



Food 4 Kids

A MA Summer EATS Program

*F4K works to alleviate childhood hunger and promote literacy on the Lower and Outer Cape by bringing together The Church of the Holy Spirit (Episcopal) and local communities to provide **free meals and free books for children and teens** in the summer when schools are out.*

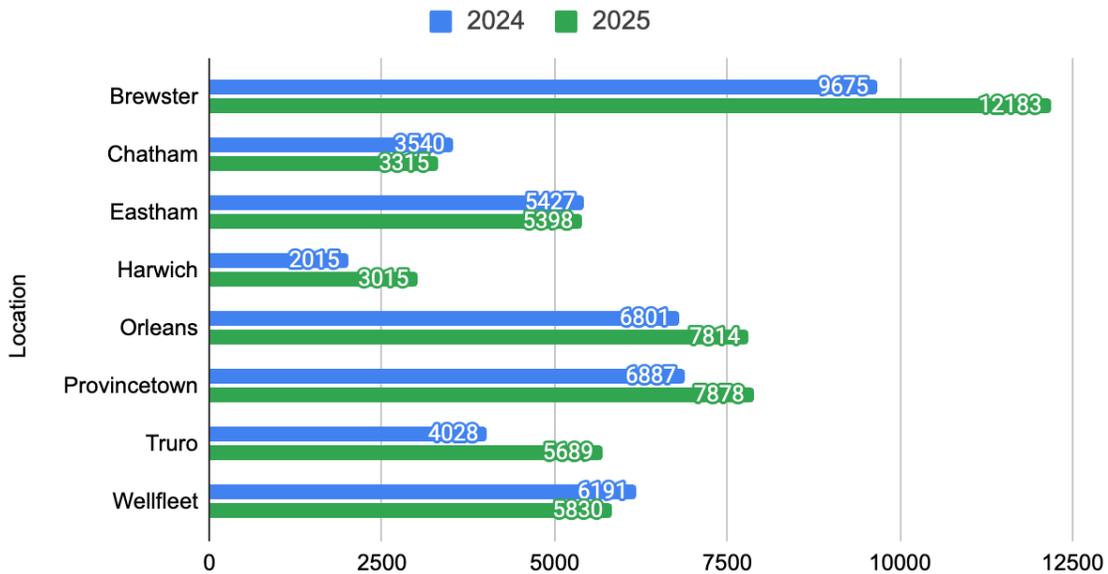
Summer 2025 Impact Report

Headlines

- Expanded service to children by 10,000+ meals
- Reached more low-income families than ever before
- Reached max capacity for # of meals prepared and delivered
- Sustainable funding in question

Metrics

55,864 Meals served to children — up 25% from 2024



- 1,140 meals per day on average over 49 service days (breakfasts, lunches + snacks)
- Approximately 732 unique children served; some ate lunch every day, others a few days a week
- Less waste — 7% of meals made and delivered were leftover vs 12% the last 3-4 years

Meal	Kids Served	Adults Served
AM Snack	14,177	115
Breakfast Seating	2,989	0
Lunch Seating	24,552	455
PM Snack	14,146	242
Grand Total	55,864	812

