



**Stafford Emergency Relief
through Volunteer Efforts**

ANNUAL REPORT

2022 - 2023

Designed by





ANNUAL MESSAGE

It is our honor and privilege to share the FY 2022/2023 Stafford Emergency Relief through Volunteer Efforts (SERVE) Annual Report. For over 44 years, Stafford Emergency Response through Volunteer Efforts (SERVE) has been synonymous with providing food for our neighbors in need. Starting out as a food pantry in 1979, SERVE has remained relevant through continuing that critical effort and branching out to provide other vital community services such as energy assistance as a Dominion EnergyShare agency and in the initiative's inaugural year full-service health and wellness services.

GROWTH

Last year saw an enormous growth in community need. SERVE went from 750 guests per month to nearly 3000 guests per month, a 400% increase! This course, while disconcerting, will most likely continue to trend upwards. through testimonials and client driven surveys, SERVE was able to identify the totality of the needs of our community neighbors. Our response was to institute initiatives that encompassed a holistic range of health and wellness services. Food pantry operations, EnergyShare assistance, healthy food cooking classes, and free health and wellness checkups; supported by strategic partnerships with local organizations allowed SERVE to support our neighbors with consistent and enhanced services.

SUPPORT

Our continued unwavering support to the Stafford and neighboring communities was enabled by a dedicated staff, a phenomenal pool of volunteers, and through the generous personal and business donations across our serviced area. SERVE is truly a pillar of the community, but our foundation is the caring people of the Stafford and surrounding communities who are willing to give their time, money, and resources to support their neighbors in need.



SCOTT UCHYTIL
President



LEE CHENEY
Executive Director

We could not have accomplished this on our own. We THANK YOU for the trust and confidence you extend to us every day and we look forward to continuing our mission to strategically address food insecurity, provide emergency relief, and promote programs that give HOPE and UPLIFT our community neighbors.



CORE VALUES

- 1 Just Be Yourself
- 2 Hunger for Excellence
- 3 Go the Extra Mile
- 4 Service Driven
- 5 Lead with Integrity
- 6 Teamwork over ego. Always



OUR VISION

To engage in activities that promote the general health and well-being of our community.



OUR MISSION

With the help of our partners, the mission of **SERVE** is to strategically address food insecurity, provide emergency relief, and promote programs that give **HOPE** and **UPLIFT** our neighbors.



OUR HISTORY

In 1979 Jeri Dulin (Redman), a social worker, and three pastors (Jim Treslow, Jack Hancox and Glenn Thomas) from local Stafford churches realized there was a growing challenge to provide for emergency assistance and resources for families in the Stafford and surrounding areas. They also noticed that responses to these challenges were not approached in the most effective or efficient manner, usually being conducted through churches with limited resources or over-burdened government social services programs. With a deep understanding of the community and a desire to provide compassionate support they were inspired with a vision for an organized and coordinated effort that could effectively provide for the needs of local Stafford families in need of emergency assistance. The culmination of their vision was the establishment of Stafford Emergency Relief through Volunteer Efforts, affectionately known as SERVE. Since its establishment, SERVE has continuously provided Stafford and surrounding neighbors in need with food, health/wellness services and education and emergency utility assistance.

