Annual Report
2011-2012

houston foodbank

Filling pantries. Filling lives.

Home at last

In August 2011, the Houston Food Bank (HFB) officially took up residence in our new facility at 535 Portwall Street on Houston's east side. We shook off the cramped confines of our old home and reveled in having four times more space in which we can live our mission: Leading the fight against hunger.

So much more than a warehouse From our newly-renovated building, the Food Bank will be able to get much more food and other needed items to our network of hunger relief partner agencies. In fiscal year 2011-2012, HFB distributed the equivalent of fifty million nutritious meals. Our new warehouse gives us the infrastructure we need to meet our number one strategic goal: distribute 100 million nutritious meals in 2018.

But 535 Portwall is more than a warehouse. It's an engine for hope and a beacon to the community. Housed within its walls are programs that help individuals and families cope with the daily struggles they face as a result of poverty and hard times. In our new home, they can apply for social services; people in need of a second chance get job training; working families get groceries from our Emergency Food Pantry; and community friends find welcoming space for meetings and conferences.

Accolades

- Houston's Better Business Bureau honored HFB with the Pinnacle Award in the Nonprofit Category for superior commitment to ethics, overall excellence and quality in the workplace.
- Charity Navigator, the web-based charity evaluator, included HFB on its nationwide list of Top Notch Charities.
- HFB is on Forbes Magazine's list of 200 largest U.S. charities, based on private gifts, total revenue, fundraising efficiency and charitable commitment.
- The Houston Business Journal listed HFB as number one on its list of Houston Area Charitable Nonprofit Organizations based on total income.
- Admiring glances for 535 Portwall: Rey de la Reza Architects, designers of our new facility, received recognition from the Houston Chapter of the American Institute of Architects in the renovation category.

1 in **4** **children** in southeast Texas are **food insecure**

Food insecurity: Will there be enough nutritious food every day?

Year One Highlights

Adjusting to a new normal In addition to twice the space for storing nonperishable goods, we have four times as much cold storage, to take advantage of the increased availability of fresh and frozen foods. And we can load and unload trucks with more efficiency with 21 docks.

We also can accommodate three times as many volunteers to process and pack food, due to a specially-designed volunteer area with state-of-the-art industrial technology.

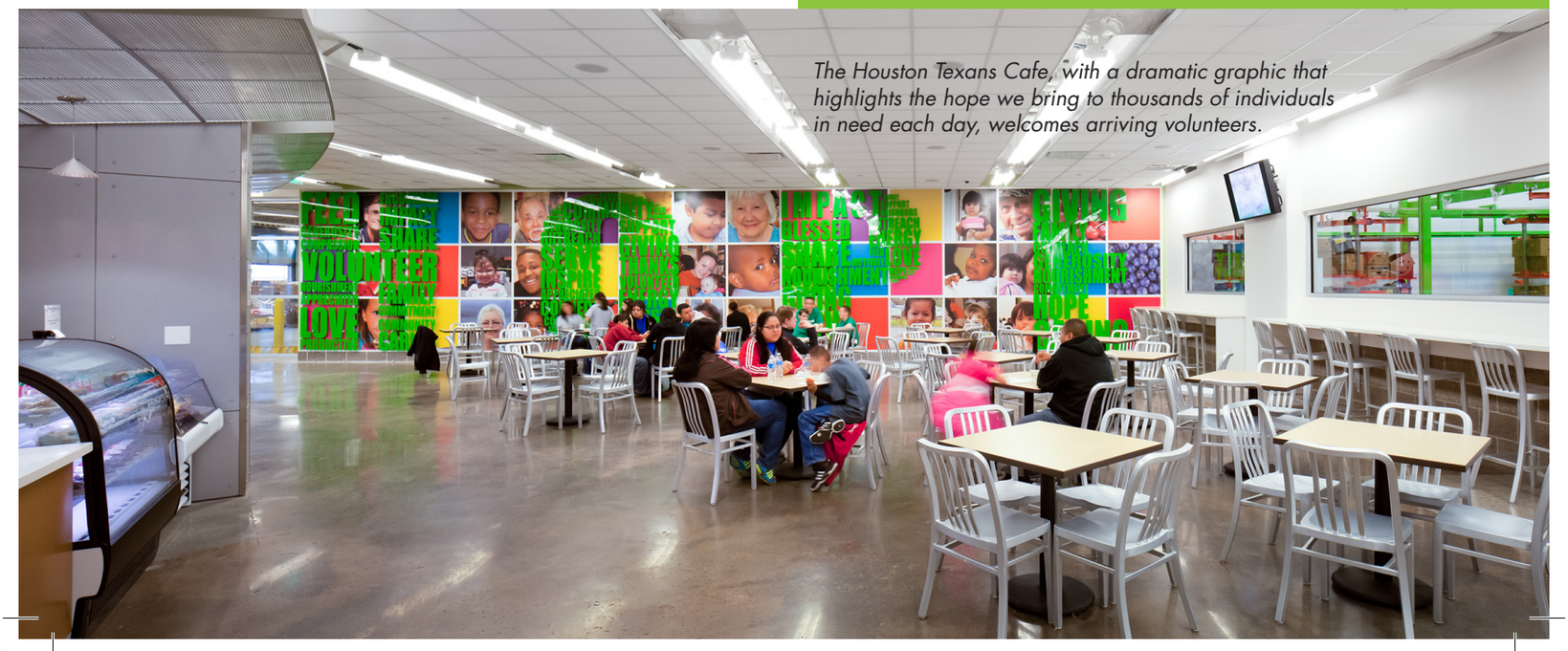
Centered on Service Our new facility was designed to house programs that expand our ability to provide essential help to the community.

