

# 2022

# MINNESOTA FOOD SHELF SURVEY



**WE HEARD FROM**

**260** **FOOD SHELF MANAGERS**

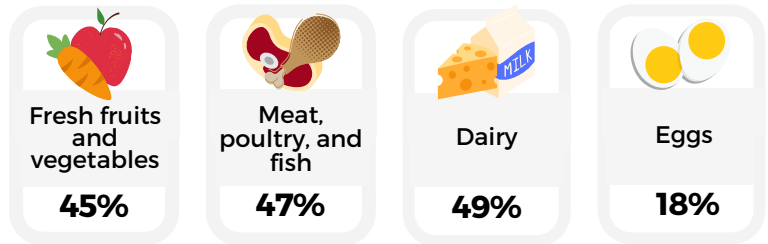
2022 was a time of continued stress from the COVID-19 pandemic, record-setting food shelf visits and challenging food sourcing. In this context, food shelf leaders prioritized capturing client feedback and sharing their own experiences through statewide surveys. Key insights point to the current strengths, challenges and needs for further investment in this essential community asset.

## FOOD SHELVES MAINTAINED FOOD ACCESS DESPITE SIGNIFICANT CHALLENGES.

### COMMON CHALLENGES REPORTED BY MANAGERS



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



### YEAR-ROUND PRODUCE



of managers can provide fresh produce year-round.

### IMPACT OF REDUCED USDA COMMODITY FOOD AVAILABILITY

**65%**

reported increased food costs.

**56%**

reported decreased food variety.

**51%**

reported decreased amount of food offered.

## MANY FOOD SHELVES INTEGRATED PREVIOUS CLIENT INSIGHTS INTO THEIR WORK.



### 2019 MINNESOTA FOOD SHELF CLIENT SURVEY RESULTS



BROUGHT TO YOU IN  
COLLABORATION BY:



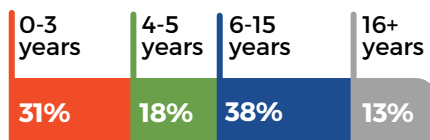
For more information, visit <https://www.supershelfmn.org/minnesota-statewide-survey>.

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

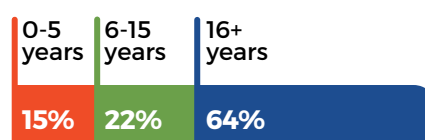
### NUMBER OF PAID STAFF AT FOOD PROGRAM



### YEARS MANAGER HAS BEEN AT FOOD PROGRAM



### YEARS FOOD PROGRAM HAS BEEN OPERATING



## FOOD SHELF INFRASTRUCTURE



99% have a stable location.



76% have an annual budget to purchase food.



72% have a website.

## SERVICE MODELS

Comments across multiple questions point to evolving choice and hybrid food models that creatively increase food access and decrease barriers.

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

### PERCENTAGE OF MANAGERS THAT AGREE OR STRONGLY AGREE WITH THESE STATEMENTS



25% I wish my food bank offered more frequent deliveries.



83% My food shelf is satisfied with my regional food bank.

## MORE IS NEEDED FOR FOOD SHELVES TO SUSTAIN AND EXPAND FOOD ACCESS.

### INFRASTRUCTURE NEEDS

1. More cooler capacity
2. More freezer capacity
3. Vehicles to move and distribute food
4. Expanded space for the food program

### TIME AND FUNDING NEEDS

1. Increased donors and fundraising
2. More volunteers
3. More paid staff
4. Increased community support and engagement

### EXPERTISE NEEDS

1. Fundraising support, including grant writing
2. Food sourcing strategies
3. Volunteer management
4. Marketing my program and impact