IMPACTS

FRESH PRODUCE, DAIRY, AND MEAT DONATED

FY 2022 - 2023: 127,360

FY 2021 - 2022: 94,220



CANNED & DRY GOODS DONATED

FY 2022 - 2023: 214,735

FY 2021 - 2022: 170,484



DONATIONS

377,710 lbs
FY 2021-2022



477,108 lbs
FY 2022-2023

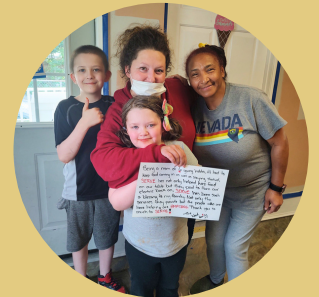
VOLUNTEER HOURS



FY 2022-2023: 5,376

FY 2021-2022: 5,185

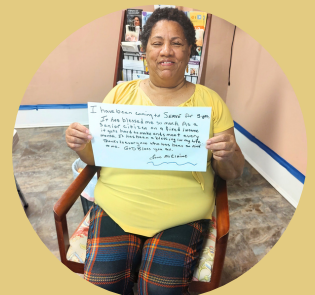
FAMILIES SERVED



FY 2022-2023: 4,561

FY 2021-2022: 3,990

INDIVIDUALS SERVED

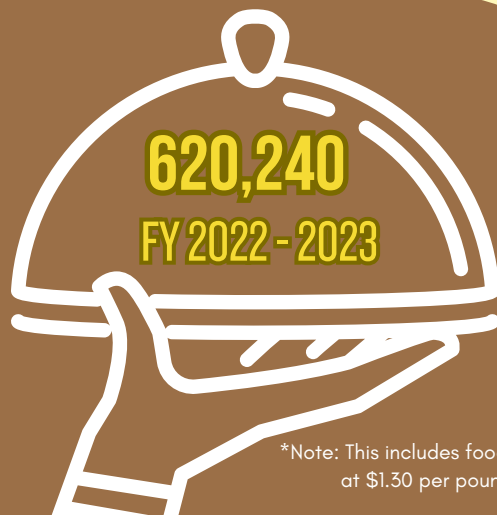


FY 2022-2023: 14,689

FY 2021-2022: 8,042

MEALS SERVED

491,023
FY 2021 - 2022



620,240
FY 2022 - 2023

*Note: This includes food valued at \$1.30 per pound

MAJOR DONORS



\$95,000



Stafford County

\$7,500

Canaan's
Faith
Church
of God

First
Mount Zion
Baptist
Church

Easy Share
c/o
United Way
of
Greater
Richmond
Area

\$11,762

Rappahannock
United
Way

\$6,000

Carl Ruggiero

\$5,450

Hope
of Christ
Presbyterian
Church

\$5,000

Lauren
Weeks



TOP FOOD DONORS

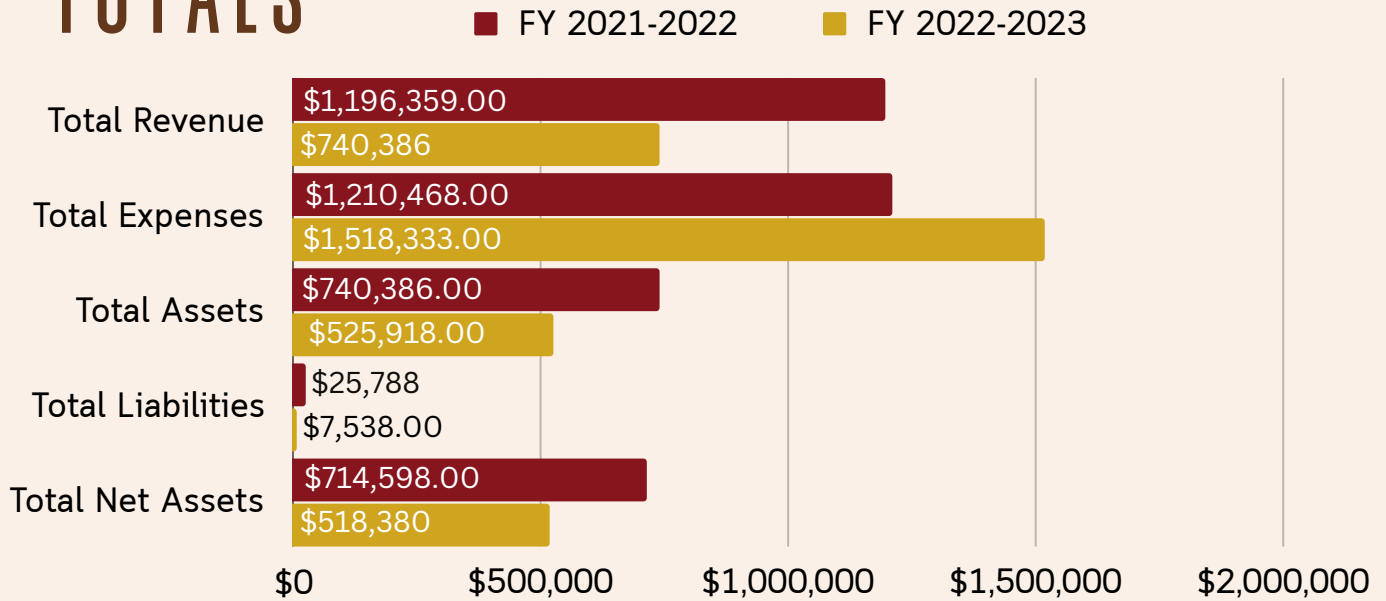


SERVE PARTNERS

- American Legion ● Anytime Fitness ● Aquia Table ● A-Z Meats ● Bobby's Pitbull Rescue / SPCA
- The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints ● Ebenezer United Methodist ● Fred Hookies ● Howell Library
- Lifepoint Church ● Lions Club (Aquia & Falls Run) ● The Mount ● One Life Fitness
- Porter Library ● Ramoth Baptist ● Rotary Club ● Shiloh Baptist Church ● Stafford Gymnastics

