



**WE RESCUE FOOD, SHARE FOOD AND  
EMPOWER PEOPLE, SO THAT NO-ONE  
GOES HUNGRY IN OUR REGION ...**

**We are the logistics solution  
to local hunger**

**2017 ANNUAL IMPACTS REPORT | THE YEAR IN REVIEW**



## THANK YOU TO OUR 2017 PARTNERS

### **MAJOR PARTNERS**

Wodonga TAFE  
Sailors, Soldiers and Airmens Club (SS&A) Albury  
Rivalea Corowa  
Birallee Neighbourhood House  
Border Trust

### **BUSINESS IN-KIND SUPPORTERS**

Hertz Rental  
Don Watson Transport  
Border Express  
Greenfreight  
Francis Transport  
Gateway Health  
RDMA  
Baker Motors  
Local farmers  
Birallee Neighbourhood House

### **MAJOR FOOD DONORS**

Foodbank Vic  
Second Bite  
Woolworths Regional Distribution Centre  
Coles supermarkets (3)  
Woolworths supermarkets (7)  
Aldi supermarkets (4)  
Uncle Toby's  
Murray Goulburn Kiewa  
Danone  
Riverina Dairy  
Shepparton FoodShare  
Birallee Neighbourhood House  
Local farmers

### **PROUDLY PARTNERING WITH**





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Thank You

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## VISION, MISSION, VALUES, GOALS

### VISION

Our vision is to provide an efficient, sustainable and collaborative approach to addressing food insecurity among people experiencing hardship in our region. We see our organisation as providing the 'logistics solution to local hunger'.

### MISSION

Our mission is to work together to maximise the volume and nutritional quality of food for people in need and create pathways out of poverty through training, education, employment and volunteer opportunities.

### VALUES

#### Social Justice

We believe all people have the right to adequate amounts of nutritious, culturally appropriate food without the need for emergency relief.

#### Empowerment

We build on people's strength and enable them to speak and act for themselves and create their own ways out of poverty

#### Efficiency

We make the most of our time, money, food or resources and reduce waste with creative solutions.

#### Sustainable

We minimise the carbon footprint of food production, transport, manufacture, storage and distribution.

#### Collaboration

We seek and achieve successful strategic partnerships to maximise our common goals.

#### Innovation

We think and work strategically to innovatively solve problems and strive to address our purpose.

#### Health

We believe highly nutritious food is a must for everyone – we seek it, provide it and educate about it.

#### Diversity

We leverage the strengths offered by diversity and see this as an opportunity for success

#### Integrity

We are honest, open and responsible in all our interactions

“Wodonga TAFE's support of Albury Wodonga Regional FoodShare is just one example of the Institute's ongoing commitment to strengthening local communities. By building and maintaining productive networks and community partnerships like this one, Wodonga TAFE can effectively promote social awareness and shared community expectations, helping make our wonderful region even stronger.”

**Mark Dixon, CEO, Wodonga Institute of TAFE**



## FROM OUR BOARD

On behalf of the Board I'm pleased to present the Annual Impacts Report for 2017.

### **WHY WE EXIST**

We are the most effective and efficient logistics model capable of supporting people experiencing hardship in our area. We rescue nutritious food on behalf of agencies and redistribute it across NE Victoria, southern NSW and into the Riverina.

FoodShare is a dedicated, decentralised logistics centre working in two states across ten local government areas to address food insecurity, simultaneously reducing food waste, reducing food miles, reducing emissions and increasing access to good quality nutritious food for people in financial stress, hardship or need.

### **MAKING A DIFFERENCE**

As a logistics hub, FoodShare rationalises the process in our catchment with substantial improvements to food rescue, sorting and distribution. We save food donors and food relief agencies time, money, resources and stress. As a grassroots-led organisation, we are able to service areas the metropolitan-based, state-funded charities, are not currently able to access.

The Board particularly wants to highlight the 180+ food relief agencies and their clients, and thank our generous donors who contributed 691,000kg for rescue and distribution between January – December in 2017.

Albury Wodonga Regional FoodShare

**fills the gap**

not adequately served  
by the larger food rescue organisations such as  
Foodbank Victoria, Foodbank NSW-ACT, Oz Harvest, Second Bite or FareShare



## FROM OUR BOARD cont.

### **TRIFECTA OF CHALLENGES**

FoodShare has faced a trifecta of forces impacting on our current and future operations. We simultaneously battle increased demand (1) and reduced supply (2) in a funding environment that is not supportive of regional food infrastructure hubs like ours (3).

Our manager Peter Matthews reports on the following pages (7 - 10). He explains the operational impact in 2017 of increased demand for food whilst dealing with a supply of food for rescue and distribution that has significantly decreased. We anticipate this change in market conditions will continue throughout 2018.

The Board's focus in 2017, as you would expect, has been on funding sustainability. The issue of FoodShare's sustainability will remain the key driver for the Board in 2018. There is no easy way to describe our predicament. The bare reality is that without an annual injection of base operational funds, this FoodShare's future remains vulnerable.

### **POLITICAL ADVOCACY**

Over the last 12 months the FoodShare Board has focussed heavily on understanding the environment we operate in. The Board has:

- utilised external expertise to develop strategic, business and risk management plans
- built stronger relationships with Foodbank Victoria (FBV) and Wodonga TAFE.
- invested time and effort lobbying local Federal and State politicians, and government departments to secure operations. We confidently argue that, in our region, FoodShare contributes to the commitment of federal, state and local governments to the welfare of rural and regional Australians (food security), to the environment (waste reduction and recovery), and to the development of regional Australia.





## FROM OUR BOARD cont.

Yet, FoodShare's sustainability remains tenuous despite the big-hearted support from agencies, donors and partners that keeps us afloat. FoodShare is incredibly efficient.

