Dear Friends,

This past year has been the best yet at The River! We do say that every year, but it’s true. Every year that we spend providing more nutritious food to more people who need a helping hand is a great year for us!

The River was 11 years old in March of 2017. It’s truly amazing to witness how much we have been able to accomplish since 2006. The River is the busiest food pantry in Dane County, and every year there are significant increases in the number of people who access our services. Currently, The River distributes over 48,000 pounds of food to about 650 households and serves 500+ hot meals on a weekly basis. 39% of the people that benefit from the food pantry are children.

Childhood hunger has become more and more of a concern since we opened The River 11 years ago. Consequently, a new program was added last June to provide lunches to children and teens on non-school days and on weekends. The new mobile lunch program helps address that need and has quickly become very popular with struggling families. For the first quarter of 2017 we are handing out over 2300 lunches a month to children and teens. We anticipate growing this program to more neighborhoods in 2017.

Last year stands out from the others also because we made the decision to begin the process of hiring an experienced Executive Director. It is very important to us that The River is sustainable for as long as there are hungry people in Dane County. We also want to position The River to continue to grow and offer more food assistance more efficiently to more people. There is so much more yet to be done.

It was both an honor and humbling experience for us when dozens of very qualified people showed an interest in leading The River into the future. One applicant truly stood out from the rest. We are very pleased to introduce Charles McLimans as our new Executive Director.

We are excited about how The River is positioned for the future! We are excited about our new roles working with Charles. We plan to continue to serve The River indefinitely and all of us are committed to the mission of providing mercy and hope to those struggling to put food on their table.

We are extremely grateful for all the support from so many over the last 11 years and we look forward to deepening partnerships with you for many years to come.

Sincerely,

Andy & Jenny Czerkas
As Jenny and Andy stated 2016 has been a great year at The River with programming enhancements and recruiting of The River’s first Executive Director! I agree with The River Founders that there is so much more to do in our community – more individuals and more families that can benefit from more pantry sessions, expanding MUNCH to more neighborhoods, more refrigeration to support the growing demands of food storage and transportation and of course, more space! All of this will take the work and support of many. We know that all of this is possible. The past 11 years is living proof of what great people coming together for a great cause can do!

In order to accomplish more, we need to enhance the foundation of The River starting with the Board of Directors. This past year we completed the first phase of transitioning to a governance board that focuses on ensuring policies, decision making and oversight are in place. In addition, board members serve on one of two working committees that focus on supporting the operational or the development needs of the organization. In 2017, the board will execute the second phase to further its fundraising efforts. This enhanced board structure allows the board to expand to more directors, more areas of expertise and more diversity that translates into more relationships and more opportunities for The River.

In the second half of 2017, Charles McLimans, The River’s first Executive Director will lead a strategic planning process. An important part of that process will be to meet and get feedback from stakeholders – you, our clients, employees, neighbors and area businesses. The outcome of the strategic planning process will provide us a clear and concise way to articulate the vision and strategy for The River in the near and long term.

With all of these changes happening, some may question if The River will still be true to the original mission. Rest assured that everyone, those of us new to the organization and those who have been here since the beginning, are working together at identifying and preserving what makes up the great culture at The River. This is vital work so that we can continue to “River-ize” everyone that comes to The River.

I am truly honored and humbled to be part of The River. It is so inspiring to see the work that happens day in and day out at The River. It could not be done without the tireless support of our donors, volunteers, employees and board. Thank you!
The River Food Pantry served 841 more families in 2016 from 2015.

- **31,446** total household visits in 2016
- **10,400** packed lunches distributed to children and teens at north side neighborhoods on non-school days
- **2.3 Million** pounds of food distributed
- **27,060** community meals served
- **$826,988** worth of clothing, furniture and household items distributed
**SUPPORT AND REVENUE IN 2016**

- **Donated Goods and Services**: $4,118,403
- **General Contribution**: $817,308
- **Fundraising Income**: $9,979
- **Bakery Sales**: $16,858
- **Less: Cost of Goods Sold**: ($3,956)
- **Special Event Income**: $14,215
- **Interest Income**: $873
- **Total**: $4,981,894

**EXPENSES IN 2016**

- **Food Pantry**: $4,762,446
- **Bakery Program**: $23,355
- **Management and General**: $82,105
- **Fundraising**: $88,222
- **Total**: $4,956,128

**Program Services**
- **2016 Expenses**: 96.5%
- **Fundraising**: 1.8%
- **Management and General**: 1.7%

**2016 Contributions**
- **Individuals**: 55%
  - Foundations: 22%
  - Businesses: 13%
  - Churches: 5%
  - Service Groups: 5%
- **3% in administrative costs which means**
- **97 cents of every dollar goes to programs and services**
The River operates on the generous support of time by hundreds of dedicated volunteers. It’s a feeling of satisfaction, a sense of fulfillment. From church groups, business groups, Badger volunteers, individuals and organizations, we truly appreciate all the hours they spend helping The River Food Pantry.

