



**PIERCE COUNTY
HUNGER PREVENTION COUNCIL**
WE GO BEYOND THE FOOD

ANNUAL REPORT

2024



(715) 273 - 2070

440 N Maple St. Ellsworth, WI

hungerpreventioncouncil.com

MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT AND PANTRY COORDINATOR

Dear Friends,

Reflecting on 2024, we are immensely thankful for the remarkable support from our community, the tireless volunteers, and the generous donations that help families throughout Pierce County. Households facing food insecurity continue to depend on our local food pantries and community assistance programs to fulfill their nutritional needs. In 2024, food pantries in Pierce County experienced a surge in demand, achieving a ten-year high with over 11,822 visits across the county. The Pierce County Food Pantry in Ellsworth also recorded an increase in visits this year.

Our council has maintained its monthly meetings to identify ways to share resources and improve food access. We have set several goals for 2025 focused on enhancing our services and addressing client needs. Our garden enjoyed another successful growing season, and we remain dedicated to educating the community about local food access issues and opportunities.

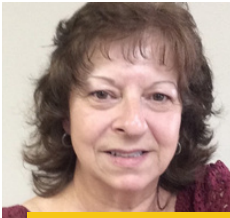
A heartfelt thank you to our community and partners for ensuring The Hunger Prevention Council is well-stocked with food, resources, and collaborations that make our community stronger than ever!

With gratitude,

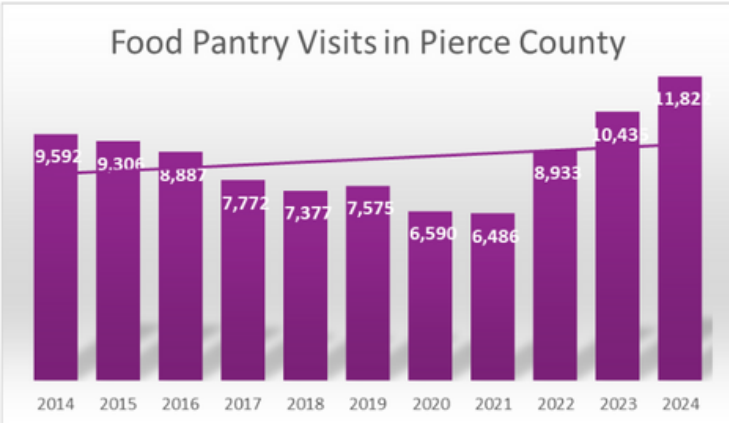
Kathleen Hunzer and Heidi Albarado



KATHLEEN HUNZER
Board President



HEIDI ALBARADO
Pantry Coordinator



PIERCE COUNTY FOOD PANTRY (IN ELLSWORTH), ELMWOOD, PLUM CITY, PRESCOTT, RIVER FALLS, AND SPRING VALLEY FOOD PANTRIES HAD 11,822 VISITS IN 2024.



ABOUT US

The Hunger Prevention Council of Pierce County, Inc. (HPC) is a non-profit organization established in 1999 to tackle the inconsistent responses to hunger throughout Pierce County.

HPC holds regular meetings focused on combating hunger and enhancing access to nutritious food throughout Pierce County. Although the Pierce County Food Pantry in Ellsworth operates as a program of HPC, the other food pantries in the area maintain their independence. The Council provides these pantries and other organizations dedicated to reducing hunger in Pierce County with a distinctive opportunity to collaborate, attract donations, implement programs, and share resources.

OFFICERS

Kathleen Hunzer - President
Freddy's Pantry Director, UWRF

Brittany Mora - Vice President
Pierce County Public Health

Kent Brittain - Treasurer
Concerned Citizen

Daric Snyder - Secretary
Concerned Citizen

DIRECTORS

Betsy Byker
United Way St. Croix Valley

Kathi Jensen
Pierce County Food Pantry Volunteer

Katie Bartko
UW-Madison Division of Extension,
Pierce, Polk & St. Croix Counties

Sue Galoff
Elmwood Food Pantry Volunteer

HPC PROGRAMS, EVENTS, AND OUTREACH

Pierce County Food Pantry

Our food pantry is open to residents from all school districts within Pierce County, regardless of whether they reside in Ellsworth. This arrangement offers families additional hours of operation and the added privacy that comes from visiting a location outside their hometown.



Facilitate Monthly Council Meetings

This is a chance for all food pantries that serve Pierce County residents, along with concerned citizens and representatives from other food programs, to come together. They can discuss challenges related to food access, brainstorm potential solutions, and plan community education and outreach events.



Diaper Distribution

Free diapers are distributed from the Pierce County Food Pantry in partnership with United Way St. Croix Valley.



Cheese Curd Festival

Pierce County Food Pantry volunteers worked at the annual event in Ellsworth through their volunteer program. Donations from the event were used to support the food pantry.

Ron Campbell Garden

Since its establishment in 2019, the garden has been a source of fresh fruits and vegetables for food pantry participants, while also serving as a hands-on learning space for community gardening. Pantry participants value the quality and variety of produce, and volunteers have observed that the garden yields superior produce compared to other sources. Educational sessions covering nutrition and gardening topics are conducted in the garden. We are grateful to our supporters, including UW-Madison Division of Extension Growing Together, St. Croix Valley Master Gardener Association, and the Henkel Foundation.



Red Wing Shoe donated a new garden shed!

DATA HIGHLIGHT

2024 WESTERN WISCONSIN FOOD PANTRY SURVEY

Board member Katie Bartko and her team at the UW-Madison Division of Extension, covering Pierce, Polk, and St. Croix Counties, collected data to gain deeper insights into the experiences of food pantry participants. This effort aims to help identify program priorities. The results of these surveys have been shared with all pantries and are instrumental in shaping future plans.

You can access the reports and the Safe and Healthy Food Pantry Project resource at stcroix.extension.wisc.edu/western-wisconsin-food-pantry-survey/.



Financial Highlights

The Hunger Prevention Council of Pierce County, Inc. (HPC) is a non-profit organization formed in 1999 to address inconsistent responses to hunger across Pierce County.

All donations made to the Hunger Prevention Council are tax deductible as allowed by law.



Support and Revenue	2024	2023
Direct Public Support and Fundraising	\$90,398	\$71,266
Government Contributions	\$15,281	\$16,910
Grants	\$31,186	\$39,883
Miscellaneous	\$540	\$1,123
Total Income	\$137,405	\$129,182
Expenses		
Food	\$43,696	\$44,440
Operations	\$13,876	\$13,496
Staff and Contractors	\$34,326	\$36,784
Facilities and Equipment	\$27,453	\$39,162
Distributed to other Pierce County Food Pantries	\$7,099	\$9,798
Total Expenses	\$126,450	\$143,680

2024 Fiscal Year Donors

We would like to extend a thank you to all the individuals, businesses, organizations, and foundations in our community that generously supported the Hunger Prevention Council and our Pierce County Food Pantry!



**DONATE
TODAY**

- Become a Business Sponsor
- Become a 'Go Beyond' Monthly Giver
- Give a One-Time Donation
- Donate Fresh Garden Produce
- Host a Food Drive