Every dollar donated allows FoodShare to distribute \$34 worth of food to a family in need – an amazing result. That \$34 equates to the equivalent of 10 meals.

However, without sustainable and consistent financial backing we cannot survive or meet our potential in the medium to long term.

In 2017  
\$143,000 of expenditure provided over 1.4m meals  
at a value of \$4.8m.

So ... every \$1 dollar donated = \$34 of food  
which is  
enough for 10 meals!

### **FUNDING INEQUITY**

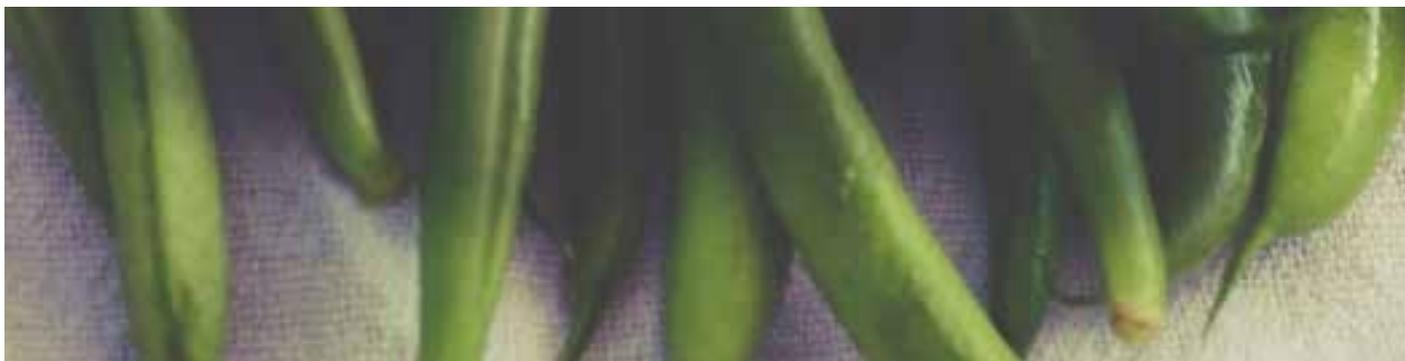
FoodShare is wholly funded by an irregular mix of corporate sponsorship funds, community service club grants, community donations, philanthropic trust funds, local government grants and agency contributions. It receives no state government support. As a small organisation, we have raised more than \$100,000 annually over the last four years – an astonishing contribution from our community.

### **FUNDING ELIGIBILITY**

What remains missing from this funding stream is access to commonwealth and state government contributions to cover core operational costs.

FoodShare is ineligible under current funding criteria for government funding that is available to national food insecurity organisations. Restrictive funding criterion is duplicated across commonwealth and state initiatives for food insecurity, leaving little room for organisations that fill the gap between metropolitan/greater city areas, and regional/rural hinterland. This disparity has been the key message of our political lobbying.

FoodShare seeks recognition from politicians and government departments that, like national food rescue organisations, regional FoodShares have an acknowledged and verified role as food rescue hubs. As such, FoodShares require investment: dedicated and permanent resourcing to be viable and take advantage of food donors' passion for their environment and communities.



## FROM OUR BOARD cont.

### **STRENGTHENING PARTNERSHIPS WITH KEY STAKEHOLDERS**

The Board continues to invest time in strengthening our existing partnerships and identifying new ones. I'd like to acknowledge here the pivotal role Wodonga TAFE and Foodbank Victoria play, and the partnership highlights for 2017.

### **WODONGA INSTITUTE OF TAFE**

In December 2017 FoodShare negotiated a new warehouse lease with this principal ally. Together we have been investigating opportunities for joint projects, with expectations to implement in 2018.

### **FOODBANK VICTORIA**

Aligning with Bendigo and Shepparton FoodShares, we strengthened strategic and operational relationship with FBV. Representatives from the three regional Boards met with the state charity's Chair, Dorothy Coombe, during 2017 and have committed to meet regularly. FBV has since appointed a dedicated liaison position to work with the FoodShares.

This is a welcome development, as is the anticipated transfer of ownership of a seven-year-old refrigerated van from Foodbank Victoria to FoodShare in 2018.



### **IN GRATITUDE**

The FoodShare Board is proud of what the organisation - through its Manager and volunteers - continues to achieve.

The Board sincerely thanks our volunteers, partners, donors, agencies and communities for their ongoing support; not only for the volume of food, in-kind support, or willingness to raise funds. Your very presence in our warehouse is the fuel that keeps us going.

A special acknowledgement also goes to Wodonga TAFE for its generous donation of our warehouse, and to Rivalea Corowa and the Sailors, Soldiers and Airmens Club (SS&A) Albury for their financial support during 2017.

We look forward to working with our community to feed local families for years to come.

Chair, Peter Muldoon



## FROM OUR MANAGER

2017 has been the most challenging since we opened the warehouse at Wodonga TAFE in 2012. We have been operating for more than five years from this warehouse, an arrangement solely realised through TAFE's generous sponsorship.

FoodShare in 2017 has seen substantial increases in demand for food whilst managing a significant decrease in the availability for rescue and distribution. We anticipate this dynamic to continue throughout 2018.

### **RECORD AGENCY REGISTRATIONS IN 2017**

**Sadly, the demand for food from agencies and their clients across north east Victoria and southern NSW was the highest we have ever experienced.**

**2017 186 AGENCIES**

**2016 148 AGENCIES**

**23% INCREASE SINCE 2016**

**INCLUDES 63 PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS**

The growth in overall agency registrations has predominantly come from the Riverina area **above** southern NSW, as agencies in this area have no comparable food insecurity organisation such as Foodbank NSW/ACT, Oz Harvest or similar to source regular rescued food.

