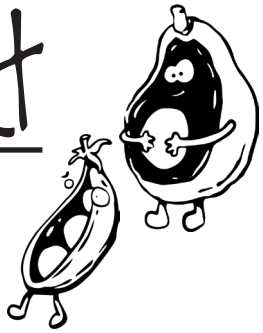


The Harvest Report

Mother Hubbard's Cupboard 2024 Annual Report • Feb. 2025



Friends,

Recent data released by the USDA shows that for another year, rates of food insecurity have increased across the country. Households with children are more likely to fall into food insecurity than those without children, and Indigenous, Black, or Hispanic families are more likely to experience food insecurity than others in our communities. While the cost of daily essentials–from housing to groceries–increases for all of us, we're thankful that so many of you chose to invest in more equitable access to food for our community. We're especially grateful that you chose to invest your resources with us, as we work to ensure families have not only the food they need, but the resources, skills, and community that cultivate lasting food security.

The result of these investments is powerful relationships, and I want to highlight one example from a partnership we deepened in 2024. While we have long done collaborative programming with the Monroe County Public Library, since the opening of their southwest branch, we have been doing youth-friendly workshops in their teaching kitchen each month. Several individuauls we met there are now regulars in other Hub programming, and one youth has become a staple member of our kitchen workshop community. He is passionate about growing his skills and aims to be a chef one day. How appropriate, then, that our first workshop of 2025 to have a guest facilitator was led by this young chef, who moved into the role of expert in the kitchen for the first time as he taught us how to make banana bread.

When we give individuals space to show up as their whole selves, make barriers to programming low, and celebrate all we have to offer, we begin seeing the skills we have as assets for our community. These are the moments we treasure in our programming, at all ages. We look forward to learning more about your own skills, interests, and passions this year. What are you hoping to learn in this new year? What are you hoping to share?

If you're receiving this, you helped make all that is in this report possible. Thank you! It's a deep honor to be in this work of community-building and sharing with you. I hope you'll join us for a meal at Dig & Dine, a workshop in the kitchen, or a seed swap at the libary. We'd love to see you.

We have also included an envelope with this report. As you review this annaul report, I wonder if now is a moment when you could consider joining our Harvest Team, the community of donors who make recurring contributions–often monthly–to provide stable, predictable income for our work? Thanks to our Harvest Team, we're able to show up day after day to increase equitable access to food and work toward a more just food system. Can you join us?

With gratitude,

Megan Betz
CEO and President

Our Team

Board of Directors
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Mary McInerney
Sean McInerney, *Treasurer*
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Outreach Coordinator
Megan Betz
CEO and President
Siddharth Das
Garden Coordinator
Sam Glidewell
Operations Manager
Mercury McGill
Administrative Assistant
Georgia O'Connor
Youth Garden Educator
Erika Wheeler
Development Director

A landmark year

Several moments made 2024 a year with a lasting legacy, and we look forward to its impact extending into the new year.

We shared our first ever cookbook, *Cooking Through the Seasons*, and got to share recipe samples with you at Gather, Morgenstern Books, and the Hub. We can't wait to hear which recipes become your favorites.

We hosted at least one workshop with our community partners each month. Partnerships brought us out to the Monroe County Library's teaching kitchen and enabled us to give away bags of groceries in workshops sponsored by Indy Hunger Network's Cooking Matters program. These partnerships continue in 2025.

Finally, thank you to donors who together raised more than $25,000 and a matching gift from the Community Foundation of Bloomington and Monroe County, we now have the Mother Hubbard's Cupboard Endowment. This account will grow with us, offering a new, stable, and ever increasing source of funds for our work.



Outreach Coordinator Liz leads a persimmon workshop in MCPL's teaching kitchen.

Thank you for investing in food justice

This year, we extend our thanks to some special groups that did more than ever for the Hub in 2024.

Thank you volunteers. Your time investment makes our programming consistent, reliable, and welcoming.

Thank you to our Harvest Team members. Your recurring contributions totaled $53,000 last year. That's over $4,000 of stable income each month.

Thank you to the local growers who filled our pantry with fresh produce, including the tons (and tons) delivered via our partners at Farm to Family Fund and the farm partners who sold their produce to us through the Farmer Support Initiative this year: Barnhouse Farms, Blue Hour Farm, Outlier Farm, People's Cooperative Market, Seven Ridges, and Three Flock Farm.