Volunteers are vital to our mission

Volunteers donated 40,810 hours of service in 2016 valued at $941,078.60*

That’s the equivalence of 20 full time employees!

* $23.06/hour estimated value
Latest figure from Independent Sector
In June 2016, The River launched a mobile lunch program, referred to as MUNCH. With the help of volunteers, lunches are prepared at The River Food Pantry kitchen every Saturday morning. The packed lunches are then distributed to children and teenagers directly in north side neighborhoods. Neighborhoods selected have high rates of poverty and minimal to no resources. MUNCH has expanded to six north side neighborhoods and distributed 10,400 lunches in 2016.

In honor of serving the community for ten years, The River Food Pantry partnered with Madison Originals and hosted a local tasting event. Attendees raised a glass, raised spirits, and raised awareness. Feed The Need raised over $20,000 which provided healthy food for the pantry and for MUNCH.

The River also hosted the 7th annual Harvest Dinner for Hunger in October and raised over $45,000.
2016 Monetary Donations

$10,000 and more
American Family Insurance
Dreams Foundation
Blackhawk Evangelical Free Church
Cremer Foundation
Doug & Norma Madsen
Housing Ministries of American Baptists in WI
Jenny & Andy Czerkas
Lynn & Abigail Christiansen
Madison Community Foundation
Michael Ross & Marita Menard
Monsanto Foundation
Roundy’s Foundation
Steve Striker American Family Insurance Foundation
The Eric D Hove & Steven D Hove Foundation
The Evjue Foundation
Walmart Foundation
Zendesk Neighborhood Foundation

$3,000 to $9,999
Bridget Arvold
Damascus Road Church
David & Lorian Gibson
First Presbyterian Church
Gary Stone
High Country Electric
Jeff Noltner
Jim Kaellner
Marc & Kim Flood
Modern Woodmen
National Guardian Life Insurance Company
Steve & Fran Tate
Sudie Burnham
Terri & David Beck-Engel
The Grainger Foundation

$1,000 to $2,999
AI & Karen Majkrzak
Alliant Energy Foundation
Andrew Joncich
Arthur & Laurie Mandell
Badgerland Cattle, Inc
Barbara & William McIntosh
Barlow Builders
Barry & Kathy Van Veen
Bill & Nancy Haight
Boardman & Clark LLP
Bradley Farms
Calvary Gospel Church
Camp K9
Chuck Smalley & Connie

Palmer Church of Christ of Madison
Coyle Carpet One
Cuna Mutual Group Foundation
Daniel & Stacy Dacko
Darlene & Steven Wood
Dave & Stephanie Dean
David & Marian Torkelson
Dennis & Beverly Brass
Donna Smith
Doug & Lynn Nelson
Doug Baranski
Dr & Mrs Richard Webb
East Madison Baptist Church
Ed & Kendra Hinzmann
Eliah Rudolph
Elizabeth Tuttle
Express Employment Professionals
First Business
First Unitarian Society of Madison
Frank & Amy Harsla
Gail & Scott Phillips
Geneva Campus Church
Geraldo & Brie Chapa
Grace Homb
Green Bay Packers Foundation
Gregory & Karen Houdek
Hooper Foundation
Howard & Carol Willson
Izabela Szlufarska & Dane Morgan
J.H. Findorff & Sons Inc
Jack & Cheryl Parrino
Jean Brittain & Scott Reeder
Jeff & Nona Havey
Jennifer Macaining
Jennifer Norr
Jeremy & Amanda Akins
Jim & Char Bradley
Jim & Karen Jaeger
Jim & Melissa Sirianii
John & Alice Gibson
John & Nancy Rolfsmeyer
John Plutimis
Judith & Gene Davis
Julie & Mark Banghart
Karen & Bob Stanforth
Kathryn & Ron Curio
Kevin & Tracie Fountain
Krueger Charitable Foundation
Lake Edge Lutheran Church
Lee & Mary Walthart
Madison Gas & Electric Foundation
Madison Rotary Foundation
Madison South Rotary

Marge Angell Rohlffing
Marilyn Unruh
Mark & Helen Jones
Mark & Linda McDowell
Mark & Patricia Schweiger
Martha Olsen & Robert Nolan
Max & Maureen Weber
Monona East Side Business Alliance
Monona Oaks Community Church
Myron & Nancy Kargel
Nate & Theresa Ellis
Northside Animal Hospital of Madison, LLC
Northside Business Association
Pat Farrell & Gary Gruber
Paul & Jane Fahey
People Link Staffing Solutions
Peter & Aloy Pien
Phenomenal Women
Power System Engineering
Richard Halverson
Richard Riesen
Rick & Carol Miles
Rick & Tracy Chase
Ron & Lucy Gibson
Ron McKinley & Judy Raebel-McKinley
Roy & Sue Carter
Samuel Griffith
Sarah Boswell
Scott & Anne Michels
Scott & Harmony Ableman
Sinar Enterprises
Stacey Riechers
Stephan & Brady
Steve & Mary Genheimer
Steve & Shari Sachten
Steven & Janice Sletten
Strohm Ballweg LLP
Subway JPW Inc
Sue Ellis & Paul Melrose
Susan Scanlon
TASC
Ted & Cindy Witt
Timothy & Kimberly Hameister
Todd & Kara Schwartz
Todd & Kristin Eckelberg
Tom & Randi Payne
Tracy Sargent
UW Credit Union
UW Health Employees
UW Madison Running Club
Wendy & James Skinner
Whole Foods
WI Mortgage Bankers Assoc
William Schallert