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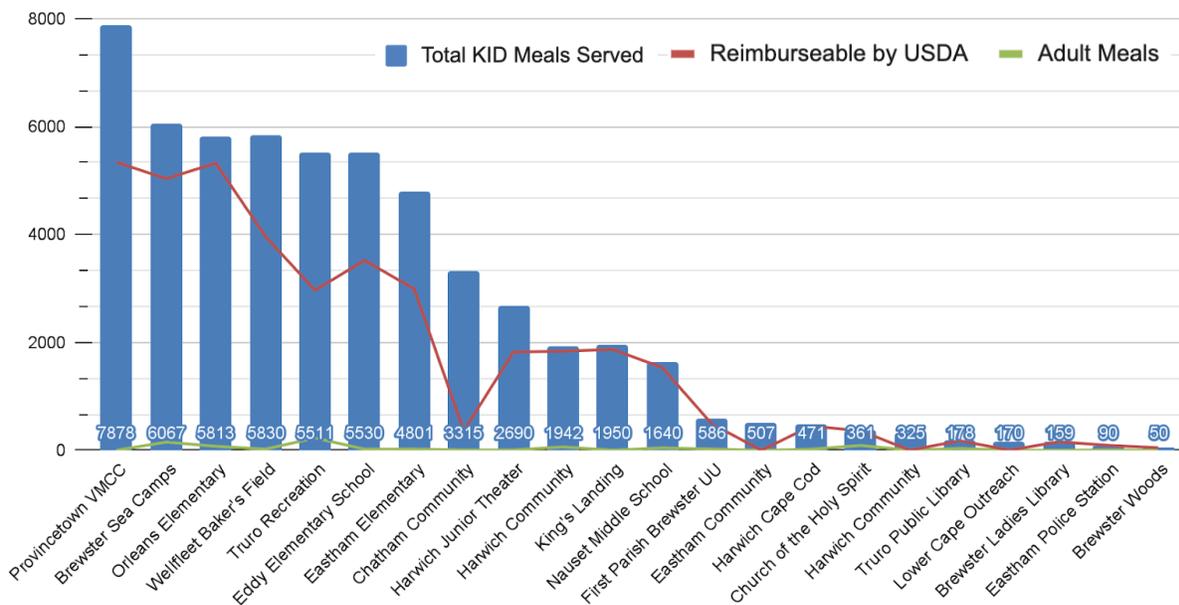
This institution is an equal opportunity provider

22 Meal Sites — up 4 from 2024

- 1 Provincetown, 2 Truro, 1 Wellfleet, 3 Eastham, 4 Orleans, 1 Chatham, 4 Harwich, 6 Brewster
- 49 service days: Monday - Friday for 10 weeks, serving every weekday school was out



Meals served by site

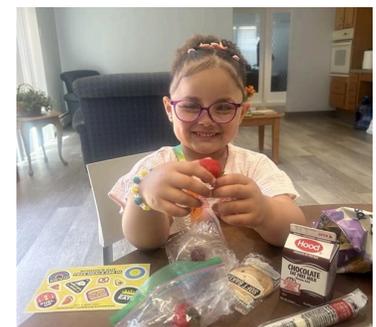


Success stories for the 2025 Season include:

- Expanded reach to low-income children, more than ever before
 - Convenient meal site locations: 2 NEW sites located in affordable housing communities in Brewster, NEW support of Orleans food pantry, 1 NEW site easily accessible via public transport and near low-income housing in Harwich, and support of 2 community fridges
 - Transitioned 8 meal sites we've had for 5+ years to Grab & Go: Community members can grab a meal to go vs. staying and eating at the meal site. This made sites more appealing and accessible for families who need support.