We anticipate the number of enquiries from NSW to increase.



**WHILE DEMAND FOR RESCUED FOOD TO BE DISTRIBUTED INCREASED,  
SUPPLY HAS DECREASED**

**2017 691,000 KGS**

**2016 900,000 KGS**

**23% DECREASE SINCE 2016**

**23% = 209,000 KGS**

**DUE TO LESS SUPPLY LOCALLY AND LESS FROM FOODBANK, FARESHARE AND SECONDBITE**

The decrease in supply is due to a number of factors:

1. increased awareness of wasteful practices in the supermarket sector at store level and at distribution centre level
2. closure of the Murray Goulburn fresh milk processing plant in the second half of 2017
3. reduced availability of food from FBV and SecondBite to help meet local demand who also experienced tightening food supply.



**The cruel reality is that 2,500+ people across our ten local government areas run out of food on a weekly basis.**

SOURCE: ABS Data Update 2017.



## FROM OUR MANAGER cont.

### CHANGES TO CHARITY FREIGHT ARRANGEMENTS

In December, 2017 we were advised by Foodbank Victoria there would be a significant reduction in the chilled and frozen delivery service to rural, regional and remote areas from January 2018. The decision was due to contractual issues with the company contracted by the government to run the state's Charity Freight service. We expect this reduction to negatively impact every FoodShare's capacity to meet local agency requirements in 2018 – particularly for AWRFS as we are furthest from Melbourne.

### LESS FOOD FROM STATE FUNDED ORGANISATIONS

The total amount of food provided to FoodShare in 2017 by Foodbank Victoria, SecondBite and FareShare was 9% (or 23,300kgs) less than for 2016.

This reduction along with a decline in locally rescued food of **209,000** kg significantly contributed to FoodShare's overall drop in total food rescued from 900,000 kg down to 691,000 kg. From 1.8m meals, down to 1.4m.

This gap is equivalent to 400,000 meals! Nutrition that did not go to families across southern NSW and NE Victoria in 2017. We do not know if supply will stabilise at this level or drop further in 2018.

### 67% OF FOOD SOURCED LOCALLY

Despite the reduction in 2017 in overall food rescued, FoodShare still made significant additional amounts of food available through local food rescue.



### REPLACING AN AGEING REFRIGERATED VAN

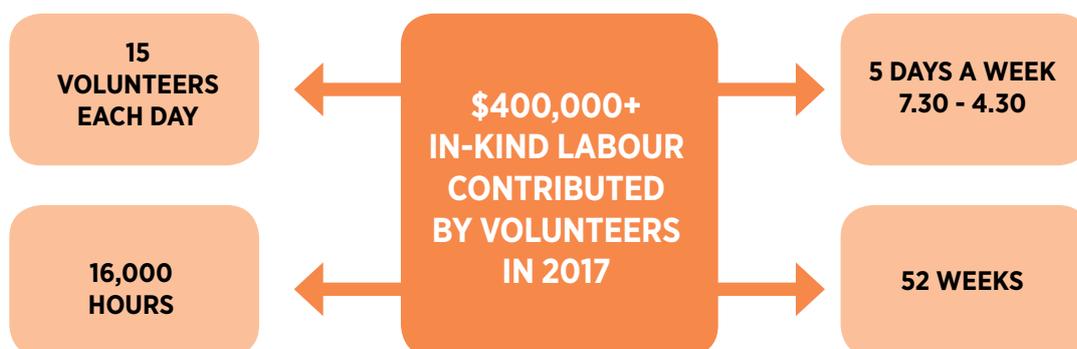
A key operational goal was to purchase a new vehicle to replace an ageing refrigerated van on loan from FBV since 2012. The van is critical to every component of our logistics service. We have diligently worked to source funding and have approached Foodbank Victoria to transfer ownership of the vehicle and sell the van, using the resale value as a contribution to the purchase. We are very pleased to be able to report that this will occur in 2018.



## FROM OUR MANAGER cont.

### 98% VOLUNTEER WORKFORCE

Lastly, we consolidated the labour force required to maintain service provision. Volunteers remain the core of our operational success. They come from the local community, businesses, schools, training organisations and agencies. We are vastly under-resourced with only 1.1 EFT paid personnel.



### IDENTIFYING RESOURCES

These are priority areas in the year ahead:

- identifying resources to get more food to communities where there are many people still going hungry
- sourcing more food
  - in categories such as, baking ingredients, tinned fish, fresh protein, eggs and cheese
  - from local growers to supplement supplies of fresh food including fruit, vegetables and protein
- lobbying for ongoing funding support

