

# Feeding Families & Fueling Hope



2022  
ANNUAL  
REPORT





# SHARING OUR LIGHT

How do we spread light in the world? If you have not read the book *The Lightmakers Manifesto*, we highly recommend it! The fundamental questions posed in the book center on how we love and care for others, mirror the kindness that is shown to us, and use our own light to make the world better. These questions are particularly relevant to our mission at FISH, since as an organization we offer light to those experiencing darkness in their lives. We often see people on their worst days, in crisis and struggling to hold it together. We give them food, emergency financial assistance, connections to resources, and most importantly, hope for the future.

*"The people who are at FISH make the biggest difference. They treat my family like we are not just okay to be there, but truly welcome. They are genuinely happy to get us the food we need and things my kids want and get excited about. The food is critical to my family's health, but the people are the best part. When we are there we do not feel like a poor family needing to use a food bank. We feel like we are their favorite visitors getting sent home with food and JOY!"*

~ A 2022 Participant



While we had thought that the end of COVID would bring some relief to neighbors, sadly we continue to see a huge need for support in our community. The high cost of rent—averaging more than \$2,000 per month in Broomfield—combined with inflation make it difficult for people to stay afloat. In 2022, we served 12,553 unduplicated people, which is roughly one in seven Broomfield residents! We saw many new families coming to FISH and more than half of those we served were children under the age of 18.



The light we shared would not have been possible without the extremely generous support from our entire community. We take pride in saying that we are neighbors helping neighbors and this includes our weekly volunteers, food drive organizers, ambassadors, corporate groups, scout troops, monthly donors, our Participant Advisory Committee, event sponsors, and Adopt-A-Shelf champions. Our "FISH Family" is truly thousands of fireflies lighting up Broomfield to ensure that everyone in our community can thrive.

**With deepest gratitude,**

David Massy, Chair of the Board of Directors and  
Dayna Scott, Executive Director

Our mission is to meet our neighbors' basic human needs and provide them with the hope and tools to rise out of poverty.

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**Not pictured:** Audrey Johnson, Temporary Housing Program Specialist and Karen Sanchez, Temporary Vaccine Outreach Assistant