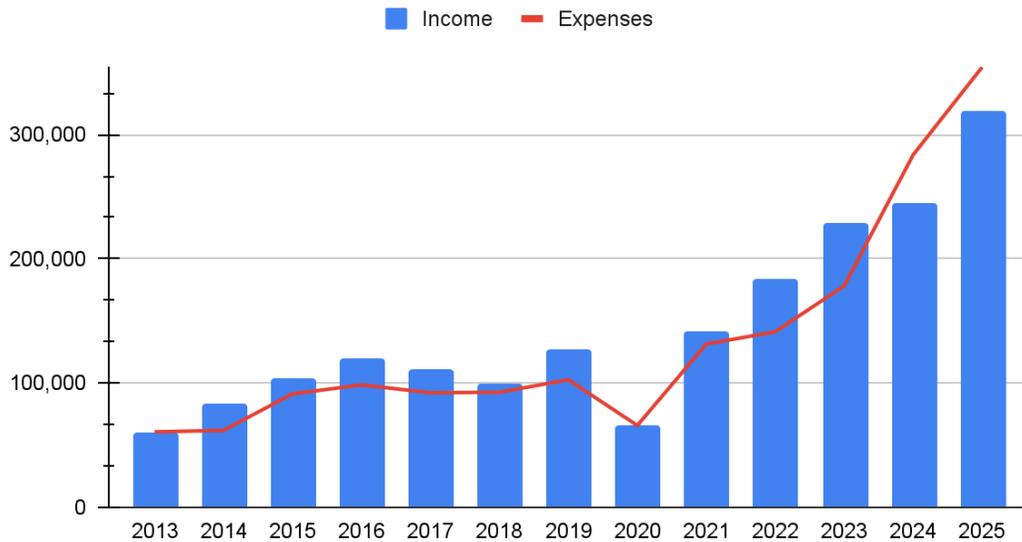
- Coordinated approximately 70 free kid-friendly weekend meal bags (Cape Kids Meals), and 30-50 frozen dinners (The Family Table Collaborative) for affordable housing meal sites in partnership with local nonprofits.
- Meals more popular with kids — more variety, more nutritious, better tasting
- More milk consumed — removing juice from lunch meant more kids drank the required serving of milk
- Experienced and dedicated staff and loyal volunteers ability to handle the scale and complexity of preparing, delivering and serving a record number of meals
 - 192 Volunteers gave over 2,000 hours of their time, equivalent to 5 full-time employees over 10 weeks. **60 new volunteers**; majority return annually.
 - Core staff: Operations Manager (11th season), Kitchen Manager (4th season), Ops Assistants (6th season), Program Manager (2nd season)
 - 8 Meal Site Supervisors: supported program beyond responsibilities (kitchen, social media, books, etc.)
- Kids loved the special programming offered this summer
 - Gave away 3,000+ books — one for 10-20% of lunches each day
 - 2 meal sites participated in a nutrition / cooking class coordinated in partnership with Cape Cod Cooperative Extension at no cost to F4K
 - 3 meal sites participated in a reading & rapping program put on by local author GPa Rhymes
 - 4 meal sites enjoyed a live performance by the Harwich Junior Players
- Successfully piloted use of 3 hydroponics farming units at Nauset Public Schools to enhance the nutrition of sandwiches with fresh lettuce — plans to expand in 2026
- Five new, and one repeat community outreach events in Spring 2025 increased awareness across our service area





Challenges

- Capacity to make, pack and deliver meals safely with such a high volume of meals
 - Much higher level of stamina required of volunteers
 - Overflowing freezers and refrigerators
 - Packing materials not freezing/ran short resulting in lunches not temping at safe serve levels
- Cash flow — record volume meant much higher food costs, more sites meant increased staff costs, paired with slow income flow
- Deficit budgets unsustainable long term
 - New funding sources slow to start
 - Income has not kept up with the cost of hiring of an Executive Director
 - Unknown impact of federal funding cuts coming in 2026-2028



Funding

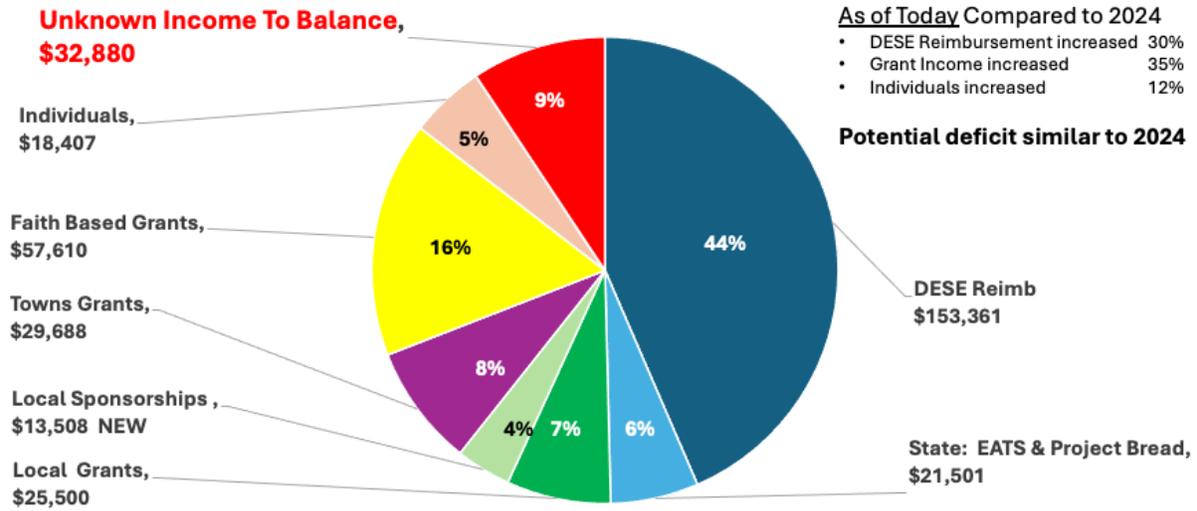
The USDA funded 43% of the Food 4 Kids program in 2025. This funding has not yet been impacted, however, we anticipate a reduction in the next 18 months that would greatly reduce or cut our funding altogether.