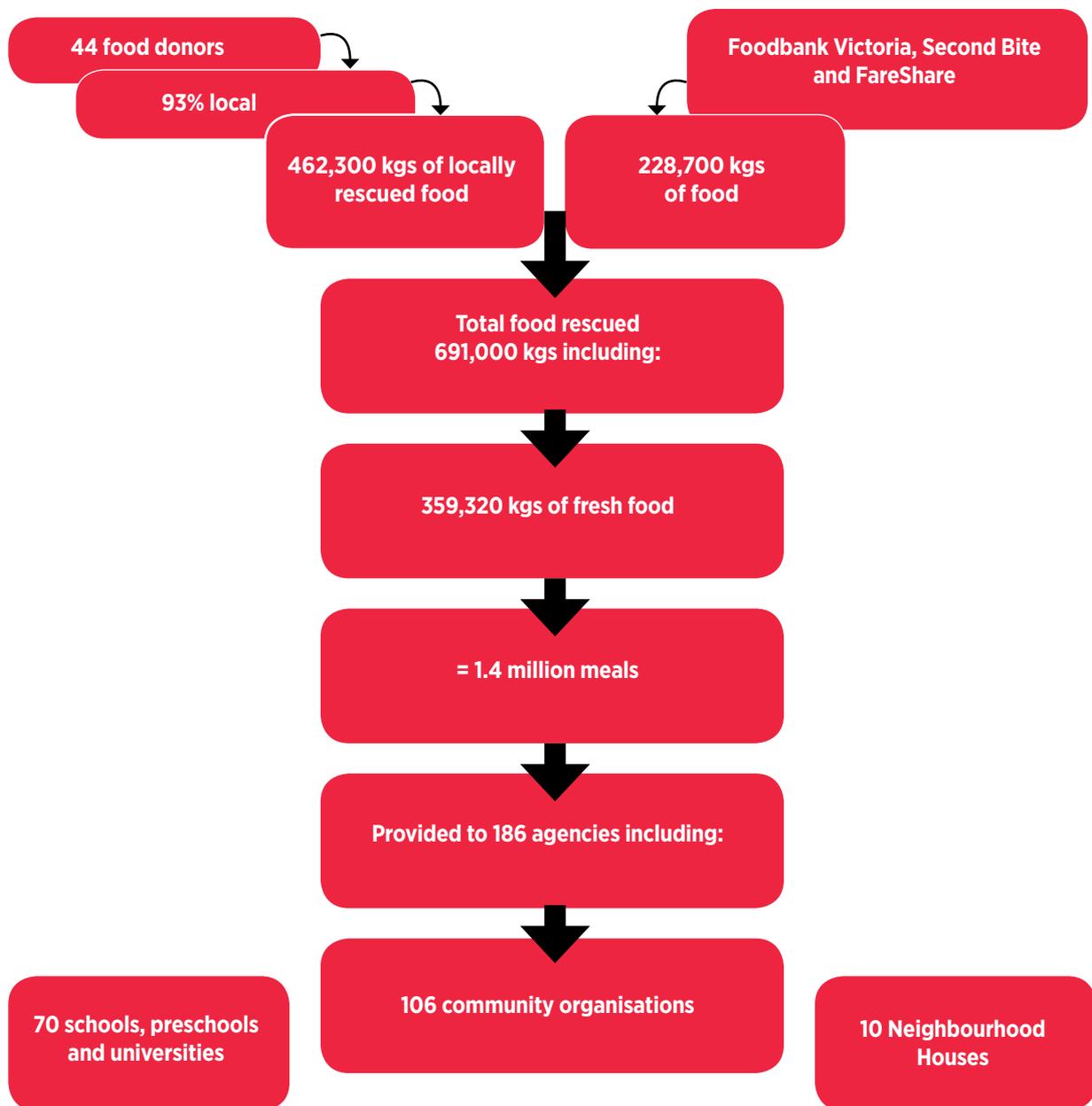
### IN GRATITUDE

Thank you to our volunteers! Without this communal generosity we could not have achieved our mighty results in this, or any other year. Without their amazing capacity and skill-sets we could not provide the quantities of food, or levels of support to those in need. The collective effort and donations make a real impact on hunger and disadvantage across a significant geographical area on both sides of the Murray River, and into the high country.

Peter Matthews  
Manager



## RESCUE & DISTRIBUTION SNAPSHOT



We rescue food that would otherwise end up as landfill



## MAJOR FOOD SUPPLIERS



“Foodbank Victoria partners with the Albury-Wodonga Regional Foodshare to provide healthy food to those who are going hungry in Albury-Wodonga and the surrounding region. In 2017, Foodbank Victoria assisted the Albury-Wodonga Regional Foodshare respond to their community by providing over 176,000 kg of food or the equivalent of 316,800 meals for distribution in the region.”

**Zac Lewis | Foodbank Victoria | Community Development Manager**

333,000kg of food rescued in 2016 was fresh food  
 in 2017 it was 359,222kg  
 an 8% increase!



## GEOGRAPHICAL REACH

### 150KM RADIUS

We serve ten LGAs in southern NSW and NE Victoria: Albury, Wodonga, Indigo, Towong, Alpine, Wangaratta, Greater Hume, Moira and Federation. In 2017 we began serving the southern Riverina/South West Slopes regions of Berrigan and Cootamundra/Gundagai.

### SCHOOL ENGAGEMENT

Despite the cessation of the Aussie Farmers sponsored schools program in 2017 the partnerships with our local schools has continued to grow.

Sixty-three (63) primary and secondary schools used the service. Their involvement ranged from accessing food for school breakfast programs to a whole of school approach, including: student volunteering at FoodShare's warehouse and school cooking programs.

The ultimate highlight has been the ongoing benefit to the schools. They ...

- continue to use our resources
- frequently diversify their use of the rescued food
- proudly communicate the value of the program to other schools



*“Rivalea is proud to be able to support FoodShare, which is providing services to people in need within our own region.*

*We partner with AWRFS because they are a local group working hard to help our local community, particular in providing food to people need - something we are passionate about.”*

**Kellie Laing | Rivalea Australia | Employee Liaison Manager**



## FINANCES

We note a considerable tightening of economic conditions within the not-for-profit space, and highlight that, unfortunately, our income was considerably lower than anticipated. To combat this concern, we have renewed our focus on embedding steady income streams and building our advocacy and support with potential funders.

Of particular note is that many volunteers, predominantly members of the board, spent considerable time making representations to various government representatives with a view to obtaining core annual funding. This included preparations of a significant number of detailed documents outlining the many community benefits that FoodShare drives. Unfortunately, we did not secure ongoing government funding in 2017 but remain optimistic for 2018.

Expenses remained similar to the prior year. The reduced income resulted in a considerable deficit. However, we are pleased to have ended the 2017 year with significant cash reserves.

