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Coordinator

Save the Date:

FNYS Summit June 11-12



Cabbage and clover
Cling to thee jagged edge
Why the moon shadows

Greg Golden 2007 cabbage haiku

A MESSAGE FROM FEEDING NEW YORK STATE



Dan Egan
Executive Director



Welcome Ivy Campos, FNYS Business Manager

Hello, I'm Ivy (pronounced E-V) Campos. I joined the team in December 2023 and I am truly honoured for the opportunity to work alongside a group of inspiring, passionate, and caring individuals. I am grateful to have had the opportunity to train with Kelly Regan before her retirement. Thanks, Kelly, you will be missed!

Previously, for a decade, I worked as the Financial and Administrative Manager for the Office of Campus Life at Williams College. During the latter half of my employment with the college, I also acquired my MBA and BS with a concentration in accounting, both from the Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts.

My skills, education, and expertise surrounding budget & endowment management provided me the opportunity to finally make the move to an organisation whose mission echoes my personal passion. Coming from a large family of meagre beginnings and seeing students during my tenure at the college who grew up like I had, helped me come to the realization that I love the work I do but needed to do so for a different purpose. I strive to help individuals in need of one of the most systemically harmful issues plaguing our nation today, food insecurity.

When I'm not trying to live up to the names of couponing queen, the mini controller, and heart, backbone, or glue in the office setting, I'm attempting to live up to yet another name, super mom. I have 4 amazing children, Anelisse (19), Joseph (12), Mi'Amor (5), and Ismael (2); and a sassy 6-year-old bulldog named Eva.

Please feel free to contact me at info@feedingnys.org.

Fascinating Fact:

I started my undergraduate studies when I was 39 weeks pregnant with my third child while juggling a full-time job. I delivered the week after, a day before the due date, and returned to school the very next week. Everyone, even my professor, believed I was superhuman (and maybe a little bit crazy)!



Sourcing Connections

FISCAL YEAR UPDATE



Jim Germain
Statewide Produce
& Logistics Director

Feeding NYS Produce Sourcing Data

July 1 – December 31

In the world of produce, there's no room for tears!

In the blink of an eye, the first six months of the FY24 year have passed. While it hasn't been a walk in the park, our New York growers faced challenges with Mother Nature. In May, a harsh frost affected 30-40% of the crop for many NY apple growers. Additionally, July brought record rainfall, leading to unpredictable harvest schedules and varying yields. Despite these obstacles, early markets saw strength due to limited yields.

Despite the challenges, we successfully distributed 21.2 million pounds of mixed fresh produce to 22 states beyond New York. Our New York members accounted for 32% of the total distribution, marking a significant increase compared to the same period last year.

A key factor in our growth was the establishment of our "Mixing Center," which broadened our fresh produce range and introduced new categories such as cheese, eggs, and stew, thanks to grants supporting the expansion of protein and dairy offerings. So far this fiscal year, FNYS has secured nearly **\$1 million for product and transportation costs!**

Highlights:

Our Mixing Center will provide no fee commodities through Feb. 2024. Freight is the responsibility of each food bank.

Block Cheese (8oz. bars) is available through the Mixing Center, please email Jim to order.

**530
Truckloads
shipped
FYTD**



Donor HIGHLIGHT!!!!

United Apple cardboard bin opportunities are currently featured on Meal Connect. This facility has a state-of-the-art internal & external imaging as well as washed & waxed. There have been multiple varieties on a FTL.

For example:

PR65634653 (Texas) Had 8 varieties (Fuji, McIntosh, Cortland, Snap Dragon, Red Delicious, Honeycrisp, Empire, and Gala at .16lb.)

PR65725638 (Minnesota) Had 5 varieties (EverCrisp, SnapDragon, Empire, Gala, and Red Delicious)



Advocacy Happenings

LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

RYAN & EMILY WORKING FOR YOU



Ryan Healy
FNYS Advocacy
Manager



Emily Ledyard
Advocacy Coordinator

As we look towards the upcoming 2024 legislative session, Feeding New York State remains steadfast in our pursuit of a hunger-free New York. In 2023, our state made progress by securing critical funding for anti-hunger programs and expanding no-cost school meals. New York needs to continue this progress by implementing universal school meals, guaranteeing a \$100 SNAP minimum benefit, funding hunger relief, and more. **Now is the time to act!**

