

IMPACT REPORT

Partner Impact & Innovation Grants



Blue Ridge Area

FOOD BANK



AUGUST 2025

With Dignity and Purpose: Strengthening the Hunger Relief Network

Partner Impact & Innovation grants directly connect generous donors and the frontline partners who serve our neighbors every day. Through this annual program, food pantries, soup kitchens, shelters, and nutrition program partners access critical support to better serve their guests. Some grants support participation in the Health Pantry Initiative, a movement that guides pantries to implement more health-focused and neighbor-centered practices.

Thanks to donor support, since 2016 we've invested **more than \$5.3 million** in building the capacity and resilience of the food distribution network. Your donation fuels these investments, helping partners provide more food, with greater nutritional value, to more people. Together, we're building a more efficient, sustainable, and impactful hunger relief network.

An example of your generosity in action is currently in use at Park View Community Mission (Lynchburg). The addition of an electric pallet jack will make a significant difference in efficiency and operations.

"We are thankful for [donor] support," shared Heather Gibson, director of Food for Families (Park View's food pantry). **"Without the Blue Ridge Area Food Bank, we wouldn't be able to serve the many families who come to us for a dignified shopping experience at the food pantry."**

The heartfelt gratitude of our partners—and the meaningful outcomes they achieve for our neighbors—continually renew our confidence in this initiative and strengthen our long-term commitment.



“

"The prices are too high in the grocery store to even be able to get eggs, meat, and milk... I'm just so grateful to have the food pantries available. They are wonderful to be able to go and get what we need."

*- Tabitha, Guest
Park View Community
Mission, Lynchburg*

Serving your community through one of four distribution centers located in Charlottesville, Lynchburg, Winchester, and Verona (headquarters).



**FLIP TO SEE
YOUR IMPACT**



Partner Impact & Innovation Grants: Impact at a Glance

2025



72 applicants received an award.



83% of applicants received an award.



\$326,398 disbursed in 2025.

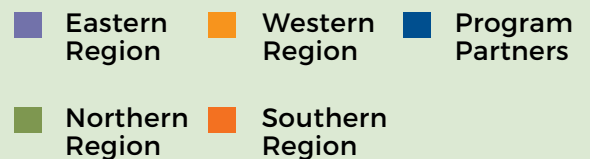
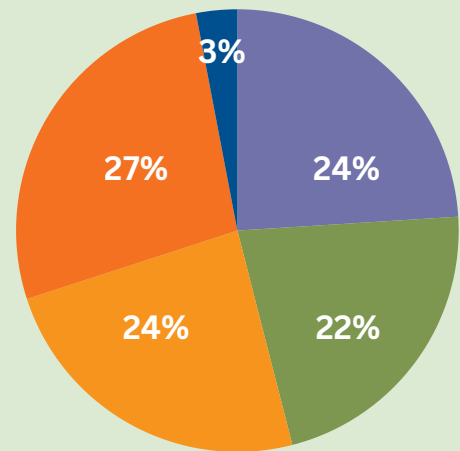


Healthy Pantry Initiative: Building Capacity and Improving the Health and Well-Being of Guests

Food pantries can opt-in to participate in the Healthy Pantry Initiative (HPI), and this year, with funding from donors, **63 of all awardees received a grant** to support their work specifically in one of four HPI categories: food availability, community connection, health education, and neighbor-centered practices.

Examples of awards include commercial coolers, freezers, shopping carts, awnings, tables, sheds, and technology upgrades, including translation tools to help volunteers connect and communicate with guests.

Awards disbursed by region



"We are able to give so much, to so many. Thank you for helping us to help others."

- Cheryl, Candlelight Ministries

Candlelight Ministries, an HPI Pantry, was granted a new trailer to facilitate deliveries to more than 900 rural seniors and families per month.

Thank you for your support!

540.248.3663 | www.brafb.org | info@brafb.org