- Social Services Outreach Program staff provide one-on-one assistance to help people sign up for SNAP (formerly food stamps) and other state funded services in offices with a kid-friendly waiting area.
- Individuals on probation through Harris County courts meet with probation officers permanently housed at 535 Portwall. These officers identify and recommend candidates for HFB's Serving for Success program, which trains and certifies participants for employment in warehousing.
- The Emergency Food Pantry, operated by a partner agency, is open extended hours and Saturdays to accommodate people who have jobs but can't earn enough to reliably keep nutritious food on the table.
- Our Keegan Kitchen churns out more than 60,000 nutritious meals each month for kids, seniors, and homeless veterans.

Exciting new partnerships Through our partnerships with hunger relief charities, public and private funders, and volunteers, the Houston Food Bank is able to feed 137,000 people each week in southeast Texas. New alliances formed during 2011-2012 that energize our efforts.

- HFB acquired a new comrade to serve a portion of our 18-county service area: the Galveston County Food Bank, a Partner Distribution Organization (PDO) – or smaller food bank responsible for a specific geographic area. Our other PDOs are the Montgomery County and Brazos Valley food banks.
- Kroger is working with HFB to to help us distribute even more of the dented cans and other slightly damaged product that our retail partners typically share with us. Normally, the grocer sends such product to a reclamation center before it comes to us. Now, Kroger is sending all of this product to HFB for processing by our volunteers. As a result, even more food is available for hungry people.
- Houston City Council authorized $160,000 to help the Food Bank reach more Houstonians who need help buying groceries. The funding provides three staff members to assist with application for SNAP (food stamps) and other services.

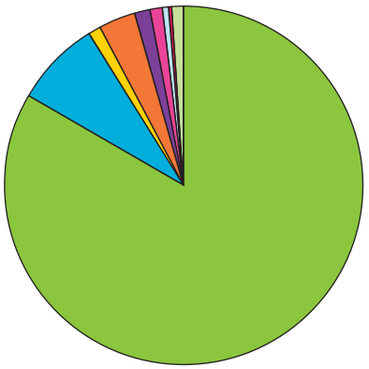
Thank you **The Houston Food Bank is grateful for tremendous ongoing support from our friends and partners who contribute money, time, food and advocacy. Because you open your hearts and hands to us, we can turn despair into hope for thousands of people every day.**



The Houston Texans Cafe, with a dramatic graphic that highlights the hope we bring to thousands of individuals in need each day, welcomes arriving volunteers.

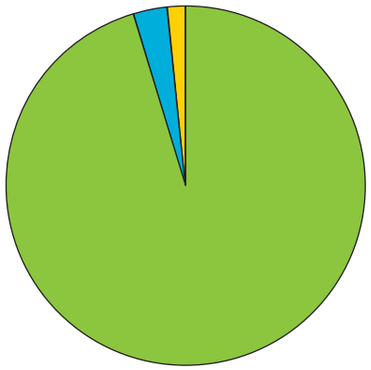
Financial Data

The Houston Food Bank provides careful stewardship to our resources and demonstrates integrity in all that we do. We uphold our mission with the trust of our staff, board, donors, volunteers, recipients and partners.



Income

Donated food/household items	$114,252,942
Contributions (including in-kind)	10,548,219
Special events	1,512,774
Government grants/contracts	4,549,418
Agency fees	2,107,202
Sales of purchased food	1,246,144
Food preparation fees	747,917
Investment return	491,804
Other	1,351,585
Direct donor benefit costs	(35,413)
Total revenue	**$136,772,592**



Expenses

Food distribution program	$131,356,188
Management and general	4,233,579
Fundraising	2,263,428
Total expenses	**$137,853,195**
Net assets, end of year	**$71,857,385**

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We're grateful to Cleverley Stone, founder and chair of Houston Restaurant Weeks, and Houston's finest restaurants who've participated over the years to raise a cumulative total of $2.9 million to take a bite out of hunger. Held each August, restaurants donate a portion of each tab from special menus to the Houston Food Bank.

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