SERVE FINANCIALS

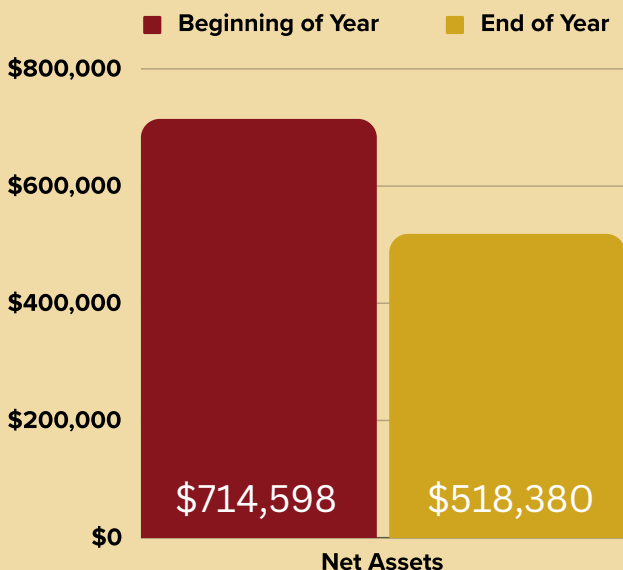
TOTALS



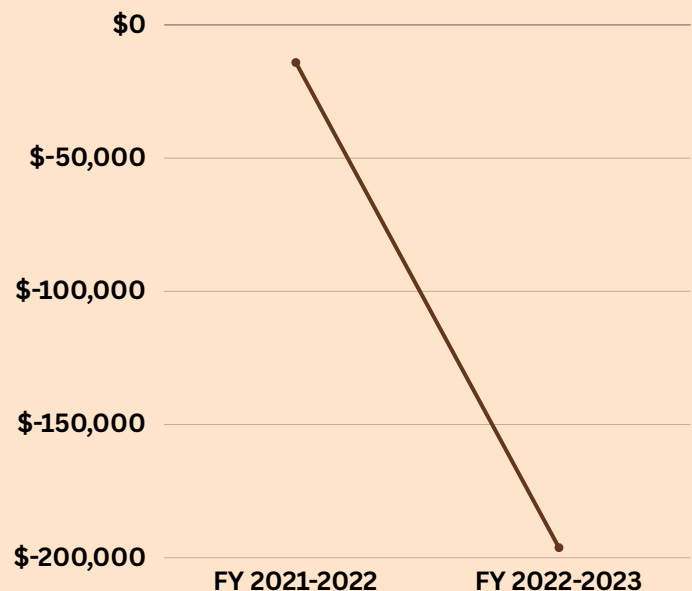
*Note: This includes food valued at \$1.69 per pound

In FY 2021-2022, during the height of Covid-19, the community responded with support of time, talent, and treasure in ways we had never seen before. With families homebound and extended store closures, SERVE was a food lifeline for many in our community. As the actual pandemic faded into the rearview, many supporters did not fully recover from its long term effects. SERVE saw a notable decline in monetary donations in fiscal year '22-'23 along with an increase in expenses as the community need only continued to grow. SERVE rededicated itself to our mission by implementing cost saving measures and better cost controls to fully align spending with our budget. Our call for support remains high and so does our efficiency of every dollar donated. For every dollar donated, 97% supports our feeding programs.