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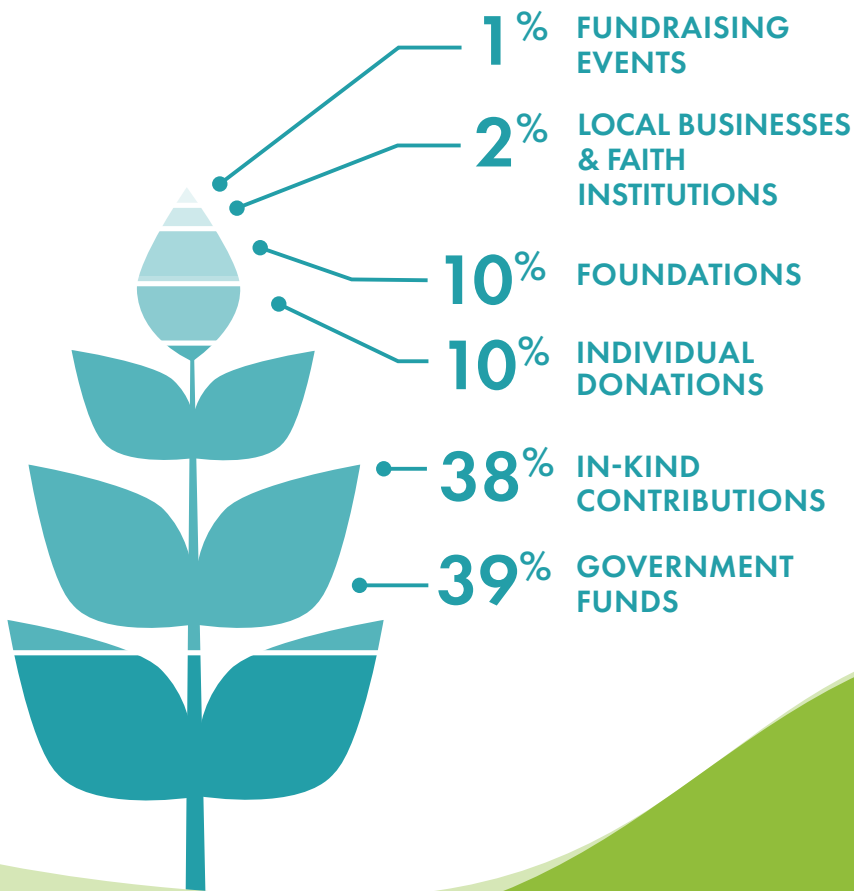
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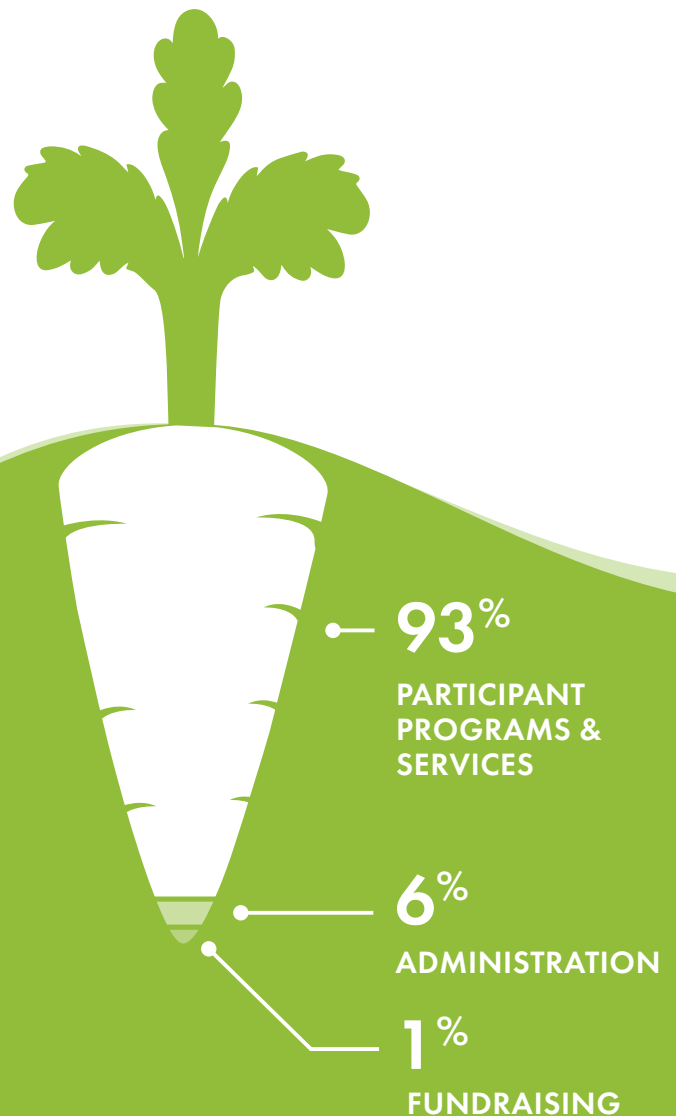
# 2022 INCOME CATEGORIES



TOTAL BUDGET  
FOR 2022:  
**\$6,739,988**

Data taken from FISH's audited 2022 financial statements.

# 2022 EXPENSE CATEGORIES



**93¢**

of every dollar went to benefit  
low-income Broomfield residents.





# FROM SURVIVING TO THRIVING

As the only Family Resource Center serving Broomfield County, FISH supports people on their journey from surviving to thriving. Many families come to FISH in crisis and we work with them one-on-one using the Family Development Model to help them with a variety of factors that impact self-sufficiency. The Family Development Model is a proven poverty-reduction program that includes: initial screening and case management with a trained advocate to assess strengths and needs; on-going work over time to set goals and match with resources; and tracking progress using the Colorado Family Support Assessment (CFSA 2.0).

FISH serves the most vulnerable members of our community, which includes low-wage working families, those with a disability, seniors on fixed incomes, refugees, immigrants, and those experiencing homelessness. We build relationships, establish trust, and get to know each person's unique circumstances so that we can do the deeper work of finding long-term, sustainable solutions with our wrap-around services.

Our participants are our neighbors, and by working with them to strengthen their families, we strengthen our community as a whole.



**1 IN 7**  
**RESIDENTS**



FISH has its roots as a food pantry, but in the last decade has expanded services to include an array of resources and programs designed to help low-income residents thrive. FISH is the only Broomfield County member of the Colorado Family Resource Center Association (FRCA) and uses a strengths-based service delivery model.

## HERE'S HOW WE DO THIS



### PREVENTING HUNGER

Food security is a critical issue in our community. In FY2022, FISH distributed 1,402,192 pounds of food to neighbors in need. FISH has a large, self-shop marketplace, hosts off-site programs to promote healthy eating habits and nutrition, collaborates with Community Food Share to run a Mobile Pantry, and delivers food to those who have barriers to access. Healthy living and good nutrition directly impact physical and mental well-being. FISH works with our participants to make sure they have a selection of fresh, healthy foods, which is essential to whole family wellness.



