

[Annual Report 2025]

Gratitude



[wastenot
wantnot]

RESCUING FOOD + HELPING PEOPLE

A Note from Our Chairman

It is with a deep sense of gratitude and pride that we highlight some achievements in 2025 as *Waste Not Want Not* continues to focus on our mission and engage with our community. Our nonprofit food rescue organization has grown not only in size, but in the spirit of compassion that guides our every effort. Each milestone we have achieved this year is a testament to our dedicated staff and volunteers; the strategic oversight of the board; and to our cherished financial partners whose support makes our daily work possible.

We are truly grateful for those individuals, corporations and foundations whose generosity in 2025 has supported our vision to provide food to more partnering agencies and expand our outreach. We were fortunate enough to receive a donation from an “angel” foundation that is enabling us to expand and improve our distribution facility significantly. This expansion allows us to improve the operating environment for our volunteers and allows more capacity for food storage. This past year was momentous in the life of *Waste Not Want Not* as we celebrated our 35th anniversary and were graced with the presence of the organization’s founder, Deb Smyers, who shared her inspiration for starting a small food rescue nonprofit and what it has been like to see her dream develop and expand through the years.

We are thankful for the relationship that our Executive Director, Dr. Kathleen Spears, has been able to develop with a local healthcare provider and with the Jacksonville Jaguars during her short tenure leading the organization. The support from respectable community members enables us to improve the use of our distribution grounds and facilities but also assists with our goal of broadening the awareness of our mission in the community.

Our volunteers continue to be the powerful motor driving the organization. We are grateful for their commitment and passion. As a team, we have turned surplus food, that would otherwise go to waste, into nourishment, hope, and dignity for countless families. It is our unwavering belief in our mission that fuels our forward-looking determination to touch more lives by expanding relationships with food suppliers with the goal of providing nourishment to any food distribution partner that is seeking food for community needs.

As we look forward, our plan is to continue to build the bonds with all of our partners and deepen our community impact, knowing that every act of our mission brings us closer to a world where no food is wasted and no neighbor is left hungry.



Rick Hood
Chairman
Waste Not Want Not, Inc.

A Note from Our Executive Director

Best. Birthday. EVER!!
In 2025, *Waste Not Want Not, Inc.* celebrated 35 years of fighting hunger and feeding hope, and what an incredible year it was. Without question, it was the best birthday ever.

Together, we helped place more than 2.1 million meals onto tables and into the bellies of our hungry neighbors. Behind every meal was a story of compassion, generosity, and community coming together to ensure no one was forgotten. This milestone year also brought the largest single financial contribution in our organization’s 35-year history. That transformational investment made it possible to expand and upgrade our beloved “castle,” creating a safer, more welcoming, and more comfortable environment for the true lifeblood of *Waste Not Want Not* - our volunteers.

In 2025, we also proudly launched Clay County Food Insecurity Task Force, built exciting new partnerships with national brands, and expanded our volunteer engagement efforts, including hosting a holiday party that was such a success it is sure to become a beloved tradition. Financially, the organization exceeded its budgeted income by more than \$150,000, a testament to the growing belief in and support of our mission.

Our inaugural Corks & Forks Gala raised more than \$60,000, and when combined with proceeds from Tee’d Up to End Hunger and our Yard Sale fundraiser, *Waste Not Want Not* raised more than \$124,000 through special events alone. We also experienced a meaningful increase in corporate contributions and nearly a 200% increase in grant revenue, allowing us to strengthen and expand our impact across the communities we serve.

While we celebrate these accomplishments with immense pride and **gratitude**, we remain humbled by the reality that the need for our services continues to grow. Food insecurity is not always visible. It may affect the cashier at the grocery store, the teacher guiding our children and grandchildren, or a hardworking family quietly struggling to keep food on the table. As the cost of living continues to rise faster than wages, difficult decisions about food have become a harsh reality for many in our community. In 2025, we witnessed government shutdowns and uncertainty surrounding SNAP benefits, creating additional fear and instability for vulnerable families. *Waste Not Want Not* responded with urgency, compassion, and action. Because of the unwavering support of our volunteers, donors, and hunger alleviation partners, we were able to meet the moment and serve individuals and families seeking assistance for the very first time.