Thank you to our Gala sponsors, who together raised $13,500 to support our educational programming. Sponsors included Baked!, Bill C. Brown Associates, Bloomington Insurance Agency, Boston Scientific, Budget Blinds of Columbus - Bloomington & Martinsville, Catalent, Celebrating the Spectrum, Center for Thriving Relationships, Cook Medical, Deep Roots Landscape Design, Dermatology Center of Southern Indiana, Dr. Houser Family Eyecare at Sam's Club Optical, Duke Energy, INIT Consulting, IU Credit Union, IU Health, Jazzercise Bloomington, Loren Wood Builders, Morgenstern Books, Morrow's Termite & Pest Control, Old National Bank, The Bomba Stallsmith Rabadi Group at Baird, and the Uplands Network of the Hoosier Chapter of the Sierra Club.

Financial summary

We are thankful to be primarily funded by our local community through individual and local grant support. Thank you! A few notes:

Included in income for 2024 are two gifts, totalling $70,000, designated for programmatic support in 2025. Funds raised in and for 2024 more accurately equal $567,857.30.

This financial overview is designed to be a snapshot of activity in our accounts and does not figure in the in-kind contributions of our community members or our remarkable partners at Hoosier Hills Food Bank and Farm to Family Fund, who each contribute hundreds of thousands of food at no cost, keeping our own food purchasing low. In fact, over $50,000 of the food purchasing seen here went directly to local farmers.

This snapshot also does not account for the over $50,000 now invested in our Endowment.

Income

Individual contributions	$298,511.18	47%
Grants	$252,258.32	40%
Special events	$84,404.51	13%
Other	$2,683.29	<1%
Total	**$637,857.30**	

Expenses

Personnel	$338,590.11	61%
Program	$47,917.33	9%
Food purchasing	$84,669.17	15%
Fundraising	$21,873.12	4%
Org. expenses	$63,678.66	11%
Total	**$556,728.39**	

What we accomplished together in 2024



The pantry served 101,361 duplicated individuals (an average of nearly 2,000 per week). This was made possible by 3,365 volunteer hours. We purchased $54,000 of local produce, bringing over 7,000 pounds into the pantry thanks to Indiana Department of Health funds.



The Tool Share offered 184 loans with yard care tools being far and away the most used items. Thank you to our interns and donors who helped revitalize the yard care offerings through new additions and maintenance this year!



We shared 3,300 seed packets during our major distribution push in spring and grew over 4,500 plants for the community. We welcomed a new crew of garden volunteers and revamped signage to support more harvesting.



We shared recipes from our favoriite blogs, TikTok creators, and community members, and cookbooks. We revamped the recipe collection in the pantry. Bring your favorite recipe to add to the community collection!



We hosted 52 workshops, swaps, and recipe demonstrations serving over 600 individuals. Over 20 of these educational opporutnities were taught by community members, including farm partners, Hub volunteers, program regulars, podcast hosts, and bakers.



We supported over 1,200 youth across more than 100 educational opportunities that included drop-ins like Kids Cook and partnershps with youth-serving organizations.

Mother Hubbard's Cupboard
1100 W. Allen St.
Bloomington, IN 47403

Food Pantry
Tuesday through Thursday
12 to 6 pm

Follow us!

Mother Hubbard's Cupboard

@MHCfoodpantry

United Way
Member Agency

our Mission: Mother Hubbard's Cupboard increases access to healthy food for all people in need in ways that cultivate dignity, agency, and community.

our Vision: At Mother Hubbard's Cupboard we envision a community in which everyone has equal access to nutritious food, waste is minimized, and all members are healthy and empowered to reach their goals.

special thanks to our community partners

Barnhouse Farm, Blue Hour Farm, Closing the Hunger Gap, Farm to Family Fund, Hoosier Hills Food Bank, Indy Hunger Network, Monroe County Public Library, Monroe County Humane Society, Outlier Farmstead, People's Cooperative Market, Sacred Heart Church, Seven Ridges Farm, Three Flock Farm, and United Way of South Central IN

Hub Happenings



Volunteer orientations: Drop in for a one-hour introduction to our services and pantry volunteer opportunities, a first step to volunteering in our pantry. Upcoming orientations are Feb. 18 at 5 pm, March 6 at 5 pm, or March 18 at 1 pm.

Kids Cook: Drop into the kitchen classroom at 4:30 each Wednesday for this set-aside time for the kids. They'll learn kitchen skills while preparing a seasonal recipe, then enjoy the finish product and reflect on what they've made.

Find us at MCPL: We're in the public library's teaching kitchen once each month for a community cooking class. Visit their website to register for these popular workshops. Upcoming workshops include "Using the Whole Plant" and "Food Preservation and Storage." We will also duplicate these workshops at the Hub, so you have double the chance to join in!

If you would no longer like to receive the *Harvest Report*, email development@mhcfoodpantry.org. Please include in the subject line, "Unsubscribe to Harvest Report," as well as the first and last names on the mailing label.