



Dear Friends and Neighbors of SACA,

Every March, food-shelves across the state partner with Minnesota FoodShare to fight hunger. All donations of food and money to SACA result in a matching percentage contribution from Minnesota FoodShare, so contributions to SACA go further to help those in need. Because of COVID-19, 2020 was a year like no other. The numbers of people we helped, and the amount of food given out skyrocketed. We gave 805,000 pounds of food to over 17,500 families and households, representing 44,560 neighbors in our community. Of those, almost 16,000 were seniors. These families, households, and individuals, along with many others are part of a growing number of people that unfortunately are experiencing food insecurity.

In our last letter, we mentioned that we are moving (we'll still be in Columbia Heights). We will be doubling our space, so our free grocery store will have more nutritious produce, dairy, and meat. We will also expand our culturally specific food selection. Our Thrift Store (which has been closed since last March) will also be much larger, enabling us to have a wider variety of goods to sell. This will give people the dignity of buying quality clothes and household items at prices they can afford.


Our Accelerated Campaign has started. It will allow us to expand services for the community as well as raising money for our new building. The Accelerated Campaign will also enable us to help people in our community efficiently and effectively as we continue to face the challenges that lie ahead of us.

SACA needs your help so we can continue our mission of helping people in need. While there is a bit of light at the end of a long COVID tunnel, we have a ways to go. People are still getting sick, unemployment remains high, food insecurity is a problem that is not going away. Please continue to be engaged and empathetic, helping us give to those who need our assistance. Use the enclosed envelope or visit our new website: [www.SACAFoodShelf.org](http://www.SACAFoodShelf.org) and click on the Donate Button. If you shop on Amazon, consider shopping on Amazon Smile. You can find us under Southern Anoka Community Assistance. SACA will get a percentage of what you purchase. We also have a new quarterly newsletter. Be sure to sign up to keep abreast of what is going on at SACA.

This March let's help our neighbors and partner up with each other in the fight against hunger.

Sincerely,

  
Dave Rudolph, Co-Director;

  
Elaine Walker, Co-Director;

  
Steve Smith, Board Chair

SACA Board: Sue Sjoselius, Brian Harper, Jerry Rekow, John Haluska, Jessica Dowell, Ben Harris, Beth Barbosa

