

FOOD CUPBOARD OF JAY, LIVERMORE AND LIVERMORE FALLS

PO Box 314

Livermore Falls Maine 04254

To our donors, volunteers, town officials and community members of Jay, Livermore and Livermore Falls,

This annual report, from fiscal year 2025, details our mission commitment, goals, challenges, achievements and proposal for the upcoming year.

Our mission stands firm in supporting the community of Jay, Livermore and Livermore Falls by providing a 3 day supply of supplemental food/meals. Those who are experiencing food insecurity, and live in the Tri town area, can visit the food cupboard at the St Rose Community Center where they will receive a monthly box. Days of operation are Tuesday 2-4 pm and 6-8 pm, Wednesday 2-4 pm and Thursday 2-4 pm.

We are committed to continue this initiative while navigating difficulties that arise in a community that has seen regional economic decline with the closure of the paper mill in April 2023, inflated cost of groceries and recovery from SNAP benefits withheld during the government shutdown in November. We have seen an increase in client usage with 6,043 of our neighbors served compared to 2024 that saw 4,760. The breakdown between towns is as follows:

Jay 41.5% (down from 48.6% in 2024)
Livermore Falls 48.8% (up from 42.1% in 2024)
Livermore 9.7% (up slightly from 9.2% in 2024)

We found that our food donations have increased from the prior year though surplus food had sharply declined:

Retail grocery donations: 56,043 lbs (2025) up from 51,199 lbs (2024)
Area Churches: 2,994 lbs (2025) down from 3,346 lbs (2024)
Local food drives: 3,116 lbs (2025) up from 810 lbs (2024)
"Other" donations (ex. donated game meat from local hunters): 3,621 lbs (2025) up from 2,097 lbs (2024)
Total donations: 65,774 lbs (2025) up from 60,185 lbs (2024)
These donations have been greatly received as "surplus food", delivered by the Good Shepherd Food Bank, had sharply declined. We received 30,199 lbs of surplus food in 2025 down from 52,820 lbs in 2024.
Total food (donated and surplus): 95,973 lbs down from 113,005 lbs in 2024.

This was a generous year of donations from community members totaling \$34,903 up from \$31,838 from 2024. Donations come in the form of personal donations, memorial donations and fundraising campaigns. The annual Flowers for Food and inaugural pancake breakfast/sale of maple syrup saw a combined income of \$3,766 (\$2,506 from Flowers for Food and \$1,680 from pancake breakfast/sale of maple syrup). Grant money awarded totaled \$24,027. This gave us a total revenue (donations, awarded grants and interest gained from a CD account) of \$66,208 up from \$33,319 in 2024. This has allowed us to stabilize the Food Cupboards savings account as in the prior 2 years we ran a deficit (-\$14,770 in 2024 and -\$12,222 in 2023).

Grant money awarded from the Agnes Lindsey Foundation (\$3,000) and Franklin Savings (\$5,600) went to the annual Thanksgiving baskets (total cost of baskets \$7,833).

Food purchases totaled \$35,871 in 2025 **up** from \$33,513 in 2024. Money from donations had purchased meals for 6,086 households and individuals in 2025 **up** from 5,186 households and individuals served in 2024. We had an overhead cost (rent, filing, insurance, equipment purchases and office supplies) of \$14,118 in 2025 **down** slightly from \$14,576 in 2024. Our expenses in 2025 was \$49,990 **up** from \$48,089 in 2024.

Our total assets (as of December 31, 2025):

\$78,324.09

Revenue (donations, grants, interest from CD):

\$66,208.20

Expenses (food purchases, rent, filing fees, insurance office supplies, equipment purchases, plowing and “other” expenses:

\$49,990.95

We continued our efforts in providing Thanksgiving boxes distributed for the holiday. Families were provided a gift card (restricting sale of tobacco and alcohol) to go toward a turkey or ham, box dressing, pie crust with pudding, potatoes, apples, canned vegetables and gravy packets. This has been well received by the community and this past year we were able to provide 829 of our neighbors from 261 families a Thanksgiving meal. This is **up** from 639 of our neighbors from 197 families in 2024. The cost of this year's baskets totaled \$7,833.93 **up** from \$5,600 in 2024.

Volunteers continued to use the new online intake process which tracks our client usage with an online portal, used in partnership with the Good Shepherd Food Bank, called Service Insights on MealConnect (SIMC). This enables a secure means of tracking metrics that can go toward improvement of programs and services and data can be used to better represent our community that can go toward policy and fundraising decisions. Using the online portal has provided more security (encryption technology similar to what is used in banks) than paper.

We continue to explore fundraising opportunities. We have found great success with the “Flowers for Food” campaign in the spring and are continuing our efforts with the sale of maple syrup and a pancake breakfast during Maine Maple Weekend.

This past year has seen a great need for our area food cupboard. With continued support and perseverance we believe that this will continue to be a much needed service for our neighbors. We thank all of our donors, area businesses, local leaders, places of worship and volunteers for their hard work and dedication to this worthy cause.

Sincerely,

Board members of the Food Cupboard of Jay, Livermore and Livermore Falls

Steve Coates
Marianne Castonguay
Martina Eastman
Brenda Tardif
Linda Ouellette
Patty Ouellette
Nancy Grimaldi
Gerri Smith
Raymond Bryant
Eric Tompkins
Ashley Marshall