



**The Family
Food Pantry**
-Damien's Place



2025

ANNUAL REPORT

Fiscal Year 2025

January 1 – December 31, 2025



**Our mission is to
help end hunger in the
South Coast region of
Massachusetts.**

Message from the Executive Director

2025 reminded us that challenges are inevitable— but so is the power of community.

As we reflect on 2025, I am filled with both humility and pride. This year has challenged us in ways we could not have fully anticipated—yet it has also strengthened our resolve and reaffirmed our mission to ensure that no neighbor in our region goes hungry.



Throughout 2025, all of Southeastern Massachusetts experienced a continued rise in food insecurity. Families facing rising housing costs, seniors navigating fixed incomes, veterans seeking stability, and working parents stretched thinly by inflation all turned to Damien's Place for support. With this increased need came higher operational costs—transportation, refrigeration, healthy food sourcing, and expanded delivery services.

Yet despite these pressures, our commitment never wavered.

This year, Damien's Place distributed millions of meals and continued to serve as a regional food hub, supporting 33 partner pantries while strengthening our own direct-service programs. We expanded mobile pantry partnerships with local Councils on Aging, increased access for elderly and homebound neighbors, and prioritized safe, dignified food distribution in every location we operate. We enhanced volunteer engagement, improved operational systems, and strengthened community collaborations that allow us to respond quickly and responsibly to emerging needs.

One of our greatest accomplishments in 2025 was our strategic growth. With Board support and community investment, we continued expanding our footprint to reach families within a broader radius—ensuring rural and underserved communities have reliable access to nutritious food. We deepened relationships with legislators, municipal leaders, schools, businesses, and healthcare partners who understand that food security is foundational to community health.

None of this would be possible without our volunteers, donors, staff, and Board of Directors. Their dedication, resilience, and belief in our mission have carried us through difficult moments and propelled us forward.

Looking ahead, the future of Damien's Place is one of thoughtful expansion and bold vision. As we prepare for our 35th anniversary in 2027, we are focused on sustainability, infrastructure improvements, innovative programming, and strengthening regional partnerships. We envision a future where access to healthy food is consistent, dignified, and equitable, and where collaboration replaces competition in addressing hunger.

Together, we are not simply responding to food insecurity; we are building a stronger, more connected region where every family has the nourishment they deserve.

With gratitude and hope,

A handwritten signature in red ink that reads "Rachel Resendes". The signature is fluid and cursive, written in a professional yet personal style.

Rachel Resendes

Executive Director

Damien's Place Food Pantry

Serving our community

In 2025, Damien's Place strengthened meaningful partnerships with organizations such as Frogfoot, Turning Point, and our local Chambers of Commerce, each bringing unique value to our mission. Frogfoot and Turning Point helped connect vulnerable individuals and families to consistent food access and supportive services, while the Chambers fostered relationships with local businesses that contributed sponsorships, volunteers, and in-kind donations. These collaborations expanded our reach, strengthened referral networks, and ensured that families facing crisis were met with coordinated, compassionate support.

Beyond food distribution, we continued investing in education and empowerment. Our cooking classes for youth, families, and mothers focused on budgeting, smart pantry shopping, meal planning, and reducing food waste, teaching practical skills that stretch every dollar and build long-term stability. In addition, our monthly newsletter has now been running successfully for over six months, generating strong engagement and positive feedback. Through shared recipes, food preservation tips, produce identification guides, community resources, and event updates, the newsletter has become a trusted tool for connection and household empowerment.

As we reflect on the year, we are especially grateful for the opportunity to serve the Wareham community in deeper ways. Through generous community support, we were able to provide 55 children with the gift of Christmas—helping to ease the financial burden on parents during an already challenging season. Moments like these remind us that Damien's Place is more than a pantry; it is a network of neighbors caring for one another. Our wish for Wareham is continued strength, compassion, and unity as we move forward together.



Our 2025 Achievements

- Completed Annual Guest Survey with score of >98%
- Added Tuesday evening service day
- Expanded languages
- Offered nutrition programs
- Added SWAP labels to food through a partnership with Greater Boston Foodbank and MA General Hospital for the Be Well Program
- Recognized by GBFB as Food Pantry Champion