Being mindful of its legal responsibilities, the Board will review its fiscal modelling in 2018. It will source external expertise to develop a detailed management strategy, including a solvency plan. It will continue to seek expert advice on sustainability; continue to make representation to all levels of government and remain positive about developing suitable partnerships.

### **GOOD VALUE FOR MONEY**

FoodShare operates with over 110 volunteers and two part-time paid staff. Last year our operating budget was just over \$143,000.

In 2017....  
**\$143,000** of expenditure resulted in  
**691,000 kgs** of rescued food enough for  
**1.4m meals** @ a value of  
**\$4.8m** which means every  
**\$1** dollar expended results in  
**\$34** of food enough for  
**10** meals for hungry local people

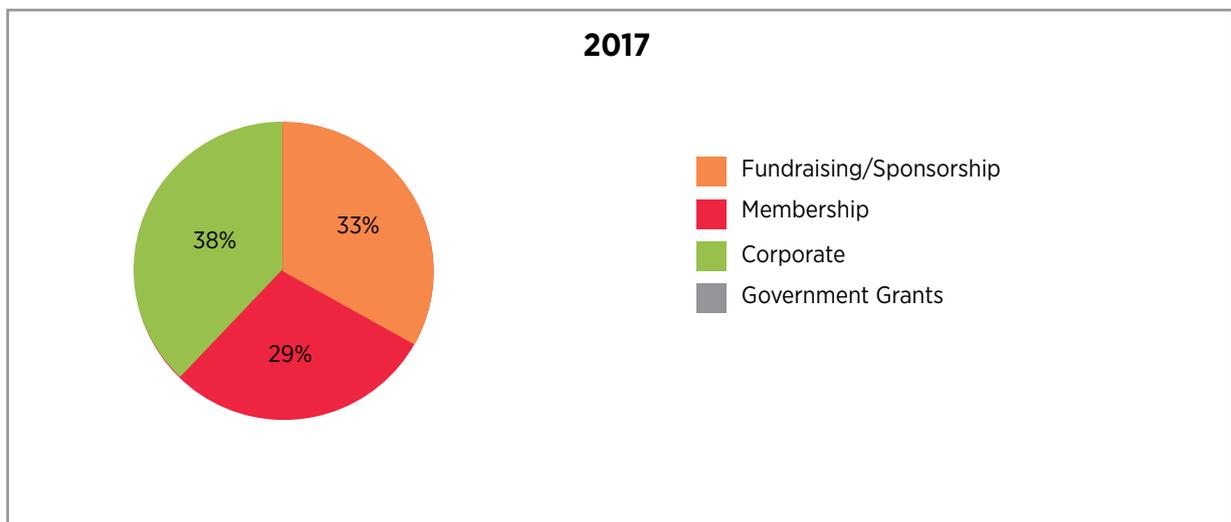
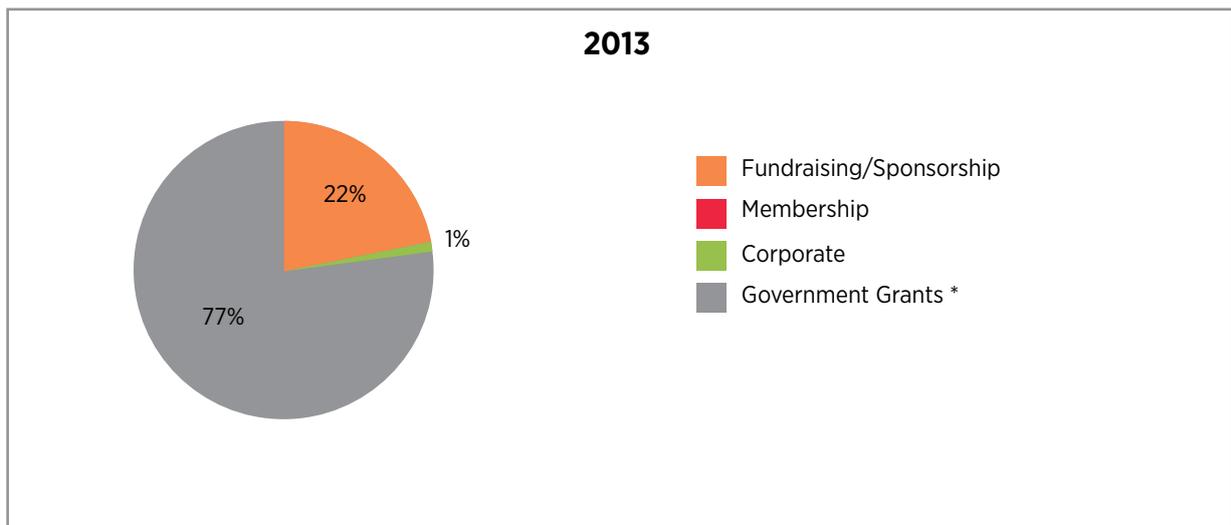


## FINANCES

### PROGRESS DIVERSIFYING INCOME STREAM

FoodShare continues to review its fundraising and marketing strategy since establishment funding ceased in 2015. The strategy has six funding pillars: partnerships and sponsorships, grants, donations, special events, voluntary agency contributions and social enterprise sales.

In 2017 we launched a fleet car wash service for local businesses, staffed by FoodShare volunteers. It provides a small but regular income stream. Ideally, it can be expanded in 2018. We have made progress diversifying our income streams as the graphs below show.



\* 2013 government grants segment should be read as 'majority amount from Sidney Myer Foundation via Foodbank Victoria'.