We never lose sight of the fact that this work cannot be done alone. Every rescued meal, every volunteer hour, every donation, and every partnership makes a difference. We are **profoundly grateful** to every person and organization that stands beside us in the fight against hunger.

You are the reason we had the Best. Birthday. EVER!!



Kathleen N. Spears, PhD, MHA
President & Executive Director
Waste Not Want Not, Inc.



Staff and Our Board of Directors

(As of July 1, 2026)

OFFICERS

Rick Hood
Chairman
Retired CSX Executive

Paul McDaniel
Vice-Chairman
VP, Supply Chain & Facilities
Baker Distributing Company

Joe Markley
Treasurer
Sr. Vice President First Florida Credit Union

Tonya Barge
Secretary
Attorney-at-large

Kathleen N. Spears, PhD
President/non-voting
Waste Not Want Not

DIRECTORS

Tillery Durbin
Manager, Commercial Loan Processing
VyStar Credit Union

Erin Jones
Human Resources Business Partner – Transportation South
CSX

Catharine Wells
Marketing and Community Engagement Manager
CBRE | Retail Property Management - Orange Park Mall

STAFF

Avery Cecere
Director, Mission Impact

Alise Dillow
Administrative Coordinator

Stacey Eisold
Director, Mission Delivery

Christie Hingst, MPA
Corporate and Community
Engagement Lead

Linda McKenzie, MSA
Volunteer Engagement Lead

Kathleen N. Spears, PhD
Executive Director

Kelli Taylor
Mission Delivery Coordinator

From Rescue to Renewal

Every day, surplus food is at risk of becoming waste. At Waste Not Want Not, we see something different. We see an opportunity to nourish our neighbors, strengthen communities, and protect our environment.

During the past year, our dedicated volunteers, food donors, staff, and community partners rescued an extraordinary **1,782,648 pounds of food and other essential items** that otherwise may have ended up in local landfills. Through the collective efforts of our network, these resources were redirected to families, children, seniors, veterans, and individuals facing food insecurity across Northeast Florida.

The environmental impact of this work is profound. By keeping nearly 1.8 million pounds of usable food out of landfills, we prevented an estimated **6,451,292 pounds of carbon dioxide emissions** from entering the atmosphere. That environmental benefit is equivalent to:

- Removing **683 gasoline-powered passenger vehicles** from the road for an entire year.
- Avoiding greenhouse gas emissions comparable to burning more than **3.3 million pounds of coal**.
- Saving enough greenhouse gas emissions to equal the annual energy use of **610 single-family homes**.

Yet the true measure of our impact is found in the lives touched through every rescued loaf of bread, carton of milk, box of produce, and prepared meal.

Working alongside **101 community-based grassroots organizations**,

- We transformed rescued food into more than **2.1 million meals** for our neighbors in need.
- Together, we served communities across **14 counties in Northeast Florida**, reaching some of the region’s most rural and underserved areas where access to nutritious food can be limited.

Through this extensive network of partners, we helped provide food assistance to **thousands of families**, including more than **60,000 older adults** and over **98,000 children**. These numbers represent more than meals, they represent dignity, stability, health, and hope.

None of this would be possible without the vision and leadership of our board of directors, the generosity of our food donors, the commitment of our volunteers, and the dedication of our partner agencies. Every rescue route driven, every box sorted, and every distribution completed creates a ripple effect that benefits both people and the planet.

Thank you.



From Rescued to Restored

Every day across Northeast Florida, a remarkable transformation takes place.

It begins with food.

A loaf of bread. A box of produce. A tray of sandwiches. A carton of milk. Food that is wholesome, nutritious, and perfectly good, yet no longer sellable.

At grocery stores, restaurants, bakeries, farms, and food manufacturers, surplus food accumulates. For many organizations, this would be the end of the story. The food would be discarded, hauled away, and ultimately buried in a landfill. For Waste Not Want Not, it is where the story begins.

Before sunrise, our volunteer food rescuers are already on the move. They travel throughout the community collecting donations from generous partners who have chosen stewardship over waste. Every pickup represents a simple but powerful belief...good food belongs in bellies, not in landfills. What they rescue is more than food.

They are rescuing possibility.