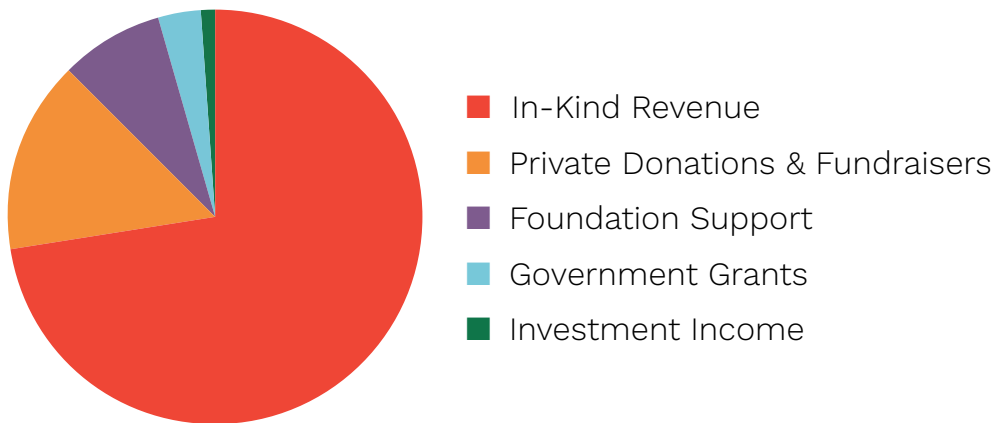
Our 2026 Goals

- Create Food Security Advisor role for guest input
 - Increase service to the Unsheltered, possibly via a mobile pantry
 - Upgrade office space and food storage
 - Multi-language Public Service Announcements
 - Cold Storage upgrade
-

Financials

Fund Source	Percent of	Total Amount
In-Kind Revenue	82%	\$1,796,059
Private Donations & Fundraisers	17%	\$367,668
Foundation Support	9%	\$187,642
Government Grants	4%	\$90,314
Investment Income	1%	\$32,787
Total		\$2,474,470

2025 UNAUDITED



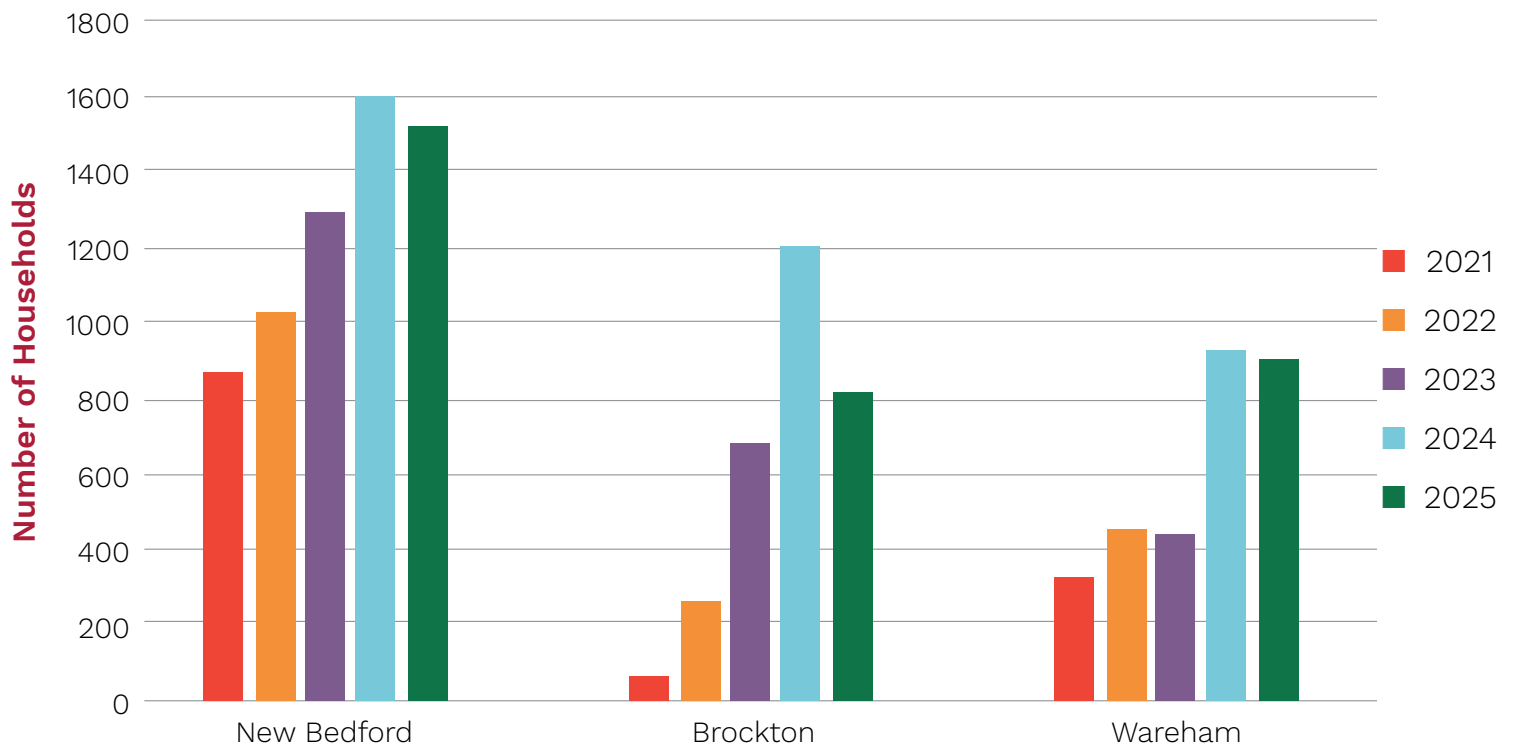
Fund Use	Percent of	Total Amount
In-Kind and Purchased Food	84%	\$1,831,243
Non-Food Distributed to Clients	1%	\$11,702
Community Outreach Special Programs	3%	\$62,837
Warehouse Operation	5%	\$118,847
General & Admin Expenses	8%	\$167,791
Total		\$2,192,420