### STABILIZING HOUSING

FISH participants often spend more than 70% of their monthly income on housing costs. Our programs seek to stabilize families in existing housing and prevent homelessness. Last year, FISH provided housing stability to 1,228 Broomfield residents. FISH also worked collaboratively with the City and County of Broomfield and other nonprofits to oversee a hotel voucher program for residents facing an emergency or crisis. This included cold weather care for the growing number of people who were experiencing homelessness.



### SUPPORTING FAMILIES

FISH offers emergency financial assistance and family development programs that provide low-income residents the support they need to achieve two-generational, whole family success. The purpose of Family Resource Centers across the country is to foster healthy communities by focusing on individuals' self-determination and building upon participants' strengths. We work with our participants to plan programming that promotes overall self-sufficiency.



When I found myself struggling to make ends meet, Broomfield FISH was a true lifeline. I was embarrassed to admit that I needed help, but the staff at Broomfield FISH made me feel welcomed and respected. Broomfield FISH provided my wife and I with nutritious foods that carried us through tough times. I will always be grateful for all the help we received!

~ "Ben"



## THOUGHTFUL PARTNERSHIPS

FISH partners with more than 30 community organizations to ensure that we are a single, friendly point of contact to help neighbors in need. We strongly believe in community collaboration to achieve whole-family wellness and use referrals to partners to connect our participants to a wide variety of high quality support.



## MAJOR PARTNERS IN 2022:

- Almost Home
- BackStory Theatre
- Benefits in Action
- Broomfield Community Foundation
- Broomfield Early Childhood Council
- Broomfield Department of Public Health and Department of Human Services
- Broomfield Housing Alliance
- Center for People with Disabilities
- City and County of Broomfield
- Community Food Share
- Energy Outreach Colorado
- Hunger Free Colorado
- Mental Health Partners
- A Precious Child
- The Refuge
- Safehouse Progressive Alliance for Nonviolence
- Senior Resources of Broomfield
- Team Select

# TRENDS AT BROOMFIELD FISH

## TOTAL NUMBER OF RESIDENTS RECEIVING HOUSING ASSISTANCE



411

2019

1,228

2022

## POUNDS OF FOOD DISTRIBUTED TO THOSE IN NEED

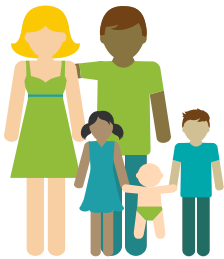


1,069,737

2019

NONE OF OUR NUMBERS INCLUDE SPOILAGE

## TOTAL OF UNDUPLICATED PEOPLE SERVED



2022

12,553

2019

7,057

## UNDUPLICATED FAMILIES RECEIVING UTILITY ASSISTANCE



114

2019

138

2022

## NUMBER OF PEOPLE EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS



2022

162

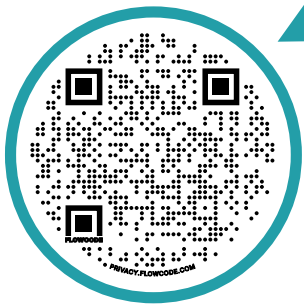
2019

145



# SHANIA'S STORY OF STRENGTH

Shania's family of six came to FISH for emergency assistance during a moment of crisis. They discovered a mold infestation in their home and everyone in the family became sick. Shania is immunocompromised and lost her job because of the serious health problems she experienced. The family had to stay in a hotel for their safety and well-being, but neither their landlord nor their insurance would pay for it, so they quickly depleted their savings. They came to FISH because they needed help and direction. FISH worked one-on-one with Shania to find support and resources so that her family could get back on their feet in a new, safe home within 12 days.



**SCAN TO HEAR SHANIA TELL HER STORY OF HOW SHE WAS ABLE TO WORK WITH FISH TO MOVE HER FAMILY FROM A PLACE OF CRISIS TO ONE OF THRIVING**

or visit [www.broomfieldfish.org/stories](http://www.broomfieldfish.org/stories)

FISH PARTICIPANTS  
REPORTED SPENDING

**70%** OR MORE 

OF THEIR MONTHLY  
INCOME ON HOUSING

FISH is working with a coalition of organizations to address the affordable housing crisis in our community. Together with the Broomfield Housing Alliance, the Housing Division at the City and County of Broomfield, the Refuge, Almost Home, and local churches, we are finding creative solutions to keep people housed.

“

Sharing our family table gives us hope and strength. With FISH, that is possible. Thanks to their help, we can have a Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's dinner or simply a favorite dessert or food for our children that we cannot afford very often.

