



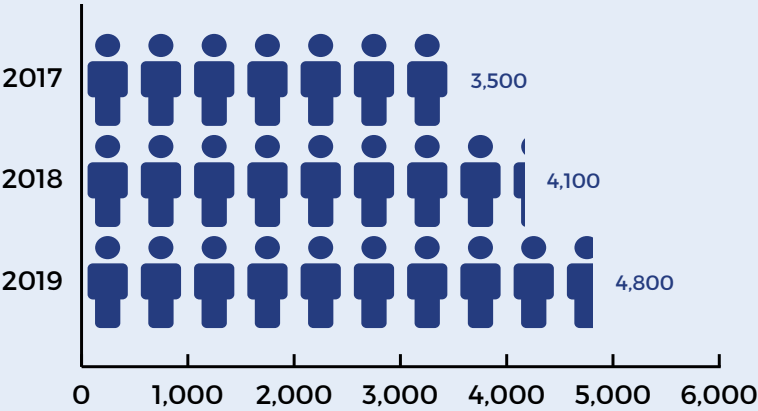
2019 ANNUAL REPORT

**CHARTING THE
PATH TO A
FOOD SECURE
REGION**



YOUR IMPACT ON FOOD SECURITY

Total People Reached



1,166,475
meals



900
seniors

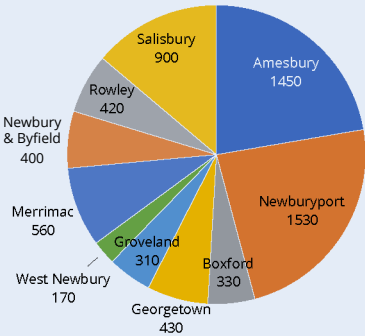


1,500
children

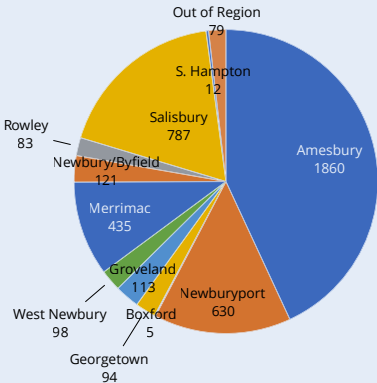


201
veterans

Where are people fighting
food insecurity?



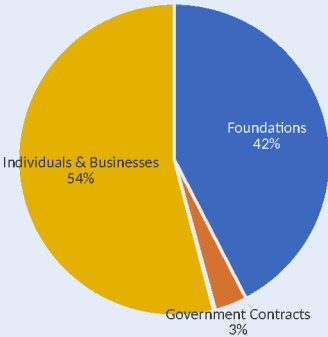
People, by town, getting
groceries at ONT



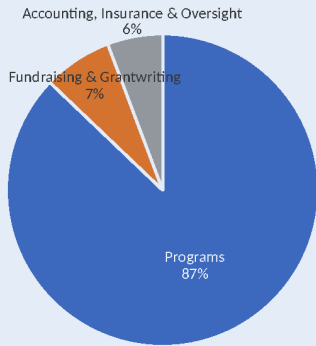
YOUR INVESTMENTS IN FOOD SECURITY

Cash Revenue Sources

Cash Revenue Sources



Expense Classification



31,207

hours of service performed
by 781 volunteers

95

Breakfast Club donors
giving all year

\$1,681,648 food secured at no cost





FEEDING THE FUTURE: HEALTHY FOOD FOR ALL CHILDREN

In 2019, ONT focused its work on building partnerships to catch families who are falling through the cracks, families who just need a little bit of help to keep their families and their homes stable. So, where do you connect with children and their families? In schools and at their pediatricians' offices.

After pilots and many planning meetings in 2018, programs finally blossomed in 2019 and, as a result, **ONT's programs reached more than 1,500 children and their families.**

Universal Screening & Referral at Children's Health Care

All 16,000 pediatric patients at Children's Health Care will now be screened for food insecurity and other social needs as part of their annual check-ups. Social determinants of health are now part of the national health care conversation, with Massachusetts investing more than \$140M to help Medicaid families meet their basic needs with the goal of improving their health and reducing health care costs. ONT, with a 3-year commitment from Mary Alice Arakelian Foundation and pilot year funding from Steward Health, and Mass Medical Society Charitable Foundation & Alliance, was ready to put this into practice here in our region. After 7 months of process development and training, more than 70 physicians, nurses, medical and support staff, ONT's pediatric partners at Children's Health Care officially launched screening use of the Hunger Vital Signs™ at all well and nutrition visits. More importantly, all families that express experience of worrying about or going without adequate food are immediately referred to ONT's new Food Resource Advocate. Previous screening attempts at the practice were not reaching families as they hoped.



