

Youth & Family Services Department

Emergency Assistance Program Update
October 19, 2021



YFS Services and Programs

Emergency
Assistance

Food
Pantry

Community-
Based
Counseling

School-Based
Counseling

Senior
Services

Healthy Youth
Initiative

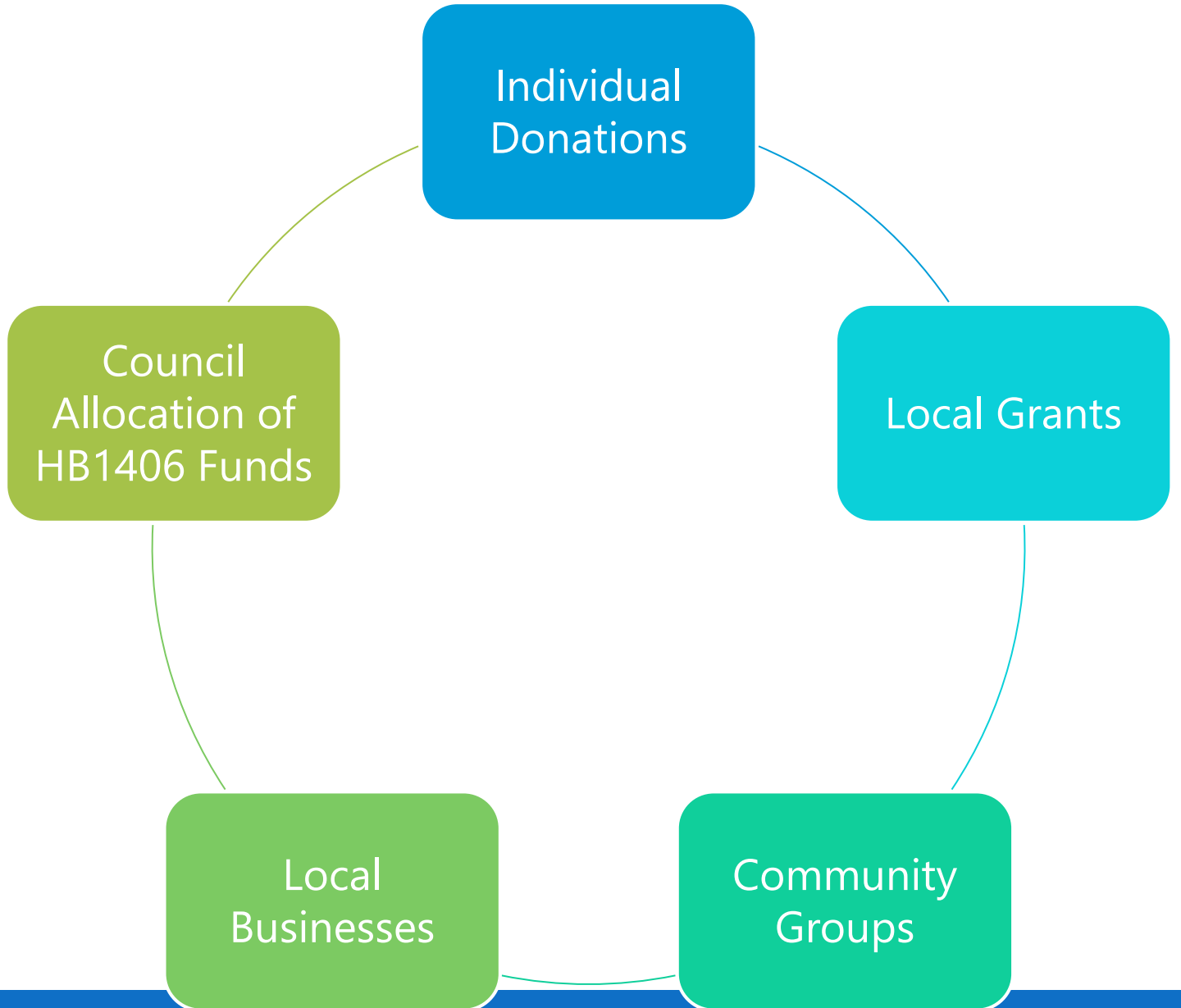
Mercer Island
Thrift Shop

Emergency Assistance Program

The Emergency Assistance Program serves Mercer Island residents who are experiencing financial hardship. Services and programs include:

- Case management to support long-term plans for financial stability
- Referral to local, regional and national resources
- Application assistance for benefits such as Social Security, Medicaid and Unemployment
- Limited rent and utility assistance
- Low-cost health insurance and medical care referrals
- Holiday Program (for children under 18)
- Back to School Program
- Preschool Scholarship Program
- Food Pantry, including Holiday Meal Program
- Referrals to other MIYFS services

Emergency Assistance Fund

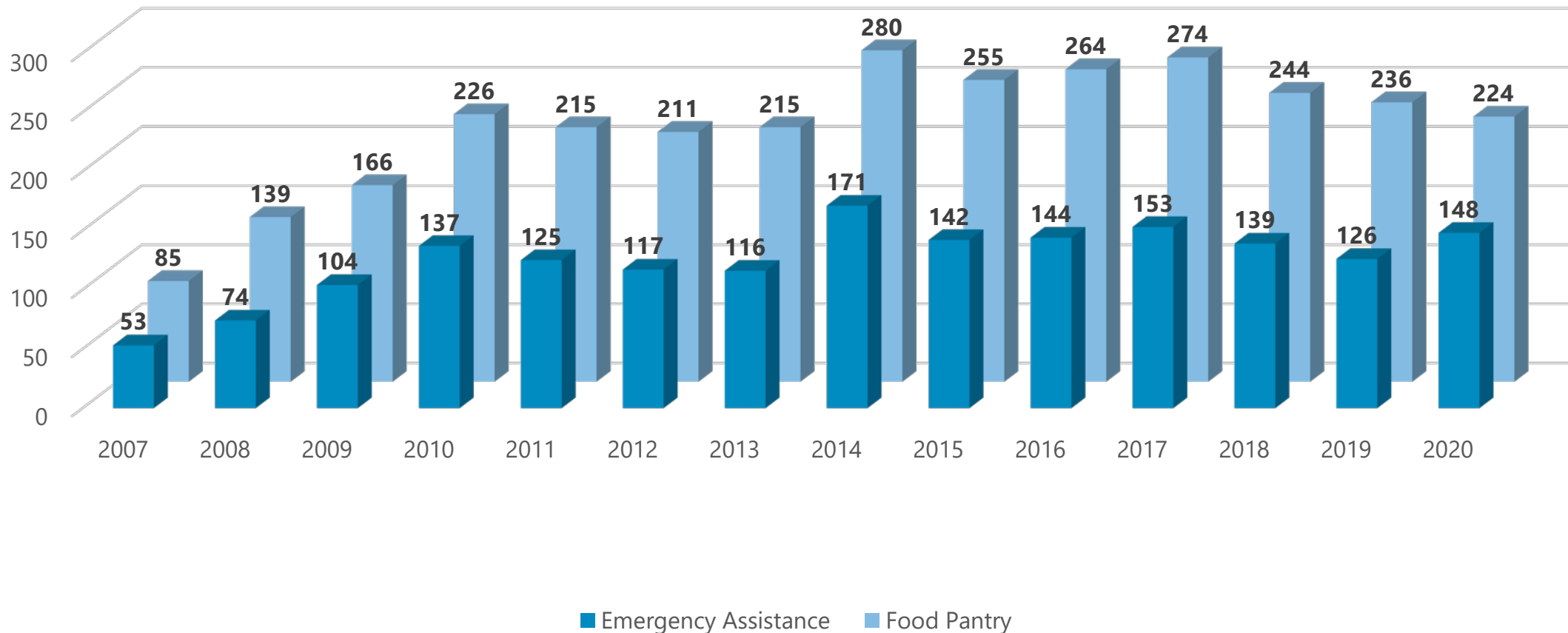


Community Support

In July, the MIYFS Foundation donated \$80,000 to fully fund the 2021 Back to School Program and fill a gap in the 2021 Food Pantry funds

