

Thurston's

HUNGER WALK

About The Three Benefiting Feeding Programs

Senior Services' Nutrition Program served more than 52,000 meals to 2,500 people eating at senior kitchens in 2019. Throughout the year, four-hundred Meals-on-Wheels clients received more than 65,000 meals – about 10,000 more than last year. Meals are served and delivered mostly by volunteers. Many home-delivered meal clients report that their meal delivery volunteer is the only visitor they see all week. Each meal served costs approximately \$8.60.

Thurston County Food Bank provided food supplies to more than 16,000 households this past year - an increase of 3% from the prior year. The *ForKids Backpack* program fed 3,530 children in five school district elementary and head-start classrooms. The cost of each backpack of food costs about \$6. Almost 50% of the people benefiting from food bank services are children, and 22% are 60 years old or older – that's almost two out of three people. Each dollar donated is leveraged to provide \$9 in food.

The Community Kitchen served just shy of 143,000 meals this past year. Over the past two years, the Community Kitchen saw the demand for warm, nutritious meals increase almost 20% or about 22,000 meals. Almost 90% of the people eating at The Kitchen are homeless and the majority of these are living unsheltered. Thanks to donated food and the labor of more than 650 active volunteers, each meal served in The Kitchen costs about \$1.

By walking during and/or donating to Thurston's Hunger Walk, you are helping end hunger throughout Thurston County. Thank you for stepping up to make a difference in thousands of your neighbor's lives.