2025 UNAUDITED





Damien's Food Pantry Guest Visit Count by Month and Year, 2021-2025



2025 Quick Stats

Total Number of Households (unique guest ID's):	4,170
Total Number of Trips:	26,422
Total People (sum of all people in household):	13,231
Meals Provided (nTrips*nPeopleHousehold):	80,886
Average Number of Trips:	6
Median Age:	50
Average Age:	51
Turkeys Distributed:	834
Home Deliveries:	618
Food Boxes:	1,412

Data source: Damien's Food Pantry In-Take Database - Updated: 01/08/2025 SS

2025 Number of Households by County

Barnstable	82
Bristol	2,169
Bristol (RI)	2
Norfolk	2
Plymouth	1,993
Providence (RI)	1
Worcester	1
Grand Total *	4,250

Data source: Damien's Food Pantry In-Take Database - Updated: 01/08/2025 SS

¹All homess indivudals are assigned to Plymouth County.

*Households may be assigned to two or more different counties due to reported address changes/updates in 2025

2025 Number of trips by Household Bin Size

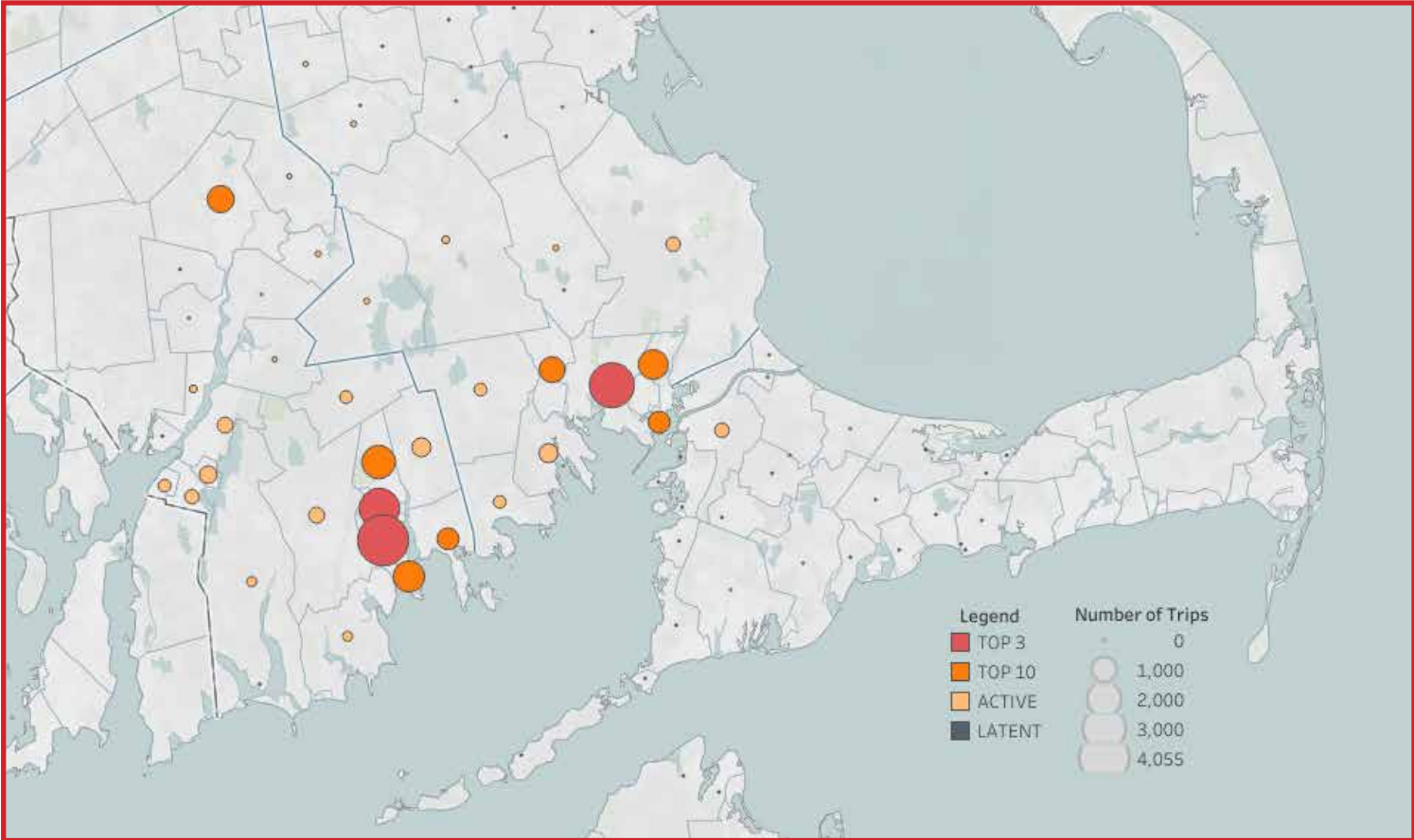
INDIVIDUAL BY HOUSEHOLD	NUMBER OF TRIPS				TOTAL TRIPS
	0-8	9-16	17-24	25-32	
0-4	7,509	7,114	5,503	304	20,430
5-6	1,884	1,799	957	26	4,666
6-8	514	489	210	0	1,213
9-10	30	65	18	0	113
Trip Total	9,937	9,467	6,688	330	26,422