## FINANCES

Income and Expense Statement					
	Actuals 31-Dec-13	Actuals 31-Dec-14	Actuals 31-Dec-15	Actuals 31-Dec-16	Actuals 31-Dec-17
<b>Expenses</b>					
Employee costs	33,000	62,879	58,625	80,683	89,935
Capital costs	101,776	3,261	3,237	2,561 ☸	0
New refrigerated Van	-	-	-	-	-
Operating costs	54,258	66,822	60,560	27,835 ☐	33,936
Grant Compliance Costs				14,856	6,545
Total Food Costs	-	-	7,683	18,447	13,114
Sub total	189,034	132,962	130,106	144,382	143,530
<b>Income</b>					
Interest	702	513	604	825	576
Grants via Foodbank	58,750	45,000	45,000	-	-
Grants	20,000	20,000	30,000	-	1,946
Work Place Giving				460	
Fundraising / Sponsorship	22,439	8,269	75,759	68,365	25,408
Membership	-	-	22,169	35,488	30,425
Corporate Sponsorships				48,000	40,000
In-kind support	122,139	40,000	40,000	❖	❖
Extra donations, Van specific committed					5,030
Fleet car washing					2,030
Sub total	224,030	113,782	213,532	153,138	105,415
Surplus/(- Deficit)	34,996	-19,180	83,426	8,756	-38,146
<b>Statement of Funds</b>					
Opening cash	-	34,996	15,814	99,240	132,932
Surplus/( - Deficit)	34,996	-19,180	83,426	8,756	-38,146
GST Refund 2012 to 2015 inclusive				24,936	
Closing cash	34,996	15,816	99,240	132,932	94, 786

☸ **Capital cost 2016:** New marquee.

☐ **Operating cost 2016 - current:** Includes TAFE warehouse in-kind support.

❖ **In-kind support 2016 - current:** No longer includes TAFE warehouse in-kind support.

Please note: the financial data provided in the table above is sourced from Profit & Loss end of year statements. As a not for profit company operating with an annual income of less than \$250,000, FoodShare is not required to provide independently audited financial statements.



## PARTNERS

Partnerships are essential for any sustainable entity, in particular not-for-profit organisations. Wodonga TAFE and Foodbank Victoria remain our key partners, and have been integral from our beginning in 2012.

### **WODONGA INSTITUTE OF TAFE**

This has been a critical alliance for FoodShare since 2013. TAFE is our largest sponsor, providing extensive, in-kind support. In 2017 this included:

- peppercorn rent for use of 1000 square metre warehouse
- all utility costs
- access to forklifts for floor use and training
- other logistics including WH&S processes
- qualifications/accreditation for warehouse coordinator trainee Sam Eyre
- access to hospitality resources

The nominal lease arrangement is estimated to save FoodShare approximately \$60,000 per annum if taken at full market rates.

### **FOODBANK VICTORIA (FBV)**

FBV is our other principal partner. It helped establish FoodShare in three ways: strategically, operationally and financially. We work cooperatively for the benefit of people in need. FoodShare's purpose -in relation to FoodBank Victoria - is to act as the local distribution point for six local agencies registered with Foodbank.

Since 2012 FBV has supported FoodShare by:

- loaning a refrigerated vehicle
- paying registration and insurance costs

The vehicle is maintained by FoodShare, and FoodShare pays all repair and replacement costs. FBV has agreed to our request to transfer ownership of the vehicle to FoodShare in 2018.

Significantly, Foodbank Victoria assumes the role of emergency food relief provider into southern NSW, as Foodbank NSW-ACT does not have capacity to freight/deliver food to agencies beyond Cooma to the east, Narrandera to the west and Wagga Wagga to the north. Cooma is 316km (4 hours) and Wagga 137km (1.5 hours) from Albury Wodonga. The distance from Sydney (Foodbank's NSW-ACT's head office) to these regional cities/townships, is one of the reasons why we have recorded an increase in agencies from the Riverina/South Western slopes (NSW) registering with FoodShare.

Historically, Foodbank Australia, through its state affiliate FBV, has provided:

- establishment funding (2012- 2015)
- infrastructure formation funding to purchase freezers and other warehouse items
- access to an annual maximum of 'staple carbohydrate-based foods' and fruit and vegetables, free of charge

Most other foods sourced from Foodbank Victoria require payment.



## PARTNERS

### **SAILORS, SOLDIERS AND AIRMENS CLUB (SS&A) ALBURY**

The SS&A Club has been a constant supporter of FoodShare over the last three years, contributing approximately \$20,000 pa to operational costs, including funds towards the purchase of new refrigerated vehicle. In 2017 it generously offered to sponsor for another triennium.

### **RIVALEA COROWA**

In 2017 we began an 18-month financial and in-kind sponsorship with Rivalea, with an aim for on-going support. Rivalea generously recognises the reach into Federation Shire and across southern NSW and NE Victoria.



“Albury Wodonga Regional FoodShare assist us to provide fresh locally sourced fruit and vegetables, meat, bread and other staple foods for our clients who are seeking emergency food assistance. FoodShare delivers fresh food at least four times a week, sometimes daily, and collects our empty crates, cartons and pallets. In addition, FoodShare receives our weekly bulk food order from Foodbank Victoria which they also deliver directly to our door. This comprehensive free services releases our resources to concentrate of what we do best and that is to help those most in need in our community.”

**Executive Officer | Jennifer Sleep | Uniting**





## GOVERNANCE

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

David Foote, Emma Ghys, Greg Hardham, Jodie Kensington (Secretary), Eric Kerr, Tara Larkin (Treasurer), Alison Leahy, Peter Muldoon (Chair), Megan Pearce and Brendan Tennison-Woods. More detail regarding Board members can be found on our website.

The Board remains committed to reviewing and improving its performance.