Priorities

- **Fund Hunger Prevention and Nutrition Assistance Program (HPNAP)** at \$64 Million
- **Fund Nourish New York (NNY)** at \$75 Million
- **Support Nutrition Outreach and Education Program (NOEP)** at \$5.503 Million
- **Support Universal School Meals**
- **Raise the SNAP Minimum Benefit to \$100/mo**
- **Support the Good Food NY Bill**
- **Support the Working Families Tax Credit**

Check out <https://feedingnys.org/state-priorities/> for detailed information

Engagement Strategies

We are focused on actionable strategies to help elevate the voices of our neighbors:

- Engaging with state legislators
- Mobilizing New York communities & constituents
- Partnering with coalitions & aligned organizations
- Promoting click-to-action campaigns & digital engagement
- Collecting lived experience testimonials
- Grassroots organizing
- Informational sessions & education

How You Can Get Involved: JOIN US!



Getting involved can take less than 2 minutes. Scan our Click-To-Action QR-code to contact your representatives and have a direct impact on this legislative session! We have heard from multiple legislators that messages sent through this tool are being noticed.

Every voice matters in this fight, every call or message has an impact. We need each and every one of you to ramp up the pressure on the Legislature and Governor. Together, we can end hunger in New York. Join us!

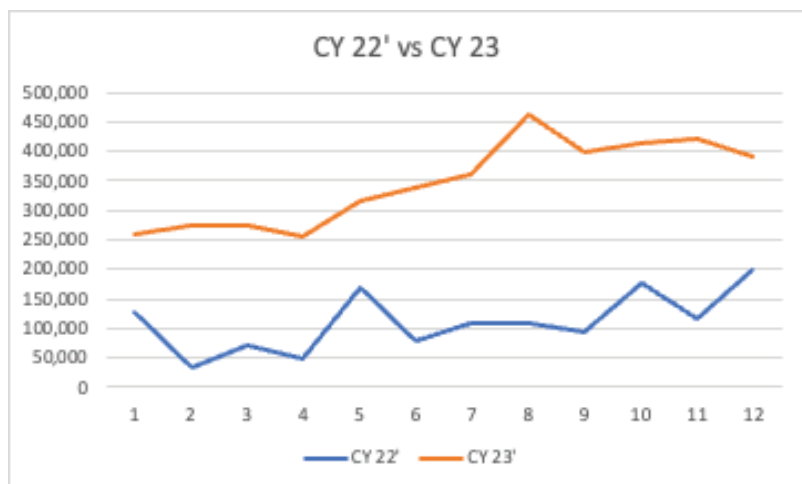
Please reach out to Ryan or Emily (eledyard@feedingnys.org) for further information

Food Recovery PROGRAM UPDATES



Jay Hawkins
Food Recovery
Manager

2023 Stats



Thank you to all the Sourcers for their support and hard work!

- Our statewide efforts acquired over 4 million pounds of food in calendar year 2023 that would have ended up in landfills. That is a 2 million pound increase from calendar year 2022.
- The NYS DEC Agency Enablement & Retail Recovery grant assisted with the acquisition of 6 million pounds of food since July 2023.

That is over 10 million pounds of edible food that we helped our members recover!

FNYS will be partnering with some of the food banks to fund additional projects in the Spring of 2024. FNYS works alongside of our food banks to add more donors, recover more pounds of edible food, divert waste from landfills, and develop their Food Recovery programs.

Meet Kathleen Pasetty, Food Recovery Coordinator at Food Bank of the Southern Tier

I have worked at FBST for 3 years: 2.5 years as a Programs and Partnership Coordinator (aka Agency Services) 2021-2023 and started as Food Recovery Coordinator in Oct. 2023.

Prior to FBST I had worked in non-profits for a few years then 30 years self-employed with a small food businesses in Ithaca, NY.

- Grew up in small, rural town in NJ. (Vernon Valley Ski Area and Action Park, downstaters may know) Father was the small town barber. Italian, Irish, German heritage. Sibs and I first generation to college.
- Married 30 years. My wife and I have triplets, age 19, in college.
- Two scruffy rescue dogs – Oscar and Felix. The best medicine for empty nest.
- Love to be outside- hike, bike, swim, dog walks. Getting into cold dips this winter- in Finger Lakes and local creeks. Help a friend with her catering business. involved in a few activism groups, love to watch movies but I tend to fall asleep in them.

