ABOUT

The Kingston Emergency Food Collaborative delivers meals and groceries to households in the Kingston City School District in direct cooperation with the YMCA, Family of Woodstock, People’s Place, Community Action, the City of Kingston and Ulster County Project Resilience. We take in requests through our emergency food hotline; anyone who requests food can access our program.
MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

- A.J. Williams-Meyer African Roots Center
- City of Kingston
- Ulster County Community Action Committee
- Cornell Cooperative Extension of Ulster County
- Family of Woodstock
- Hudson Valley Farm Hub
- Hudson Valley Seed
- Kingston Food Coop
- Kingston YMCA Farm Project
- Live Well Kingston
- People’s Place
- Radio Kingston
- Rise Up Kingston
- Salvation Army - Kingston
- UlsterCorps
- Ulster County Department of Health and Mental Health
- Ulster County - Project Resilience
- YMCA of Kingston and Ulster County
**Distribution & Logistics**
- City of Kingston, Family of Woodstock, HV Farm Hub, Live Well Kingston, Rise Up Kingston, YMCA Farm Project, community members

**Volunteers**

**Procurement**
- HV Farm Hub, Kingston Food Co-op, YMCA Farm Project

**Communications**
- Cornell Cooperative Extension, Live Well Kingston, community members
PREPARED MEALS

- Prepared meals distribution out of the YMCA
- Lunch and dinner Monday through Friday for each individual
- Everette Hodge center started by producing 300 meals (they tapped into their summer meal reimbursement to produce food for the program)
- By week 2 Project Resilience came online and was able to provide restaurant meals reimbursed at a rate of $10 per plate
- Meals are now sourced from: Everette Hodge, Project Resilience, Diamond Mills, and the Kingston City School District (week 6) with the majority coming from PR
GROCERY

- Grocery distribution in direct partnership with People’s Place
- 2x monthly grocery delivery to start, by Monday April 6 we were able to move to weekly grocery delivery
- Grocery bag with enough food to prepare 3 meals a day for 8 days for each individual
- Bagged student hunger bag for each child in the household
- Onboarded second grocery distribution site
GROWTH

Intake Hotline

- Went live on Friday March 27, at the end of week 2; utilizes the software Aircall; remotely staffed

Distribution Software

- Went live during week three (week of March 30); conceptualized, built, and implemented with Zendesk & Exago

Website

- kingstonemergencyfood.com
First delivery on Wednesday, March 18

175 meals
Friday, April 24

over 2,900 meals
Week of March 23

25 households per day
Week of April 27

90 households per day
Delivered over 26,000 prepared meals in the first month, scaling from 200 per day to 2500 per day

Served over 1000 households

Scaled grocery delivery to over 1,400 people per week

Raised and diverted over $33,000 to support fresh produce purchasing from small area farms

Dispensed over $225,000 to local restaurants preparing the meals

Recruited and deployed over 500 volunteers

Facilitated over $25,000 in unsolicited donations

People’s Place number of people served up 430% over last year
CHALLENGES

Increasing demand

Funding

Borrowed organizational staff time

Food sourcing for grocery

Inconsistency in prepared meals
A DAY OF GROCERY & PREPARED MEALS

At the current Reimbursement Rate for 2,900 meals and the Cost for 90 households of groceries:

Groceries: $1,950
Prepared Meals: $23,900
Total: $25,850
THE FUTURE - 6 MONTHS OF CONTINUED SUPPORT

- Dedicated staff time
- Guidelines for prepared meals & grocery
- Mechanism for centralized reimbursement
- Addressing the root causes of food insecurity in Kingston