Households Served

Emergency Assistance and Food Pantry – Annual Total of Unduplicated Households



Food Pantry

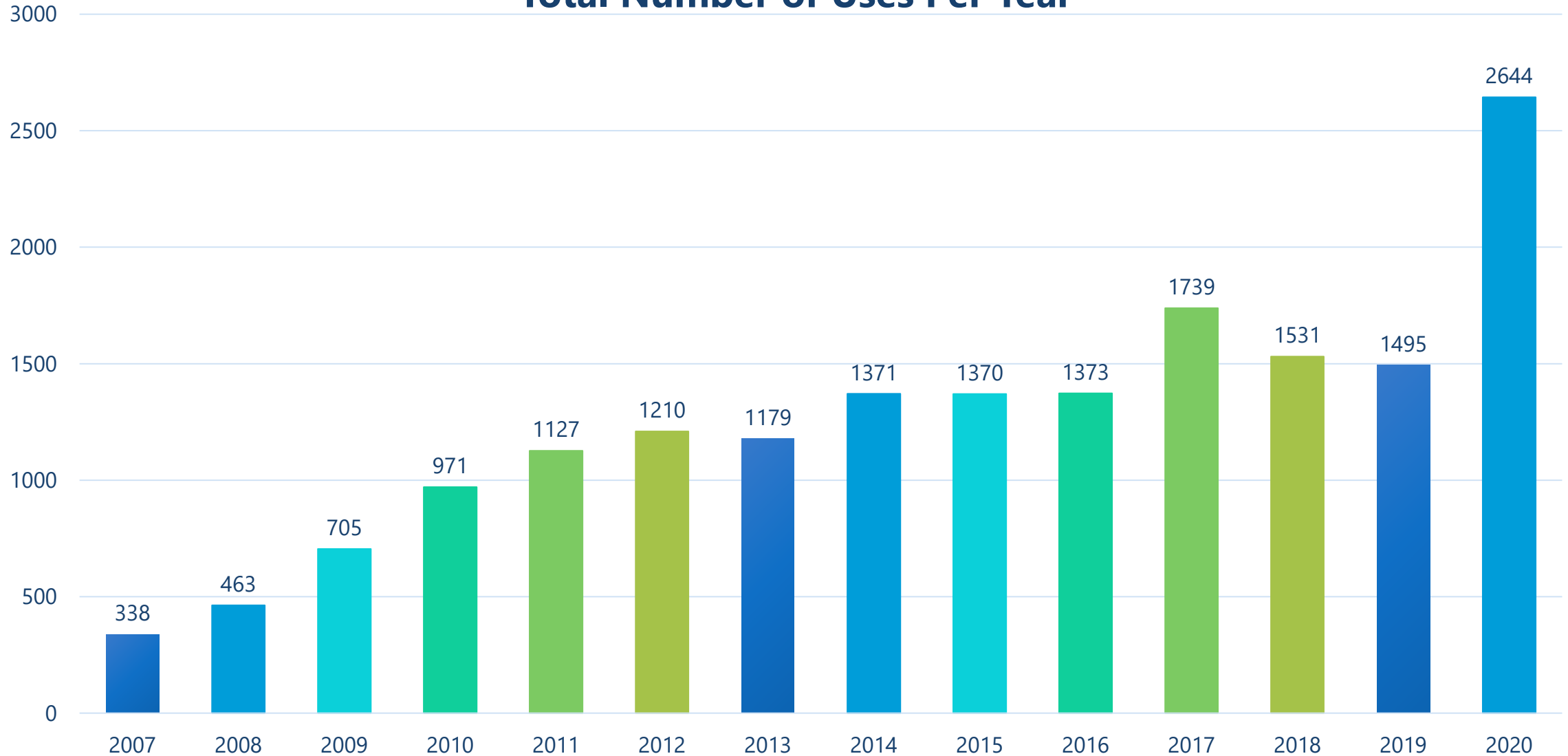
Food Pantry services are available to all Mercer Island individuals and families facing food insecurity.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Food Pantry has shifted operations to offer only grocery store gift cards on Wednesdays from 10 am – 3 pm at the Mercer Island Community & Event Center.

In 2020, the Food Pantry was utilized 2,644 times by Mercer Island residents, a 77% increase from 2019.

Food Pantry

Total Number of Uses Per Year



Food Pantry

MIYFS Food Pantry Visits 2020-2021

