

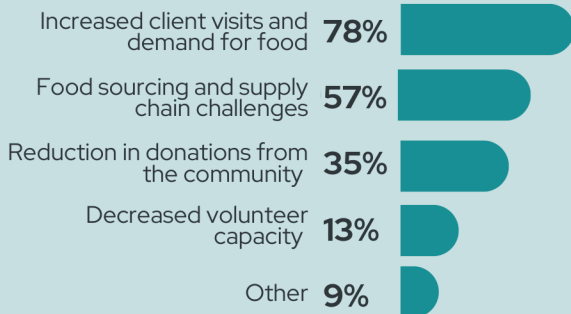
2024 WESTERN WISCONSIN Food Pantry Survey



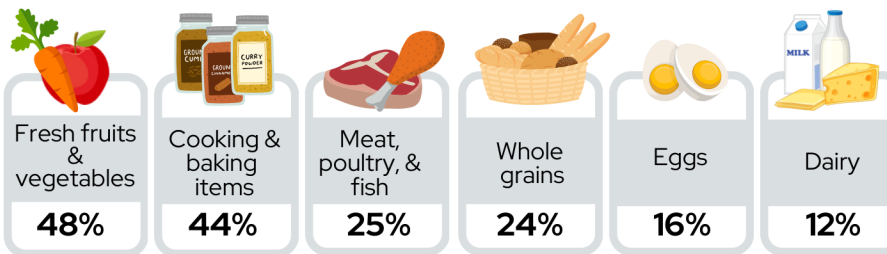
WE HEARD FROM **23** FOOD PANTRY MANAGERS

The 2024 Western Wisconsin Food Pantry Survey provides a critical opportunity to gather feedback from individuals visiting food pantries and food pantry managers in Pierce, Polk, and St. Croix Counties. These voices have the ability to inform food pantry services and hunger relief system priorities. Key insights point to the current strengths, challenges, and needs for further investment in this essential community asset. Manager surveys were conducted in November and December of 2023.

COMMON CHALLENGES REPORTED BY MANAGERS



HOW OFTEN THESE FOODS WERE OFTEN OR ALWAYS AVAILABLE FROM FOOD BANKS



IMPACT OF REDUCED USDA COMMODITY FOOD AMOUNTS (TEFAP)



CURRENT WAYS FOOD PANTRIES ARE OFFERING FOOD



CULTURALLY SPECIFIC FOODS AVAILABLE

Dried beans, rice, flours, spices, produce, and other cooking items

For more information, visit <https://stcroix.extension.wisc.edu/western-wisconsin-food-pantry-survey/>

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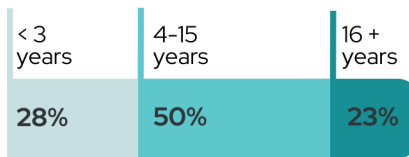
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VARIABILITY IN PROGRAM LONGEVITY, STAFFING, AND INFRASTRUCTURE CAN IMPACT CAPACITY

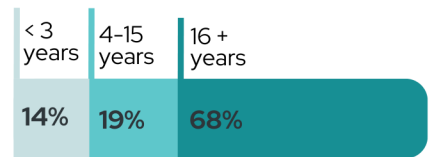
NUMBER OF PAID STAFF AT FOOD PROGRAM



YEARS MANAGER HAS BEEN AT FOOD PROGRAM



YEARS FOOD PROGRAM HAS BEEN OPERATING

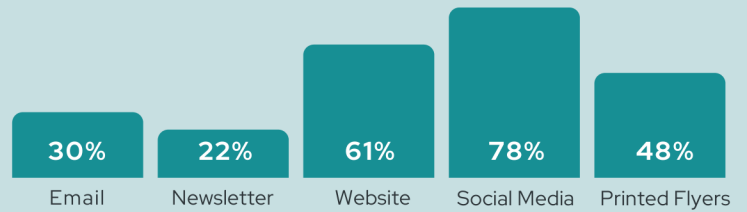


FOOD PANTRY INFRASTRUCTURE

61%
have an annual budget to purchase food

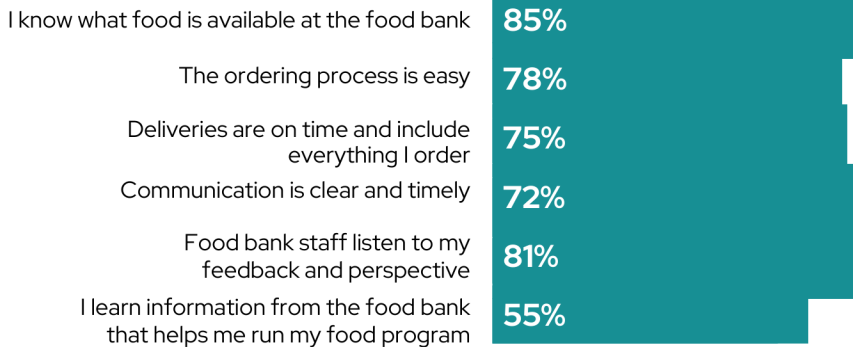
100%
have a stable location to provide food resources to the community

COMMUNICATION PLATFORMS



FOOD BANKS PLAY AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN FOOD SOURCING AND INFORMATION EXCHANGE.

PERCENTAGE OF MANAGERS THAT AGREE OR STRONGLY AGREE WITH THESE STATEMENTS



54%

Use retail grocery stores if unable to source from the food bank.

13%

Do not have the resources available to purchase items if unable to source from the food bank.

MORE IS NEEDED FOR FOOD PANTRIES TO SUSTAIN AND EXPAND FOOD ACCESS.

INFRASTRUCTURE NEEDS

1. More cooler capacity
2. More freezer capacity
3. Vehicles to move and distribute food
4. New location for this food program

TIME AND FUNDING NEEDS

1. Increased donors and fundraising
2. More volunteers and volunteer roles
3. More board engagement
4. Increased community support and engagement

EXPERTISE NEEDS

1. Fundraising support and strategies
2. Inventory management
3. Volunteer management
4. Food sourcing strategies
5. Succession plan
6. Marketing and Strategic Planning

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