Compared to last year, the growth in income has kept up with the growth in meals and summer staff. Yet despite an increase in grant income, fundraising events, and individual donations, a funding shortage remains. This is due to servicing meal sites that don't qualify for reimbursement and increased cost of food and the wages + benefits of the Executive Director role. Without any additional sources of funding, F4K expects a larger shortfall in 2026 and potentially beyond with anticipated cuts in federal funds. The F4K shortfall was covered by existing reserve funds, which need to be replenished.

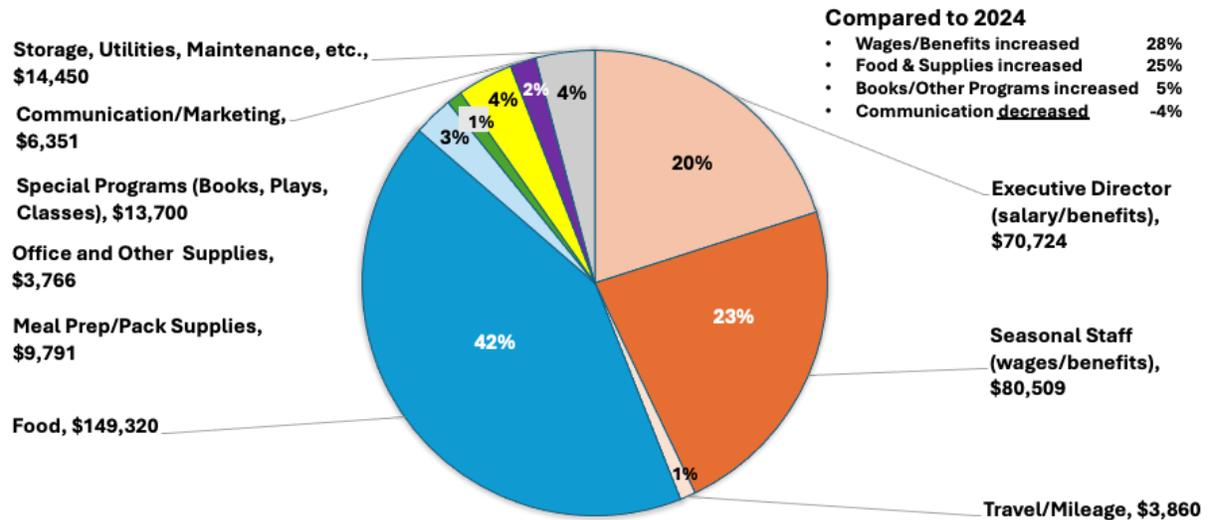
Food 4 Kids has doubled down on fundraising efforts and are optimistic that we will close our current deficit but it will be close.

- Towns responded to an increase in Health + Human Service grant requests.
- New fundraising events — Chatham Chorale charitable concert raised \$8,272 and local Walk for Hunger raised \$4,486.
- Business sponsorships - Active pursuit of local businesses this Fall.
- Individual donations via community outreach and a year-end campaign.
- New grant applications.

“Confident” 2025 Income: \$319,591



Estimated 2025 Expenses: \$352,4717



Conclusion

Food 4 Kids has a 13-year proven track record of impact and solid operations. Based on conversations with human and health services organizations, we know there are unmet needs both within and outside of our current service area. With strong and growing community support and partnerships, an active loyal volunteer-base, and experienced staff, we are well-positioned to expand.

However, 2025 service numbers pushed current operations to their max capacity. Food 4 Kids has proven its ability to grow and adapt, but without strong philanthropic support and full-time leadership, we cannot sustain this growth. Our immediate focus is to **strengthen** our financial foundation for long-term sustainability so we can protect children from losing access to free summer meals.