In its first 6 months, **more than 60 families** have been referred to **ONT from CHC**, more than 70% of whom have successfully accessed groceries at ONT and been screened for and assisted in applying for SNAP. ONT and CHC continue to improve the day-to-day process of connecting families. ONT is now participating in statewide and national learning communities to ensure we are putting best practices to work and sharing our learning to help families across the US.

"I never would have told you I didn't have any food in my house because I was afraid you'd report me and take my kids away."

– An important lesson shared 5 years later between a mother and her pediatrician is at the core of ONT's community trainings.

Food Secure Children Make for Brighter Futures

In 2018, Newburyport Public Schools reached out to ONT to better serve an increasing number of families who were struggling to cover their basic needs. Now in its second year, the Farmer's Market at the Bresnahan Elementary School offered during the summer school program has provided more than **12,000 pounds of fresh fruits and vegetables** to more than 300 NPS students and their families, NPS teachers and staff, and YWCA Summer Campers and staff. The district's universal approach makes **food access and healthy eating an important part of the school culture** throughout the year. ONT now serves on the NPS Health Advisory Team, has **trained more than 50 elementary school teachers and staff on food insecurity**, and supplies and staffs pop-up farmer's markets at all parent information nights. As a direct result of this partnership, we've increased the number of children getting groceries on a regular basis from ONT's markets by 67% in the last two years.



THE POWER OF WORKING TOGETHER

Food Security is a Regional Priority

The Regional Food Security Advisory Group (FSAG) made great strides in creating more opportunities to connect local residents with reliable, nutritious foods.

The launch of **universal pediatric screening** for food insecurity at Children's Health Care and the **groundwork at Newburyport Public Schools** will help engage families, connect them to available resources and create new food access points to fill their unmet needs.

Creative strategies are **bridging the gap among seniors**. ONT's partners at the Salisbury and Groveland Councils on Aging, with municipal support, have begun weekly buses to the ONT Amesbury Market. Close to 60 seniors utilized the shuttles in 2019 to get their weekly groceries. For many, it's also a fun outing to meet new people and forge lasting friendships and supports. Beyond those relying on the ride to the market, more than 100 seniors have now overcome fear of venturing to a new town to get much-needed help.

THE FOOD SECURITY ADVISORY GROUP'S GOALS ARE THREE-FOLD:

- 1 Build the local infrastructure of quality, reliable food resources and access points
- 2 Maximize use of federal and state programs like SNAP and school meals
- 3 Mobilize communities to make universal food security a priority and a reality



Critical Investments Boost Efforts

The collective commitment of the FSAG is getting attention from long-term funders. In May 2019, ONT received two critical funding awards that will propel forward our goal of a food-secure region.

The Cummings Foundation Sustaining Grant will provide \$500,000 over 10 years to give ONT and the FSAG the ability to be creative, try new approaches, and sustain effective strategies to put food where and when people need it.

The city-wide partnerships in Newburyport caught the attention of the United Way Mass Bay & Merrimack Valley, capturing their first Venture Fund award which is directly funding ONT's activities to train NPS teachers and staff, implement new outreach activities, and, most importantly, **measure our impact!**

2019 also marked Year 2 in the 3-year grant from M. A. Arakelian Foundation to incorporate universal screening in local pediatric care.

We're All Working Together for Food Security!

Local community awareness, action, and commitment are the key to a food secure region. Nothing demonstrates this greater than the number of local individuals, businesses, schools, civic- and faith-based groups who are putting their investments and their resources into ONT's mission.

More than **780 volunteers** put in shifts at our markets, warehouses and meal programs. **1,373 individuals and businesses** invested their hard-earned money into ensuring every neighbor's dignity is nurtured and belly is fed.

Visit **ourneighborstable.org** to volunteer or donate today.