



# FEED BUFFALO ANNUAL REPORT

 [www.feedbuffalo.org](http://www.feedbuffalo.org)



# OVERVIEW

## FEED BUFFALO

### OUR MISSION

Feed Buffalo aims to heal, educate, and transform communities experiencing food apartheid into thriving, healthy communities. We work to provide access to free locally-sourced, healthy, and halal food in a loving, judgment-free community space.

### OUR VISION

Feed Buffalo envisions a network of locally-sourced, healthy and Halal food pantries that serve foods that will heal the community.

- Organic. From the Earth to You.
- Safe. Safe handling in a safe space.
- Halal. In the spirit of dignity and compassion.

# THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT



In September 2022 Feed Buffalo collaborated with a local chef and a owner of groundwork market garden farm collective located on Genesee Street in Buffalo New York. We prepared and served the community via a farm to table gourmet meals outdoors on the farm. We served approximately 35 guests. The food menu included Halal meat and fresh fruits and vegetables from the farm. From this collaboration we birthed the vision to have our first gala next spring on the farm.

In the month of October Feed Buffalo collaborated with music artist love The Genius for a food giveaway at the Delevan Grider center. We provided fresh fruits and vegetables to over 100 people. We also collaborated with the African heritage food co-op to provide watermelon with seeds to the guests who registered.

Also in October, our executive assistant, one of our volunteers, and myself traveled to Atlanta, Georgia for the annual BUGs conference. BUGs stands for Black Urban Growers conference. We attended workshops about growing food and community collaboration. We connected with Cornell University and other orgs in Philadelphia.

In September we provided over 200 bags of fresh foods to the Fruitbelt community members in collaboration with Macedonia Baptist church.

In October, we collaborated with local artist Jalen Law, a Detroit nonprofit owner Paul Raft, and a Director of Ethnobotany at Morehouse College, Brother Shadeed to present Buffalo's first Food Justice tour. It was held at the Northland Workforce Training Center. We featured several community vendors who serve food and provide other health resources to Buffalo. Vendors included SNAP, Feed More, Healthy Cornerstore Initiative, etc. We were honored to present the Black History mobile museum 101 featuring Dr. Khalid L Hakeem and Muhammad Ali's wife. We served over 500 community members that day. We will do another Food justice tour this February at a different location.

For Thanksgiving we were able to provide Halal turkeys and 150 bags of healthy groceries to the community in collaboration with an organization named Yale empowerment organization. This event was held at school 31.

We continue to operate as an emergency response center by responding to daily calls that we receive from 211. Most of these calls allow us to serve homeless, disabled, and single mothers. Some of the individuals are in quarantine but most are homeless and have been temporarily placed in a hotel. Because of this we have to be careful about the options because most of these facilities do not have stoves or refrigerators. So we either deliver the food ourselves or order food that is as healthy as possible and microwavable via Instacart.

We submitted the city grant as partners with Ground Work Market Garden for the community growers portion of the fund and we are looking at acquiring seven lots on Leslie and Genesee that are located right across the street from Mayda's farm. We've been talking to the Director of Real Estate about the purchasing procedure and are currently waiting for them to place it on their Geo map for us to actually start an application. But the grant would allow for a Groundwork Market Garden to facilitate the establishment of healing gardens on those lots. We will work with community members—preferably youth—to establish these lots. And we will work with a local architectural design team to help us visualize a beautiful space. Mayda also offered building space for Feed Buffalo and for the Tea Bar pending renovations.

# A SNAPSHOT OF FOOD DISTRIBUTION IN 2022

- Approx 70 lbs of food per standard order for delivery to each family
- 70 x 5 per day x 5 days per week = 1,706 lbs per week x 52 weeks
- 88,725 lbs of food per year
- Community Food Giveaways
- 7,000 lbs of food each giveaway (Monthly)
- 84,000 lbs per year (Not including numbers from Ramadan)

## HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2022 – “HEAL THY COMMUNITY”

- Halal and healthy food need response for families year-round.
- Garden dinner with Mayda of the Groundwork Market Garden.
- Supporting families after the 5/14 attack. Provided meals for the Jefferson community (ongoing).
- Collaborated with local groups for a healthy Ramadan Grocery giveaway. 200 bags of food were gifted!
- Food Justice tour: On Saturday October 29th 12-5 at Northland Workforce Center. Contained community art projects, mental health and social support resources, workforce development and education opportunities, indoor agriculture opportunity, education on nutrition and healthy living, food marketplace, and free health screening. 15 vendors provided support for at least 300 people ranging in age.
- August 12th Food distribution with Westside Tilth Farm and 7xve (Griselda). We reached 150 families.
- August 7 2022 Healing Juices. Community members were given healthy organic free juices provided by local vendors. Throughout the month of August.
- Juneteenth Party 6/19/2022 Hosted by the Galactic Tribe and other local Black organizations. Over 100 people attended this collaborative celebration.
- New Van!!! In June 2022 Feed Buffalo was gifted a van by West Herr and M&T Bank to make food deliveries throughout Buffalo. Board member Edreys Wajed, MFA created an original design which was printed and wrapped on the van by APex Graphics of WNY.
- September 5th participated in Mac Fest, a collaboration with the Buffalo community for Resilience. Food Buffalo provided cooked meals for 100 people.
- Summer 2022 African American Cultural Center: provided lunches for the summer program for 60 children. Served about 600 healthy and nutritious meals.
- Our Mommie Village collaboration on Friday programming for postpartum mothers and children.
- 211 Service provider for Western New York: over 500 calls received and all were provided service for families in need.

## OUR GOALS FOR 2023:

- We would like to begin to shift the public perception of Feed Buffalo as a pantry to a healthy food access resource center and healing center. We will move the focus towards healing the mind, body & soul.
- Establish a healing herbal garden.
- Establish a tea bar.
- We aim to move to a new location with land. The proposed 7 lots across from GroundWork Buffalo is a possibility.
- Establish a Wellness Center.
- Deepen community relationships with the opening of a tea bar, increased collaborations that will allow us to meet the needs of the people.
- Focus on storytelling (visual and writing and film projects). Gather stories from community members to hear directly from them about their needs. Do they want healthy food? Do they cook at home? If they had the option would they cook at home more often? What health issues (diabetes, depression, etc.) might they be struggling with and do they think food can impact their situation? How can Feed Buffalo help support nutritional needs? This work can help move us forward with the community as our guide.
- We aim to get people back in their kitchens and amplify their voices!





## THANK YOU FEED BUFFALO COMMUNITY

Drea d’Nur, Founder and Executive Director

### BOARD

- Kelly Wofford (Director of Healthy Equity, Erie County)
- Kelly Galloway (Executive Director, Project Mona’s House)
- Rachel Laster MS, RDN, CDN (Nutrition Department Program Director, Dietician, D’Youville)
- Tiffany Nyachae, PhD (Assistant Professor of Education, Penn State University).
- Maya Pierce (Owner, Wealth of Knowledge Enterprises)
- Edreys Wajed, MFA (Artist and Co-Owner, Eat Off Art)

### ADVISORS

- Rami Nashashibi, PhD Founder and Executive Director of IMAN Central.
- Samina Raja, PhD Director, University at Buffalo’s Food Systems Planning and Healthy Communities Lab.

### VOLUNTEERS

- Feed Buffalo hosts monthly volunteer orientations which consistently produce dedicated community builders. With deep gratitude, we are clear that it takes a village. An integral part of our team, our volunteers sustain us and we have nothing but gratitude for them. Currently, Feed Buffalo has a network of 10 dedicated volunteers who are committed to impacting local food apartheid issues. We have volunteer opportunities for all individuals regardless of skill level to join the movement.



## 1,570 DONORS IN 2022

- Buffalo Bills Foundation
- M&T Bank
- West Herr
- Mightycause Foundation
- BreadHive Bakery
- Buffalo ShopCraft
- DoorDash
- Fiverr
- GoFundMe
- PayPal
- Rich Products
- Fatta Foundation
- Buffalo State College Foundation
- Verizon Foundation
- Renovation Church
- Buffalo Olmstead Parks Conservancy
- Larkin Square LLC
- Unitarian Universalist Congregation at Mt. Claire
- Bright Fund
- One 4 All Charitable Fund
- Redlich Horwitz Foundation
- John K. Purcell Family Fund
- 2 Anonymous Foundation Donors
- Local 1122 AFL CIO
- Givinga Foundation
- Central Indiana Community Foundation
- Morgan Stanley Gift Fund





## CONTACT US

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## WAYS TO CONTRIBUTE

- Follow on Social Media
- Make a donation: <https://pushpay.com/g/feedbuffalo>
- Volunteer