~ "Ella"

”

## PARTICIPANT ADVISORY COMMITTEE & NO KID HUNGRY PROGRAMS

FISH is committed to amplifying participant voice. We build strong and trusted relationships with our participants and offer an array of leadership opportunities within our programs. Our Participant Advisory Committee (PAC) focuses on the specific barriers and challenges the Latino/a/x community faces in seeking support. The main goal is to tap into participants' strengths and find creative solutions to address barriers to self-sufficiency.

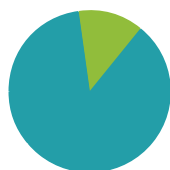
Our No Kid Hungry (NKH) program helps ensure that young children in our community have access to healthy food during their most critical developmental years. In partnership with the Broomfield Early Childhood Council (BECC), we provide fresh foods to young children of underserved families who experience significant barriers to food access. We strive to incorporate a diverse selection of food that is culturally relevant for our participants so that they can access more ingredients related to their traditional dishes and diets. Through this program, FISH also partners with Cooking Matters to host cooking classes. At the end of 2022, 40 families participated in the program.



## AMONG OUR PARTICIPANTS:



**25%**  
IDENTIFIED  
AS LATINX



**13%**  
WERE  
MONOLINGUAL  
SPANISH SPEAKERS



**MORE THAN  
50%**  
WERE CHILDREN UNDER  
THE AGE OF 18



## KEEPING FAMILIES HOUSED

The affordable housing crisis has put many residents at risk for losing their homes. The cost of living in Broomfield has skyrocketed to the point where our participants are spending 70% or more of their total income on housing and the average rent is now more than \$2,000 per month. Housing stability is a building block for people's long term health and well-being. Research shows that eviction has significant and undeniable negative consequences for mental and physical health, educational outcomes, and household finances. One of FISH's priorities is keeping residents in their current housing and preventing homelessness.

Our Keeping Families Housed program is for families with children under the age of 18 who are struggling to make ends meet. FISH advocates work with families on identifying strengths, setting life goals, and connecting to resources to ensure they can remain housed. This program offers one-on-one support to families and pays up to three months of rental assistance within one year. The payment structure helps immediately stabilize families and connect them to appropriate resources. Initial payment is based on demonstration of need, while the second and third payments ask participants to make specific investments related to improving family and child well-being.



“ A few months ago, I was a single mom struggling to keep my head above water. Thanks to FISH's Family Resource Center services, I was able to reach goals I never thought I could. With support from my advocate, Melissa, I was able to make my “maybe one days” into DOING IT NOW! I am no longer just surviving, I am thriving! Thank you for seeing my kids and I and understanding our situation. Thank you for all the opportunities you have showed us!

~ “Theresa” ”

FISH is fortunate to have widespread support from our generous community!  
Special thanks to everyone who contributed their time, talents, and  
resources to FISH this past year.

## GRANTS

Albertsons/Safeway Foundation  
Anschutz Family Foundation  
Arista Community Foundation  
BOK Financial  
Broomfield Community Foundation  
Broomfield Department of Human Services  
Cielo Foundation  
Colorado Blueprint to End Hunger  
Colorado Community Health Alliance  
Colorado Department of Human Services  
Colorado Department of Local Affairs  
Colorado Department of Public Health  
and Environment  
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Colorado Housing and Finance Authority  
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Emergency Food and Shelter Program  
Energy Outreach Colorado  
Enterprise Housing  
Food Pantry Assistance Grant  
Huntington Bank  
Metro Denver Health Institute  
Mile High United Way  
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Onward Colorado Foundation  
Oregon Foundation  
Rose Community Foundation  
Rotary Club of Broomfield  
Rotary Club of Broomfield Crossing  
Stanley C. Kelly Foundation  
The Swinerton Foundation  
TZP/Xero Shoes  
Weld Food Bank



Three young members of our FISH Family heard about the baby formula shortage and how hard it was for food banks to keep it stocked, so they held a lemonade stand and raised money to purchase formula for families in need!



Over the past year, we have grown our Fresh Food Heroes program to ensure that we always have healthy produce options for all of our families. Thank you to our Fresh Food Heroes FischerJordan, Hunter Douglas, and Joan Steele for keeping our marketplace stocked with delicious, nutritious fruits and vegetables! If you are interested in becoming a Fresh Food Hero, please email us at [events@broomfieldfish.org](mailto:events@broomfieldfish.org).



*FISH appreciates everyone who donated in 2022, including those who are not named here or donated anonymously*

## 2022 MAJOR GIFT DONORS

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Museum  
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Colorado Housing &  
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Pigott Family  
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