donate to the cause:

[www.table2table.org/donateonline](http://www.table2table.org/donateonline)





## 2020-21 YEAR IN REVIEW

Table to Table has been called to support our neighbors in more ways through the pandemic, a natural disaster, and the challenges of a new normal.

### New collaborations help meet a growing need

We collaborated with new partners to respond to pandemic-related disruptions in the food system so we could meet the growing needs of our neighbors. Our collaboration with Lineage Logistics has proven essential in storing large donations of frozen meat and cold foods at their facility, which we then delivered to partners when they had space available or there was increased demand.



New partner **Hansen's Dairy** delivered more than **28,000 lbs.** of dairy to T2T last year.



Donations from new food processing and transport partners have helped us **increase meat donations this year by 27%.**



Through collaboration with Vegan Food Aid, LULAC, and Food Forward, in one week T2T distributed **40,000 pounds of produce.**



T2T coordinated **43 food box distribution events** with **26 recipient partners.** Together we delivered enough food for **100,000 meals.**

### Neighborhood pop-ups reduce barriers to access

Collaborating with partner organizations for pop-up events reached underserved neighborhoods by delivering food close to where people live and work, improving equity in food access.

### T2T responds swiftly to the derecho disaster

Volunteers and staff mobilized in an unprecedented response to the August 2020 derecho. We used our refrigerated fleet to keep food cold for partners, hosted pop-up pantries for organizations with no power, and delivered tens of thousands of pounds of food to hard-hit Cedar Rapids.

### Local produce recovery grows with your support

T2T increased access to nutrient-dense fresh fruits and veggies with expanded farm gleaning and garden recovery initiatives. Gardeners donate homegrown produce and volunteer gleaners harvest excess crops from farms. Deliveries of these harvests were especially welcomed by hunger relief partners.

**11,735 lbs. of fruits and veggies** from local gardens and farms were delivered in summer 2020. We're on track to collect **5 times** as much produce this summer.

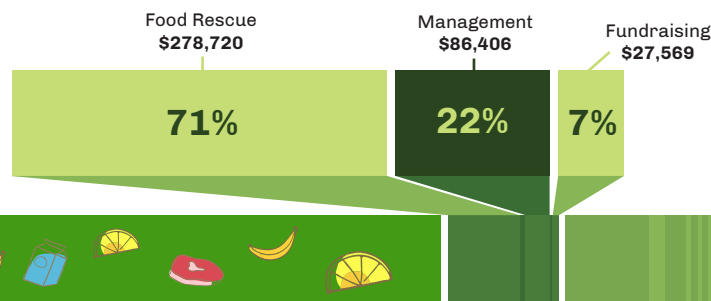
## 7Y21 Financials\*

July 2020-June 2021

# \$6,023,208

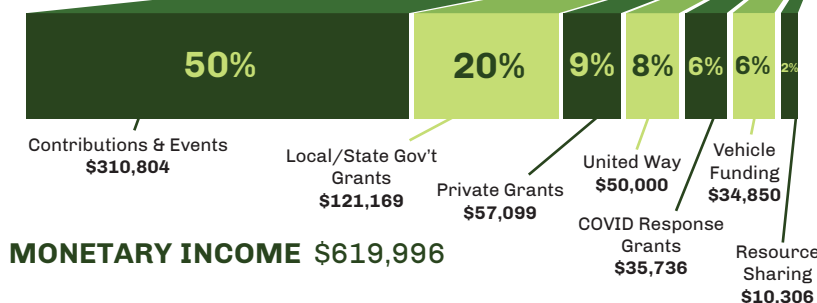
value of the food rescued this year from 100+ donors

### OPERATING COST TO RESCUE 2.2 MILLION LBS. OF FOOD \$392,695



Thanks to the generous and unprecedented support of our community last year, Table to Table will be able to invest in the future of our critical services. More than 50% of the 2020-21 increase in donations came from unexpected and one-time sources. We will invest these funds in a more robust operating reserve and use this revenue as matching funds for infrastructure like our relocation and new food donation and logistics software. All of this will ensure a healthy and productive future for Table to Table and the hunger relief network in Johnson County.

\*Unaudited financials



**MONETARY INCOME \$619,996**

Note our new address!