I am most excited to have a job that addresses food insecurity and the climate crisis, working in partnership with others. Food Bank of the Southern Tier and the folks I've met through this work have provided me with a very humbling education on food insecurity. While I grew up in a working class family that had its struggles, there was always enough food for all of us.



Contact info:
Kathleen.Pasetty
@foodbankst.org

Grants FUNDING TO SUPPORT YOUR WORK



Kathleen Stress
Research Director

FY24 Funding

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

NYS DEC Food Recovery Funds available until 2025 to support partner agencies enablement and providing the essential equipment and supplies that support retail recovery efforts. These are the Food Recovery funds that are supporting your Food Recovery Coordinator roles, partner agencies equipment & food safety supplies.

LFPA: New York Food for New York Families (NYFNFF)

\$1.98M to support additional produce, dairy and protein for our members acquired by new partnerships with WBE and MBE farmers, growers, wholesalers and producers. Funding through August 2025.

VENISON ACQUISITION (HPNAP)

DOH-HPNAP grant that FNYS maintains to provide a subsidy of \$17,829 per member to help defray the cost of processing venison. There is a \$3.50/lb. maximum subsidy available for venison processed for your food bank.

HPNAP TRANSPORTATION

DOH informed FNYS that the contract will begin 2/1/24-7/31/25 for an 18-month period. The funded amount will be \$456,000 applied to freight allocations of \$45,600 to each food bank (over the 18 month period). All ten members will receive funding.

GRANTS MEETING

Interested in connecting with your colleagues? Join us for a monthly NYS Grants Team call to network and learn about funding initiatives. First Tuesday of each month 1:30-2:00pm. Email Kathleen at grants@feedingnys.org to join

STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

Dairy Commodities:

As part of the Boundless Collaboration, we have begun the fundraising initiative of this project. We hired a BC Coordinator who is a former American Dairy Association Northeast employee. Cathy Hobb managed the Fill A Glass With Hope Campaign for several years and is now integrating that program into the BC project. All monies raised in a food bank service area will be applied to dairy products in that region.

Retail Partnerships:

Our Flashfoods partnership has been extended! A great way to let our neighbors know when retailers are providing deep discounts on wholesome foods. A portion of funds raised from December 2023 to April 2024 will be donated to FNYS.

Shred Hunger Program:

In partnership with Maple Ridge Foods, FNYS is working on developing NYS cheese into shred or block cheese at the low cost of \$1.80/lb. Once the cheese is processed in New York all members will be able to apply Nourish NY funding to purchase it.

Fill A Glass With Hope

has raised
\$36,321
to support dairy
at 15 food pantries
across the state



Member Engagement 2024 BRINGS IDEAS



Steffani Williams
Member
Engagement
Manager

Greetings to all our Food Bank Friends!

As winter is here, keeping warm and learning from each of you has been a delightful experience. Since joining in late August, I have been captivated by the remarkable work everyone is engaged in. I take pride every day in being part of such an exceptional team like yours, dedicated to making a difference.

Visiting all ten food banks has been eye-opening, witnessing the unwavering commitment to ending hunger in our community.

The future holds great potential, and with the dedication I have seen, I am confident in our ability to seize opportunities ahead. I have numerous ideas to contribute as we move forward, knowing that each step we take together brings us closer to our shared goal of creating a positive impact. Thank you for the warm welcome and for including me in this inspiring journey. I eagerly anticipate our continued cooperation and the remarkable achievements we will accomplish together. Your hospitality has truly made me feel at home!

So what's in store for 2024?



Save the date for the FNYS Member Summit June 11 & 12 at the Albany Hilton in beautiful downtown Albany, NY
Day One: Advocacy, Grants, Communications, and Programs
Day Two: Sourcing, Agency Services, and Operations

New this year- Marketing & Communications Teams are in for a treat as they showcase their favorite campaigns in our FNYS Comms Clash! This will be a friendly competition where votes from our colleagues will decide who wins!

- Best Practice and Storytelling Collection
- Developing Centralized Initiatives & Funding
- More Member Engagement Manager visits to all food banks
- Arranging monthly & quarterly meetings with NYS food bank staff teams: Warehouse & Operations, Agency Services





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MASSEY'S FURNITURE BARN

\$5,600

was donated to the
Fill A Glass With Hope campaign,
supporting 9 area food pantries

- The event ran November 25-Dec 21, 2023
- Ambassadors/Dairy farmer provided samples in store on Saturdays in December.
- A portion of the December sales, along with customer donations, were used to purchase milk for area pantries.