In 2017, Directors undertook the following quality improvement initiatives:

- Development of new Board - Manager delegation policies
- Annual board performance review

The Board has developed the following strategic documents:

- Sustainable Business Plan
- Governance and Operational Risk Management Plan

2018 will see: a new Strategic Plan and board governance training on Directors' legal responsibilities.



110 volunteers

x



16,000 volunteer hours

=



\$400,000 saved in wages



## LOCAL FOOD RESCUE & LANDFILL

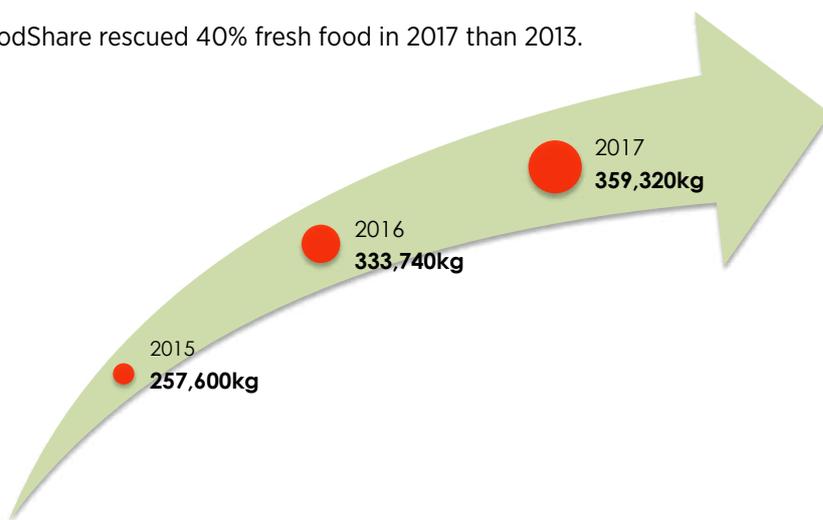
Food rescue programs are acknowledged for their social and welfare benefits - and their contribution to protecting the environment.

An estimated one in three kilograms of food produced around Australia is wasted (\$8 billion worth of food each year), whilst two million Australians go to bed hungry every year.



### LOCAL FRESH FOOD SAVED FROM LANDFILL

FoodShare rescued 40% fresh food in 2017 than 2013.



FoodShare plays a critical role  
minimising wasted food and energy  
while reducing  
greenhouse emissions  
water wastage &  
unnecessary landfill



## LOCAL FOOD SUPPLY INITIATIVES

### **WE CONTINUE TO BUILD ENVIRONMENTAL PARTNERSHIPS**

Diversion from landfill produces considerable environmental savings. FoodShare is well placed to work alongside waste minimisation agencies to intensify this impact if it is funded to do so.

An aim is to develop long term partnerships and align strategic goal setting in 2018.

Board and manager began by meeting with North East Waste Resource Recovery Group, Sustainability Victoria, Halve Waste and North East Catchment Management Authority in 2017. All parties see the synergies and possibilities that could be achieved by working jointly.

### **INITIATIVES TO INCREASE FRESH FOOD SUPPLY**

Two projects developed in 2017 that aim to grow the amount of fresh food available to FoodShare are with:

#### **North East Catchment Management Authority (NECMA)**

In late 2017 a Landcare submission was developed. If funded in 2018, the project would build stronger relationships with medium and small sized farms, and remove food to landfill, and increase fresh food supply to FoodShare.

#### **Wodonga TAFE**

In 2017 TAFE submitted a funding proposal to establish a market garden at its Wodonga campus. If funded in 2018, it will provide fresh produce and link our volunteers to a common project with students and trainers from a leading local educator.

By building new stakeholder partnerships, FoodShare is helping find innovative solutions to reducing food waste. Solutions that, if considered as pilot programs, could be adopted and adapted by not-for-profits and the public sector across Australia as examples of best (or next) practice. It would require additional staffing and operational funding to realise this opportunity fully.

Refer to FoodShare's Sustainability Business Case, 2017 for more detail.



## FOOD INSECURITY, HEALTH & DISADVANTAGE

### DID YOU KNOW THAT?

- On any given week in our region more than 2,300 people experience food insecurity i.e. they actually run out of food.<sup>1</sup>
- Poverty data for our region shows that all the LGA's in FoodShares catchment have poverty rates higher than the NSW and Victorian state average.<sup>2</sup>

1 Source: ABS 2017 Update.

2 Source: National Centre for Social and Economic Modelling (Oct 2013) "Poverty Social Exclusions and Disadvantage in Australia 2013"

### AND THAT IN 2017

- 3.6M (15%) Australians have experienced food insecurity at least once in the last year, with 3 in 5 experiencing it at least once a month, with 27% of these children
- 48% of food-insecure Australians are employed
- 41% have not paid bills in order to have enough money to buy food
- 46% of individuals facing this issue have not gone to a charity first
- 29% of people experiencing food insecurity live in regional and remote areas<sup>3</sup>

3 Source: The Hunger Report 2017 (Foodbank Australia)

### FURTHERMORE, FOOD INSECURITY

- has negative impacts on a person's long term physical and mental health.
- is associated with higher rates of chronic diseases including higher rates in rural and remote communities.
- effects educational and health outcomes
- negatively impacts on productivity and growth in rural/remote communities<sup>4</sup>

4 Source: National Rural Health Alliance, 2016



## FOOD RESCUE & ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS



### GREENHOUSE GAS REDUCTIONS

- Food grown but not eaten represents fuel that has been wasted in its production and distribution. Wasted fuel contributes greenhouse gases to the atmosphere.
- Food waste in Australian landfills is the second largest source of methane, a recognised contributor to global warming.
- 10% of 'More Economically Developed Countries' greenhouse emissions come from growing food that is never eaten.

### ENERGY SAVINGS

- Energy is wasted growing, harvesting, distributing and storing food not eaten.