Data source: Damien's Food Pantry In-Take Database - Updated: 01/08/2025 SS

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2025 Visit Count by Zip Code



**It would be difficult
for us to distribute the
food we do without
the help of these partners
who reliably donate food
weekly at no cost to
the pantry**

Our Top Food Donors



Directors & Staff

Board of Directors

Anita Rigassio-Smith – President
Norma Scogin – Vice President
Cynthia Thomas – Clerk/Secretary
Pauline L. Lally – Treasurer
Kristian Stoltenberg – Financial Secretary
Francis Gay – Director
Karen Gierhart – Director
Leslie S. Guggiari – Director
Charles Kantner – Director
Michael Paoella – Director
Scott A. Schaffer – Director
Liz Wiley – Director

Staff

Rachel Resendes – Executive Director
Jennifer Polito – Warehouse Operations Manager

Fr. Columban Crotty – Chaplain

The Family Pantry-Damien's Place Board of Directors has named Fr. Columban Crotty, SS.CC. as chaplain. He will continue our ministry to serve the poor and needy started in 1992 by Fr. Gabriel Healy and Fr. Thomas McElroy.

Fr. Crotty has been a member of the Congregation of the Sacred Hearts since 1951. After ordination in 1958 he studied Canon Law until 1960 and was then assigned to the Japanese mission where he worked until 1977 when he became non-resident councilor of the General Government working in Washington, D.C. He also has worked in vocation recruitment and in the Enthronement Apostolate. He worked as pastor in Fairhaven at St. Joseph's and in Seat Pleasant, MD at St. Margaret's. He served as provincial of the East Coast Province from 1991 to 1997. He was then sent to India, the Philippines and subsequently back to India until 2007.

He then returned to the parish in Seat Pleasant, MD and then to India until 2020.

Fr. Crotty is committed to our mission as he continues this important ministry to fight hunger and food insecurity in our local communities.



Our History

Damien's Place Food Pantry was founded with a simple but powerful mission:

to ensure that no neighbor in our community goes hungry. What began as a small, faith-rooted outreach effort has grown into a regional food distribution hub serving individuals and families across Southeastern Massachusetts. Built on compassion, dignity, and community collaboration, Damien's Place quickly became a trusted resource for neighbors facing food insecurity, providing not just groceries, but hope and stability during difficult times.


Over the years, Damien's Place has expanded its reach and impact—now distributing millions of meals annually and supporting more than 30 partner pantries throughout the region. Through strong partnerships with the Greater Boston Food Bank, local farms, businesses, schools, and municipal leaders, the organization continues to evolve to meet growing community needs. Today, Damien's Place stands as a leading voice in regional food security, committed to innovation, equity, and ensuring every individual has access to healthy, nutritious food in a safe and dignified environment.



Our Future...

As we continue responding to the growing need for food assistance in our community, we kindly ask you to consider not only supporting Damien's Place through a financial contribution, but also by sharing our mission with your family, friends, and colleagues. Every conversation, social media post, and personal recommendation helps expand awareness and strengthens our ability to reach neighbors who may be struggling in silence. Your generosity, whether through a donation or by helping amplify our message—directly supports the distribution of healthy, dignified food to families, seniors, and veterans across our region.



A group of people are seated around a table in what appears to be a meeting or collaborative work environment. The image is overlaid with a semi-transparent red filter. The text is centered over the image, flanked by two horizontal white bars.

**Together, we can
ensure that no one
in our community
faces hunger alone.**



**The Family
Food Pantry**
-Damien's Place

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