The rescued food arrives at our recently restored "castle", which is our headquarters and **hub of hope.** Here, another transformation

begins. Volunteers sort, inspect, organize, and prepare each donation for distribution.

Produce is carefully examined. Orders are assembled to meet the unique needs of our partner agencies. The Castle comes alive with purpose. Volunteers of every age and background work side by side. Students. Retirees. Families. Corporate teams. Community groups. Each person contributes to a mission larger than themselves.

Soon, partner agencies begin arriving. Food pantries. Schools. Soup kitchens. Shelters. Churches. Senior programs. Veteran support organizations. Outreach teams serving unhoused neighbors.

Vehicles are loaded. Routes are planned. Food begins the final leg of its journey.

And that is where restoration happens.

A child receives food through a backpack program and arrives at school on Monday nourished and ready to learn.

A senior living on a fixed income finds fresh produce waiting at a community distribution or delivered to their home.

A veteran navigating difficult circumstances receives groceries that provide stability and relief.

A family facing an unexpected crisis discovers that help is available and that they do not have to face hardship alone.

An unhoused neighbor receives a meal and a reminder that they are seen, valued, and worthy of care.

The food was **rescued**. But what is **restored** is far greater.

Nourishment is restored.

Dignity is restored.

Hope is restored.

Peace of mind is restored.

A sense of community is restored.

Every pound of food rescued represents a person whose burden is made lighter. Every donation represents a choice to care. Every volunteer hour represents a commitment to building a stronger, more compassionate community.

At Waste Not Want Not, we know that food is never just food. Food is comfort. Food is connection. Food is health. Food is dignity. Food is hope. Food is love.

From the grocery shelf to the rescue vehicle. From the rescue vehicle to the Castle. From the Castle to our partners. From our partners to the tables of our neighbors.

That is the journey.

From rescued to restored.

And it is a journey made possible by a community that believes no food should be wasted and no person should go hungry. A community of people like you. Thank you for being part of the journey from rescued to restored.



Honor Roll of Donors

January 1, 2025 – December 31, 2025

CIRCLE OF [HOPE] is our annual giving campaign that allows friends and supporters to contribute financially to the fight to end hunger + poverty in our community. Join the campaign at a level that feels right for you and in a way that works for you such as supporting an event, including us in your estate plan, giving a gift of stock or an outright financial gift. To learn more, please contact our Executive Director at 904-687-6327.

TRANSFORMATIONAL LEADER'S CIRCLE | \$100,000+

Baptist Health
Warren & Augusta Hume Foundation

CHAIRMAN'S CIRCLE | \$25,000 - \$100,000

HCA Healthcare Florida

PRESIDENT'S CIRCLE | \$10,000 - \$24,999

Clay Electric Foundation
Chris and Kimberly Jackson
Edna Sproull Williams Foundation
The Community Foundation
for Northeast Florida

CHAMPIONS | \$5,000 - \$9,999

Mike and Peggie French*
Kyle and Jennifer Fresh+
Jacksonville Jaguars
Torin* and Linda McKenzie^
Stephanie Moresco
Northeast Chapter of Credit Unions
Paul E. and Klare N. Reinhold Foundation
Kathleen N. Spears, PhD^

WARRIORS | \$1,000 - \$4,999

Elizabeth Berk
J.F. and Peggy Bryan
William and Jessica Cecere
Sheila Chisolm
Joe* and Diane Clairmont*
Mary Cobb, Sr.*
Dr. David Courtwright & Ms. Shelby Miller
CSX Foundation
Pamela Dunn
First Florida Credit Union
Foodies Care
Roger* and Karol Higginbotham*
Rick and Paula Hood+
Robert and Dorothy Hood
Humana
Michael and Florence Illovsky
David and Anna Marie Jackson*
Jim and Suzie Kaelin
Brian and Jennifer Knight
Knights of Columbus Council 11220
Suzanne Kuehn
Thomas and Susan Lang
Diahann Lassus
Linda Marlette
Paul and Kim McDaniel+
John and Sally McDonald