William Wetherington & Rebecca Artos
Willy Street Coop

$300 to $999
A1 Furniture & Bedding
Abbey Burton
Abby & Nathan Riesen
Al & Mary Clary
Al & Michelle Yingling
Allison & Grey Meyer
Amtelco
Andrea Poulos
Angela Guillison
Associated Bank
Baker Tilly Virchow Krause
Barbara Lange
Barbie Miles
Bert & Deb Freeman
Beta Sigma Phi
Brat Fest
Burge Lutheran Church
Carla Mollien
Carleen Pedersen
Carmen & Tucker Boyd
Carolyn Love
Cathy & John Swee
Charlene & Dave Hubble
Cheryl Bradley
Christine & Stephen Stephenson
Christine Dillon
Christopher Bacsik
City Church
City of Madison 6000
CityTins
Colleen Olsen
Dan & Mary Albrecht
Daniel Miller
Danielle Pellitteri
Dave Ward
David & Greta Shepherd
David & Kathleen Martens
Denise & Timothy O’Rourke
Dennis & Barbara Best
Dentistry for Madison, LLC
Diane & James Williams
Donna & Dick Wilfong
Donna & Reg Destree
Doris A. Marten
Dorothy Borcherdt
Dotty Dumpling’s Dowry
Dr & Mrs Robert Woodson
Dr Anne Traynor
Dr B Bradford & Dr Maribeth Brown
Dr June Brooks & Mary Buchholz
Elizabeth Goodsell
2016 In Kind Donations
Alpha Baking Company
B&G Foods
Bill Doran Company
Bimbo / Gardners
Climb United
Festival Foods
Fresh Madison Market
Gordon Food Service
Great Harvest
Kraft Foods
Hallman Lindsay Paints
High Country Electric
Inworks, Inc
Java Cat
Jeff Havey Plumbing
Levy Restaurants
Little Caesar’s Pizza
Madison Mallards
Market Street Diner
Metcalf’s Market
Palermo Pizza
Pellitteri Waste Systems
Sassy Cow Creamery
Starbucks Coffee
Sudie Burnham
The Creative Company
Trader Joes
Turville Bay
Willy St Coop
Woodman’s Markets

2016 Dedications
In Honor Of
Pete & Sue Albert
Harold & Jen Bitter
Nate & Morgan Bodwin
Rick & Sue Herndon
Hunter’s Birthday
Mable’s Birthday
Scott & Gail Phillips

In Memory Of
Art Lloyd
Walter Bublitz
Debbie Eddy
Joe Erdahl
Sondra Jahn
Stephanie Mueller
Barb Nemberger
Stan Tate

And Many Anonymous
In Kind Donors

$201 to $299
Allen Rickey
Amy & Eric Lord
Bette McCaulley
Bob Beaudette
Cascade Asset Management
Christina Derene
Curtis Peerenboom
Dan & Beth Dibbert
Deborah Emerson
Doug & Deb Sevedge
Excellence in Dentistry
Fred & Anne Grossenbach
Fricic Gluck
Gary Blaszkowski
Hash House Harriers
James & Mary Claire Salerno
Jane & Darrell Kolstad
Janet Estervig
Jeanne Grist
Jeffrey Gunderson
Jennifer Feit
Jessica Kessler
Jim Green & Tammy Olson
Joe & Mary Kolocek
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Robin Snake
Ronald Curtis
Ryan Funeral Home
St Peter Catholic Church
Steve & Kristy Rewey
Telephone & Data Systems
Thomas Herman
Veronica & David Franchino
Wegner CPAs LLP

And Many Anonymous
Donors

The River Food Pantry appreciates the many others who have contributed less than $201. We are grateful for their support and regret that we do not have space to list them all.
About The River Food Pantry

The River Food Pantry’s mission is to bring a message of mercy and hope to those in need by practicing nutritional basics and encouragement, and to be a unifying, servant-hearted, community-building expression of Jesus Christ in Madison.

The River Food Pantry is Dane County’s busiest food pantry, offering free groceries, meals and clothing to individuals and families struggling to make ends meet. The River also provides packed lunches to children and teenagers with a mobile lunch program.

Beyond nutritional assistance, The River provides a warm, welcoming family atmosphere where everyone is treated with dignity and respect, and encouraged to find the support they need.

THE RIVER FOOD PANTRY IS A NON-PROFIT 501 (C)(3) ORGANIZATION AND YOUR CONTRIBUTION IS TAX DEDUCTIBLE.