

Dear Friend of the Pantry,

We at Gunnison Country Food Pantry see every year as a learning opportunity – a chance to understand how to best fulfil our mission statement and ensure no one in the Gunnison Valley goes hungry. There are some years where the sheer magnitude of challenges and solutions mean we will look back on them as a defining moment in the Pantry's identity. It's already clear that the lessons we learned throughout 2025 will stretch far into the organization's future. It was a year of obstacles met and overcome.



It wasn't always easy, but it was also filled with moments which underscored the characteristics that make this valley so special. Each time the Pantry was confronted with an obstacle – some, new, entirely unprecedented and with the potential to develop into full blown crises – the community immediately rose to the occasion. GCFP was never at risk of being unable to provide for anyone who sought help and the reason for that has so much to do with the profound support offered by people like you.

I'm so proud to say that, with your help, we served the greatest number of households with the highest quality services in our history.

As we head into 2026, ready to overcome whatever new challenges are headed our way, it's useful to reflect on the specifics of the past year. From the outset of 2025, need continued to rise – a trend which began in 2020. Month after month, more people sought more assistance. But the level of community support increased in tandem and the Pantry received more financial and food donations than ever before. We also purchased and distributed more food than at any other time in our history. These accomplishments were facilitated, in large, through the greatest number of volunteers in our organization's history.

We began last January knowing the Pantry was headed for a major budget shortfall – a product of the scheduled end of a large Covid-era USDA grant which supplied almost a quarter of our overall budget. Then, in the fall, the federal government shutdown caused a pause on SNAP benefits which meant we, for a short time, became the backstop for anyone experiencing any level of food insecurity in the valley.

Each of these moments on their own could have been an organization-defining crisis. Yet, local groups, individuals and local organizations rose sharply in support of the Pantry. By donating time, food, and money our community proved how much they care and ensured the Pantry had the necessary resources to provide support to anyone in need.

Beyond maintaining the necessary baseline of services on which our neighbors have come to rely, the Food Pantry also launched a new initiative, the NextStep Network. This fresh set of programming is designed to provide services aimed at treating the underlying causes of food insecurity with the long-term goal of fundamentally reducing the need for emergency food assistance. To support this effort, we hired a full-time staff member dedicated to guest support and resource navigation. Gunnison is an incredibly resource-rich community, and the Food Pantry is uniquely positioned to help neighbors connect with services that can strengthen their overall stability, improve quality of life, and support long-term economic wellbeing.

As an additional benefit of our work, the Food Pantry continues to divert hundreds of thousands of pounds of food from going to waste through our food recovery efforts. Over the course of 2025, 217,667 pounds of food were diverted from the landfill, preventing an estimated 110.23 metric tons of CO₂ from being released into the atmosphere.

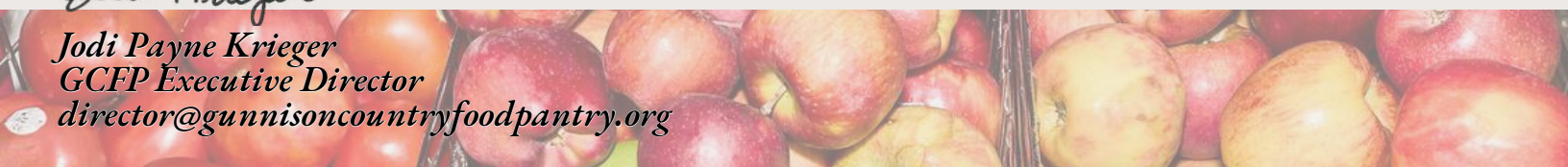
I'll be honest, leading in uncertain times is rarely easy. When people in our community face the unknown, we all feel some element of stress and fear. **Throughout the tumult of 2025 I can say that at no point did I feel alone, and I never doubted that together we could overcome what lay ahead.**

As further cuts are proposed to the already eroding social safety net, I take solace in one thing which remains certain — neighbors in the Gunnison Valley will not let their neighbors go hungry. I am beyond grateful to this community for stepping up when it mattered most.

Thank you.

Jodi Krieger

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Gunnison Country Food Pantry

2025 Impact Report



FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT



Income: **\$1,666,919**

Expenses: **\$1,401,874**

Average Donation Size: **\$875**



Total Donors: **771**

New Individual/
Business Donors: **377**

262



VOLUNTEERS

8,484



**VOLUNTEER
HOURS**



FOOD RECEIVED

Care and Share Food Bank: **109,998 LBS**

Local Grocery Stores: **162,455 LBS**

Community Donations: **39,607 LBS**



206,344
LBS.

**Food diverted
from landfill**



11,322
LBS.

**To local
producers for
animals**

Recovering food prevented **110.23 metric tons** of CO₂ emissions—the same amount of carbon captured by **111 acres** of U.S. forest in one year.

That's equivalent to:

- Driving **280,707** miles in an average passenger vehicle
- Burning **12,404** gallons of gasoline
- Charging **8,911,740** smartphones

PROGRAM IMPACT

Gunni Packs: 3,151 were delivered, totaling 22,057 kid-friendly meals

Healthy Snacks: 52,692 servings of healthy snacks were distributed to schools in GWSD

Fresh Mobile Pantry: Had 659 visits June through November

Emergency Boxes: 26 partners distributed 210 boxes

Mountaineer Marketplace: Located on Western Colorado University campus, served 617 unique individuals who visited 2,207 times

NextStep Network: Served 41 households OR 85 individuals, with 66 presenting issues and 50 successful referrals

NO COST GROCERY DISTRIBUTION

1,348 households comprised of **2,452** individuals shopped for No Cost Groceries **12,851** times in 2025.

Breakdown of guest demographics below.



Children 0-17
524



Adults 18-59
1,665



Older Adults 60+
263



Minorities Served
59%



Working full/ Part Time/ Student
57%



Retired /Fixed Income
9%