Bob McKinney *
Pat McKinney*
Darrell* and Karen Murphy*
Susan Oehler
Ken* and Lorie Plato*
Paul and Gail Polizzi
Steve and Anne Poole
New Grace Anglican Church
Rotary Club of Orange Park
Sunrise Charities Inc.
Rotary of Orange Park Charitable
Foundation Inc. (Noon Club)
Sacred Heart Catholic Church
SafeTouch Security
Henry and Alice Scanlon
Melissa Schrader
The Reverend Neely Towe
VyStar Credit Union
Walmart Foundation
Wiggins Construction/Joe Wiggins

FIGHTERS | \$25 – \$999

Raquel Bada
Steven and Amy Bandalos
Lee and Kathy Banks

Kay Berzsenyi
Dion Blake
William “Bill” Bowen
John* and Linda Boyd *
Thomas and Marianna Boyle
Robert Bradshaw
Sammy and Jennifer Bryie
Audrieanna “Audri” Burgin
Calvary Methodist Church
Tom and Elaine Canaan*
Sharon Chapman
Jim* and Virginia Collins*
Brian and Kathleen Cook
Russell and Caroljo Creighton
Christopher Curry
Chris and Danielle Davis
Dan and Ada DeRosa
Ellen Destafano
Wayne DeVeydt and Michele
Jackson DeVedyt
Dillard’s Stores
Jim and Eva Dion
Michael and Tillery Durbin+
Darren and Lauren Eakins
Facebook
Amir N. Farooqi
Roddey and Mary Fisher
Daphkare Francois
David and Darlene Garmus
Bryce and Kelly Gentry
John and Melba Gordon
Marjorie Goyer

Tamela Grandberry
Tyra Grandberry*
Rom and Maria Guzman (Grace
Ministries Without Walls)
Robert and Cathy Hardage
Todd and Allison Hastie
Mike and Christie Hingst
Carrie Hirst
Rosemary Hitt
Jackie Hochstadt
Jessica Horne
Amy Houston (Clay County Rescue Mission)
Jeffrey Howarth*
Stephen Howington
Etta Hurlburt
Terri Huston
Skip* and Judy Jackson*
Steve and Beth Kailes
Tracy Kalvig
Sam* and Diane Kilgore
Emile and Doris Latour
LM Henderson & Company, LLP
Michael Locke*
Magnolia Point Women’s Club
Mandarin Presbyterian Church
Marguerite Martin
Tim* and Janice Martin*
David and June Matamoros*
Edward May, Jr. and
Genet Case May
William and Ann McIntosh
Stan and Betty McKee
Tom and Donna McNamara*
Mickman Bros., Inc.

John Morrow*
Frank and Robin Mosher
Sherree Myers
Network for Good
Natalie Nolan
Linda Odum
Orange Park Methodist Church
Jean Page
Ed and Emily Pate
Collen Phelps*
PNC Bank
Chris and Alexandra Reinhardt+
Reverb
Fr. Edward Rooney*
Richard Rohloff
Jeff Ruvolo*
Sacred Heart Catholic Church
Council of Women
Tonya Sanders
Deborah Schroth
Joseph Sellix*
Mary Shannon
Catherine Smith
Debra Smyers
Bill and Kelli Taylor^
Three Grains of Rice, Inc.
Thrivent Financial
Minette Torres*
Sandra Treffinger
United Way of Northeast Florida
Delores Watkins
Tommy and Gina Woods
Kirk and Susie Young
Zelen Risk Solutions



TRIBUTES

In honor of people impacted by the government shutdowns
given by Tracy Kalvig

In honor of Kay Andrews
given by John Morrow

In honor of Jerry Canaan, Derek Canaan,
and Mary Katherine Canaan
given by Tom and Elaine Canaan

In honor of Bill and Angela Cassell
given by Mike and Peggie French
“Wedding blessings to Bill and Angela!”