NET ASSETS



REVENUE LESS EXPENSES



OUR SERVE FAMILY



FOUNDER

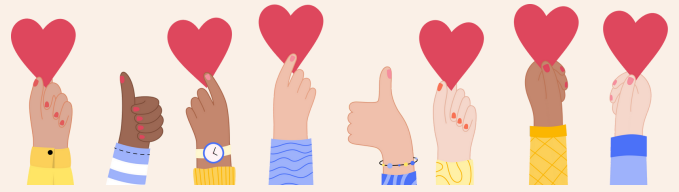
Jeri Redman

Already serving as a social worker for Stafford County, Jeri witnessed the devastating effects the harsh winter in 1976-77 had on many Stafford families. Working with families that couldn't afford food or wood/fuel for heating their homes, Jeri realized that more needed to be done. From this realization, SERVE was born. She spoke fondly of partnering with a local pastor, Jim Treslow, to initially raise \$2,800 to support Stafford residents in need, and her having participated in the first Board of Directors meeting conducted on May 24, 1979. She was, however, most thankful for the volunteers that supported the SERVE thrift shop. Finding time at night and on Saturdays, Jeri worked tirelessly to ensure SERVE's volunteer-run thrift shop was sustained. "If it weren't for us operating that thrift store, there would be no SERVE today" said Jeri when discussing SERVE's initial establishment and finances. Jeri reminisced that "SERVE was a blessing...when eligibility requirements couldn't support those in need, they'd (social services) send people to SERVE for help." In December, 1984 Jeri was presented the Commonwealth of Virginia Department of Social Services Meritorious Service Award for "establishing SERVE to meet community emergency needs that could not be met by existing financial services programs." When asked what she'd like her legacy to be she modestly replied, "to be remembered as the founder of SERVE and a compassionate, Christian servant, devoted to helping those who were in need." Believing SERVE's future is strong, she stated, "SERVE is on the right path and I wouldn't change a thing. I am so proud that SERVE has had such longevity and stability, and it was all due to the volunteers...it takes a team."

The Human Impact of SERVE

Lisa Haas - SERVE Board Member

"It was my honor and pleasure to work to collect food for our holiday baskets as well as to be present and "hands on" when they were distributed to our neighbors in need. Experiencing the goodwill, generosity and willingness to help the community made this a day that I will never forget. This feeling was then reinforced and even amplified when I had the opportunity to experience the sincere gratitude as families received their baskets. It is a true blessing to be a part of this organization and to serve our community."



VOLUNTEER

John Godenick

John Godenick spends most of his volunteer time keeping the warehouse shelves stocked, dated and organized for convenient access and safety. Godencik retired about 5 years ago after 42 years of service at the U.S. Census Bureau. "We moved to Stafford to get closer to our three grand-kids who call me pop-pop. Sue and I had done some volunteering at a food bank in Calvert County Maryland, which we enjoyed. When I was in high school, I worked at a grocery store and learned some organizational skills that are useful at the SERVE warehouse so, after we moved, we decided to help out there." John encourages and teaches younger warehouse volunteers and staff his organizational processes for marking, shelving food and keeping it safe from breakage and damage. My father taught me to stay busy and, 'do whatever you can to help folks in need.' I like the people at SERVE and the volunteers; a variety of folks just trying to do something nice for others."



STAFF

Celeste Young



Celeste is SERVE's Business Operation Manager.

She has been with SERVE for over two years. She is no stranger to community service as she, for the past 8 years, with her family, has run the Virginia Stafford Knights, a non-profit youth football organization for low-income kids, hosting over 120 youth each season. Her connection to SERVE started when her football team selected SERVE to do a food drive for. One year later, SERVE had an open office assistant position that was right up her alley, so she applied. Celeste got hired and has been doing her part to combat food insecurity ever since. In her current position, she fully understands the challenges that SERVE faces and is even more committed to do her part. Celeste loves the fact that SERVE will help anyone in need and is very thankful to the community for the amazing support that we receive through gracious hearts and hands. Celeste is a Virginia native and a graduate of Liberty University. Her desire to serve and help others comes from her devoutly Christian mother and is in a wonderful place to do just that. She was blessed to find a partner in life who shared the same values. His name is Aviance. They have been married for over 17 years and they have five wonderful kids together. Celeste's goals in life are to educate and develop others with the intent of making a positive difference in the lives of each person that she comes in contact with.

BOARD MEMBERS AND STAFF

President Scott Uchytıl
1st Vice President Mike Haas
2nd Vice President Diane Wright
Treasurer Steven Brand
Secretary Dom Bee

Members of the Board

Lisa Haas
Tyler Carver
Todd Eichberg
LaRhonda Gabriel
Jeri Redman,
Founder and Board
Member Emeritus



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Lee Cheney

Business Operations Manager

Celeste Young

Operations Manager

Tim Morgan

Volunteer & Events Coordinator

Hannah Wolfe

Administrative Assistant

Jeanell Rogers

Warehouse Associate

Kevin Hoban

Facilities and IT Support

Carlos Cabrera



Donate Through the United Way
Campaign
Combined Federal Campaign CFC #14452
Combined Virginia Campaign CVC #6413
Local Government Campaign LGC #6431
All donations are tax deductible.

Stafford Emergency Relief through Volunteer
Efforts (SERVE)

SERVE@SERVE-helps.org

P.O. Box 1357,

15 Upton Lane, Stafford, VA 22554

(540) 288-9603

HOURS OF OPERATION

Monday - Thursday: 11:00am-4:00pm

Every 2nd & 4th Wednesday

We extend our open hours to 8:00pm

We are closed on all Federal Holidays.

DONATIONS

Food donations are welcomed at SERVE at
the following times:

Mondays - Thursday: 11:00 am-4:00 pm

Every 2nd & 4th Wednesday

We extend our open hours to 8:00pm

Or call (540) 288-9603 for special delivery
options.