### WATER SAVINGS

- Dumping 1kg of beef wastes the 50,000 litres of water it took to produce that meat. Throwing out 1kg of white rice wastes 2,385 litres, and binning 1kg of potatoes costs 500 litres of water.<sup>1</sup>
- The same report states that water used for irrigation to produce the food we waste annually would meet the water needs of nine billion people.

### LANDFILL SAVINGS

- 3.28M tonnes of food is driven to landfill in Australia every year.
- 47% of municipal waste to landfill is food and green waste<sup>2</sup>
- The impact of organic material (including food waste) being sent to landfill is the greenhouse methane gases it produces. Methane is up to 25 times more harmful than CO<sub>2</sub>, and the leachate (liquid that drains or 'leaches' from organic waste) has great potential for contaminating groundwater.

<sup>1</sup> Source: United Nations report: Resilient people, Resilient planet. 2012, p. 36, as cited in Future Directions International: Food Waste in Australia <http://www.futuredirections.org.au/publication/food-waste-in-australia>

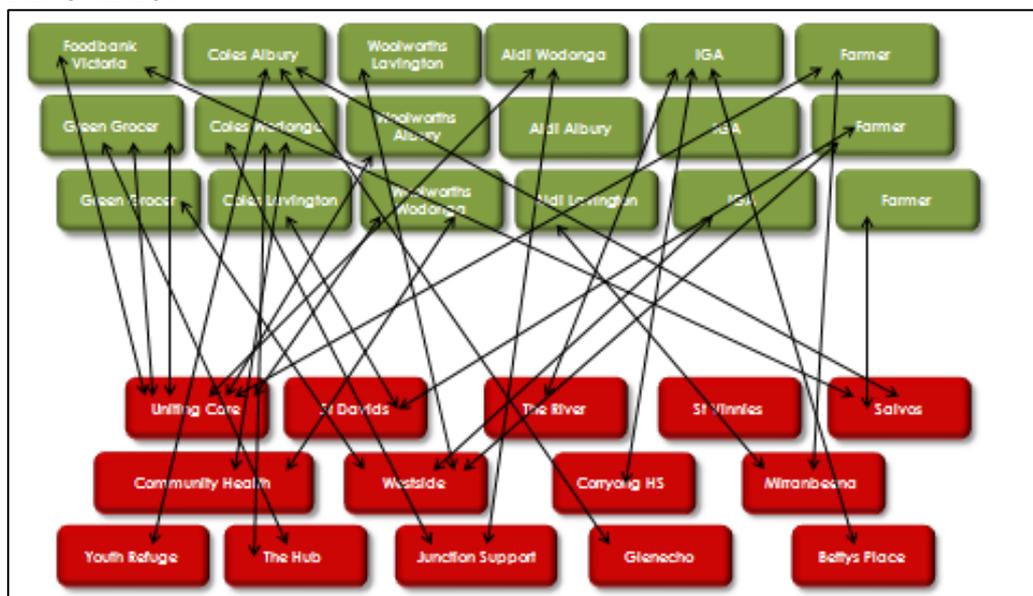
<sup>2</sup> Source: Cited by Foodbank: Food Waste in Australia <https://www.foodbanknsw.org.au/about-us/environmental-impact>



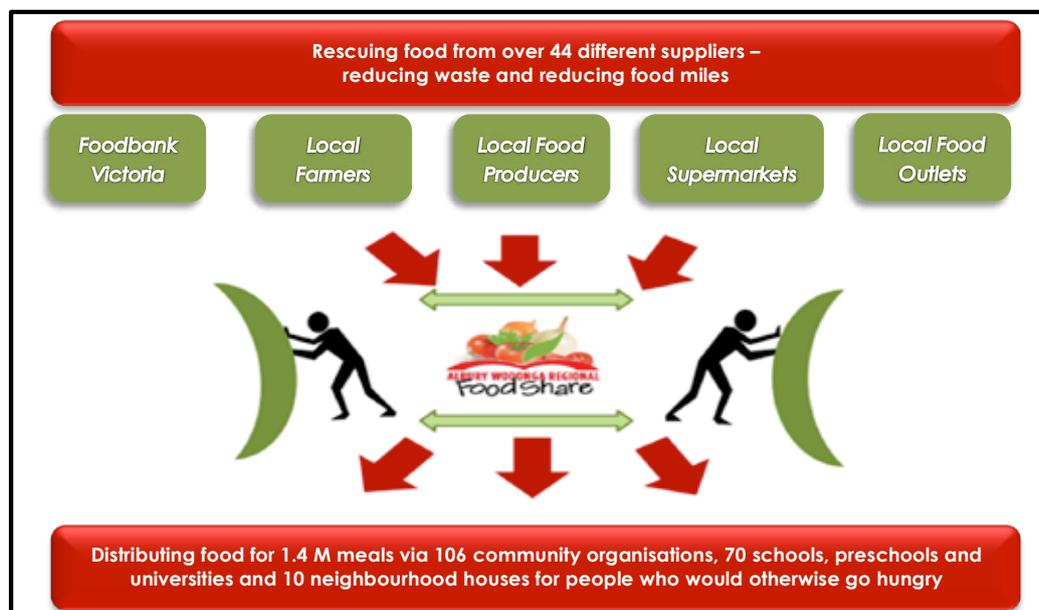
## WHAT IF FOODSHARE DID NOT EXIST?

If FoodShare was unable to continue, food relief in NE Victoria, the southern NSW and the lower Riverina NSW would revert to the pre-2011 model, similar to the diagram shown below. The sector would reprise the same gross inefficiencies and poor outcomes that people in need experienced eight years ago.

### BEFORE 2011



### NOW



### WHICH WOULD YOU PREFER?