In honor of Mary Cobb, Sr.
given by Sharon Chapman in recognition of “your volunteerism”

In honor of John and June Conlin
given by Ellen Destafano

In honor of Mike and Peggie French
given by Jeff Ruvolo

In honor of Kyle and Jennifer Fresh
given by Kathleen N. Spears, PhD

In honor of David Garmus
given by Kirk and Susie Young

In honor of Rick Hood
given by Robert and Dorothy Hood

In honor of Jonathan Lengar
given by Tonya Lengar Sanders

In honor of Brendon and Xelpho Markey
given by Kay Berzsényi

In honor of Linda McKenzie and her dedicated service
to Waste Not Want Not
given by Cathy Hardage

In honor of Theresa Nolan, who always taught me
to break bread and build a longer table.
given by Natalie Nolan

In honor of Ken Plato’s dedicated board service
given by 2025 Waste Not Want Not Board of Directors

In honor of Alexandra Reinhardt
given by Kathleen N. Spears, PhD

In honor of The marriage of Jeff Ruvolo and Ann Barta
given by Mike & Peggie French

In honor of Dr. Kathleen Spears
given by
William and Jessica Cecere
Wayne DeVeydt and Michele Jackson DeVeydt
Lauren Eakins
Amir N. Farooqi
Daphkare Francois
Tamela Grandberry
Tyra Grandberry “Happy Birthday Auntie!”
Etta Holloway Hurlburt



MEMORIALS

In memory of Harold Andrew Bryant, Jr.
given by Linda McKenzie “This donation is given in memory of my
oldest son, Harold Andrew Bryant, Jr. December 4th marked the
10th anniversary of his death...the pain is no less.”

In memory of Mary Flanders, mother of Jeff Flanders
given by Sharon Chapman

In memory of Caren Garmus
given by Kirk and Susie Young

In memory of Faith Holloway sister of Dr. Kathleen Spears,
Etta Holloway Hurlburt, and Tamela Grandberry
given by Thomas and Sue Lang

In memory of Marie Howarth
given by Jeff Howarth

In memory of Christa Loesche Clark
given by Edward May, Jr. and Genet Case May

** Denotes donor is also a volunteer*
+ Denotes donor is also a board member
^ Denotes donor is a staff member



THANK YOU TO OUR 35TH ANNIVERSARY
CORKS & FORKS GALA
SILENT AND LIVE AUCTION DONORS

- 1748 Bakehouse
- 4Rivers Smokehouse - Baymeadows
- Achieve Fitness
- April One
- A’propos Boutique
- Josh & Tonya Barge
- Bella Lei Aesthetics & Optimal Wellness
- Bleach Please Salon
- Brew Bakers
- Bullseye Guns & Indoor Gun Range
- Cantina Louie
- Carpet Man Flooring
- Charles & George’s Car Wash
- Cheddar’s Scratch Kitchen
- Cimarrone Golf Club
- Clamour Theatre Company
- Coopers Hawk Town Center
- Cox Media Group
- Dillard’s
- Mike & Tillery Durbin
- Edwin Watts Golf
- Kyle & Jennifer Fresh
- Grumpy’s Restaurant

Rick & Paula Hood
Island Wing Company-Fleming Island
Jacksonville Zoo
Jax Boat Rentals
Jeremiah's Italian Ice
Joe & Tracy Markley
Kendra Scott
Kilwins Jacksonville
Kingsley Jewelry
Local Fare Jax
Maggiano's Little Italy
Main Event Jacksonville
Maple Street Biscuit Company
Paul & Kim McDaniel
Thomas "Tommie Mac" McManus
Medure Brothers' Culinary Concepts
Miller's Ale House
Mixed Fillings Pie Shop

Modern Aesthetic Centers
Moe's Southwest Grill
Monarch Ballroom & Dance Studio
Nordstrom St. Johns Town Center
OP Fish House and Oyster Bar
Palermo Puerto Rican Kitchen
Pearle Vision
Publix Stores
Chris & Alexandra Reinhardt
River Restaurant Group
Rolling Stoves Orange Park
Sawgrass Marriott Golf Resort & Spa
Seasons 52
Seavin Inc
Shake Shack
Sheriff Michelle Cook
Kathleen N. Spears, PhD
Sprouts Farmers Market

St. Augustine Pirate & Treasure Museum
Stillwater Golf & Country Club
Sweet Pete's
The Capital Grille
The Florida Aquarium
The Gate Foundation
Thrasher Horne Center for the Arts
Toasted Yoke
Total Wine & More
Trader Joe's
Trailer Bridge
ULINE
Valentina's Italian Bistro
WaWa
Whiskey Cake
Winn Dixie Liquors
YMCA of Florida's First Coast

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this list, if a name has been omitted in error or spelled incorrectly, please contact our executive director. This list includes only those who made a tax-deductible contribution. Individuals making purchases are not included in this list.



Last Year's Event Highlights

In 2025, we held our inaugural Corks & Forks Gala in celebration of our 35th Anniversary. The event was such a success that we have made it an annual event! Here are photos from Corks & Forks: The Jade Edition



Corporate Food Donors

Fighting hunger is not easy. We can't do it alone. It is with extraordinary **gratitude** that we recognize these corporate partners who joined us in fighting hunger in 2025.

Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.
Anthony's Catering
Baptist Medical Center Clay
BIMBO Foods
Crumbl Cookies
Chik-fil-A
CBV Cares
Dave's Donuts
Elevate Life Church
Feeding Northeast Florida
FIS Global
Flowers
4 Rivers Smokehouse
GATE Petroleum

Girls Scouts of the Gateway Council
HCA Healthcare Florida
Jacksonville Jaguars
KFC
Local Fare Jax
Longhorn Steakhouse
Maple Street Biscuits
Olive Garden
Outback Steakhouse
Panera
Pepperidge Farms
Publix Stores
Red Lobster
Starbucks

The Granary
The Winn-Dixie Company
Trader Joe's
Truck Drivers Association
United States Postal Service
Walmart Stores
WaWa Stores



Financials

Every day, Waste Not Want Not, Inc. helps turn compassion into action. By rescuing surplus food and sharing it with partner agencies across Northeast Florida, the organization is doing more than reducing waste, it is helping put meals on tables, bringing relief to families, and strengthening the community one delivery at a time.

In 2025, that mission continued to grow in powerful ways. With the support of volunteers, donors, and community partners, Waste Not Want Not recovered and distributed millions of pounds of food and goods to people who need them most. This work reflects a simple but powerful truth: when a community comes together, generosity can reach far beyond what seems possible.

Just as important, the organization has shown that it is a careful and responsible steward of every contribution it receives. With \$3.57 million in revenue and more than 94% of expenses going directly to program services, Waste Not Want Not demonstrates an exceptional commitment to using resources where they have the greatest impact. Its positive year-end surplus and growing net assets also reflect strong financial health and long-term sustainability.

For donors, this means your support does more than fund an organization, it fuels hope, nourishment, and dignity for neighbors across the region. Waste Not Want Not is a trusted, mission-driven nonprofit that transforms generosity into meaningful, measurable change.

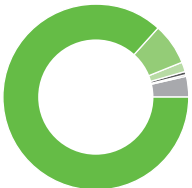


Joe Markley,
Treasurer
Waste Not Want Not, Inc.

Fiscal Year 2025 January 1 - December 31, 2025

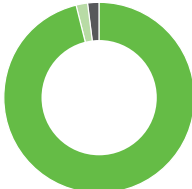


FY 2025 INCOME



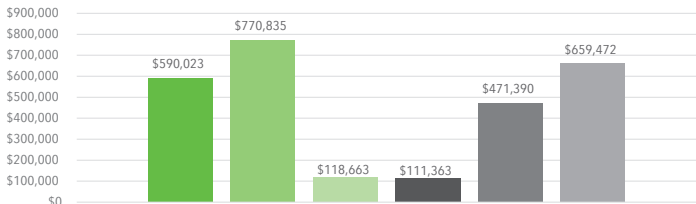
- Corporate & Faith-Based Inst. Contributions • \$3,136,075
- Foundation Gifts & Grants • \$261,635
- Individual Gifts • \$65,409
- Investment Income • \$13,923
- Program Partner Contributions • \$13,475
- Special Events (gross) • \$125,449

FY 2025 EXPENSES



- Program/Food Rescue & Distribution • \$3,298,449
- Management & General • \$68,857
- Fundraising & Special Events • \$60,668

FY ASSET BALANCE



- Total Assets Beginning of Year
- Total Assets End of Year
- Total Liabilities Beginning of Year
- Total Liabilities End of Year
- Net Assets Beginning of Year
- Net Assets End of Year

[wastenot wantnot]

RESCUING FOOD + HELPING PEOPLE



[P.O. Box 119, Orange Park, FL 32067 + www.wastenotflorida.org + 904.215.3150]

