



Working together to meet basic human needs for the greater Des Moines community



FY22 ANNUAL REPORT

JULY 1, 2021 - JUNE 30, 2022

A MESSAGE FROM MATT

Thank you so much for your support of the Des Moines Area Religious Council (DMARC). This past year has seen plenty of challenges for our organization, but also a great number of successes.

I feel incredibly lucky to lead this organization. It is clear we are in the midst of one of the most pivotal periods in DMARC's 70-year history of serving Greater Des Moines. And there is simply no way we could fulfill our mission without the support of such a generous community.

CELEBRATING OUR 70TH ANNIVERSARY

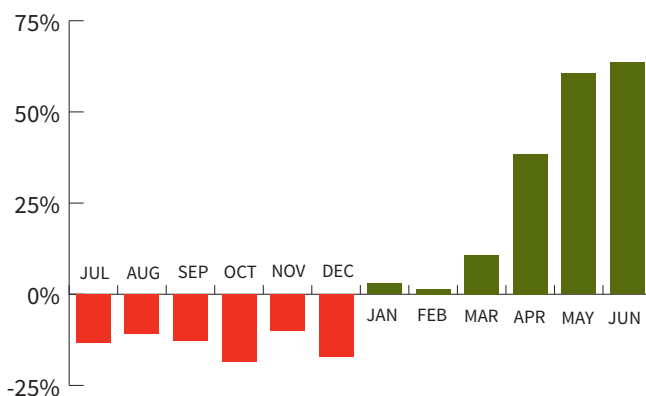
DMARC celebrated the 70th anniversary of our organization in May 2022. DMARC has changed in significant ways over the past 70 years, but our mission of meeting basic human needs remains. Celebrating our seven decades of work was a great opportunity to ground ourselves in our deep history and gather inspiration from everyone who built DMARC into the organization we are today.



FACING A "PERFECT STORM" OF NEED

During the pandemic, many additional governmental and community resources have been available to people facing food insecurity in our community. We fully anticipated that the DMARC Food Pantry Network would face the biggest need once those additional programs were no longer in place. Emergency Allotments for SNAP ended in Iowa in April, and the average monthly SNAP benefits for households dropped by more than \$200. We immediately started seeing double-digit percent increases in food pantry traffic over the prior year.

percent change in people assisted by the DMARC Food Pantry Network, compared to the same month of the prior year



At the same time that people lost access to additional SNAP benefits, food prices and the costs of other basic needs have gone through the roof. All of this has created a "perfect storm" of need in our community.

MOVING INTO OUR NEW HEADQUARTERS

In March, DMARC moved in to our new headquarters at 100 Army Post Road on the south side of Des Moines. The new space has been transformational for our work. You can read more about our capital campaign and new headquarters on the opposite page.

We could not meet our mission, let alone take on a multi-million dollar capital campaign, without the steadfast support of our donors. Thank you for all you do for DMARC and our community! You are truly incredible.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Matt Unger".

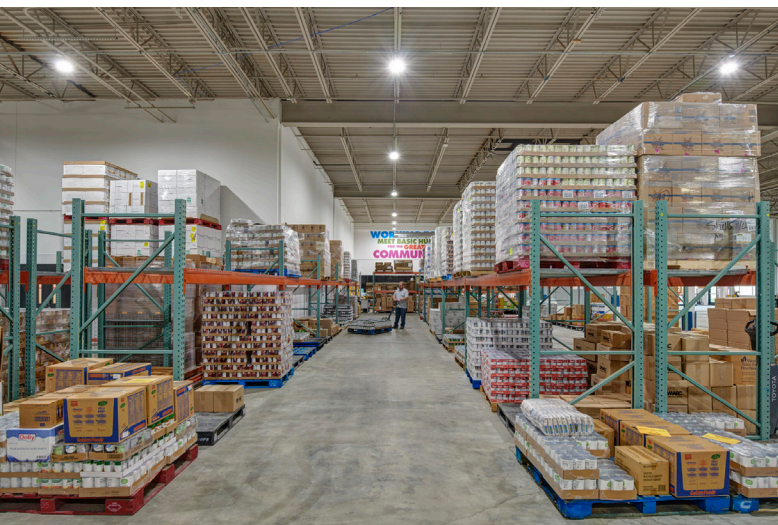
Matt Unger,
Chief Executive Officer

FOOD TODAY, CHANGE TOMORROW



As the DMARC Food Pantry Network repeatedly broke all-time monthly records for food pantry use in 2019, it became clear that DMARC needed to find a bigger facility in order to respond to the growing need in the community. After an extensive search, DMARC made an agreement to purchase the building at 100 Army Post Road in October 2020, and put 1435 Mulberry Street up for sale.

Thanks to the generosity of our community, DMARC's "Food Today, Change Tomorrow" \$5.6 million capital campaign has been a huge success. DMARC moved into its new headquarters on the south side of Des Moines in March 2022. The move could not have come at a better time. Starting in April 2022, the DMARC Food Pantry Network began seeing a dramatic increase in food pantry visits. Thankfully, we were well-equipped to respond to the growing need.



Our new headquarters has enabled us to:

- triple the amount of total storage space in our warehouse, including expanding our cold storage capacity by a factor of ten
- open our first on-site food pantry (*see below*)
- park and stock our mobile food pantry units indoors
- expand our volunteer center and sorting area
- host events in our training and community rooms and offer those spaces up to the community
- save money through added efficiencies

FOOD PANTRY NETWORK

The DMARC Food Pantry Network consists of 15 partner food pantries, multiple mobile food pantry locations, and a home delivery program. DMARC is committed to providing nutritious food and fresh fruits and vegetables to the people we assist.

Once per calendar month, people can select a three-day supply of food from any one of our partner food pantries, and AnyTime Items are available whenever our partner food pantries are open.



OUR FOOD PANTRY PARTNERS



DMARC has opened a food pantry on-site at its headquarters, 100 Army Post Road, Des Moines, IA 50315. The new food pantry, named the DMARC-ket Southside Food Pantry, becomes the 15th partner food pantry in the DMARC Food Pantry Network, and the first brick-and-mortar food pantry that DMARC will staff and operate as an organization.

NO-CONTACT HOME DELIVERY PROGRAM

DMARC continues to grow our no-contact home delivery program that started during the pandemic. Thanks to developing partnerships, DMARC is expanding the reach of this important program that delivers food directly to the doorstep of people in need.

"DMARC and its staff bring a tremendous value to central Iowa. You are the lifeline to so many people who are food insecure." —Kent Peterson, Volunteer Delivery Driver





INTERFAITH YOUTH LEADERSHIP CAMP

DMARC and The Comparison Project at Drake University co-hosted the 6th Annual Interfaith Youth Leadership Camp from July 20-24, 2022. 16 high school students and recent graduates from diverse religious backgrounds expanded their interfaith literacy and leadership through site visits to religious communities across Greater Des Moines and a personal digital storytelling project.

Learn more: [iowainterfaithexchange.com](https://www.iowainterfaithexchange.com)

INTERFAITH ENGAGEMENT

DMARC could never do the work of feeding so many people without the partnership of many, diverse faith communities. Nearly 200 faith communities from across the religious spectrum support DMARC with cash, food, and service. Because we can do so much more together than we can on our own, DMARC has a commitment to helping our faith communities learn more about one another and build interfaith relationships.

"With a resurgence of hate crimes and rising antisemitism this year, our work to build relationships and understanding across religious diversity is more important than ever. DMARC strives to provide the tools and resources for our neighbors to stand up against the destructive forces that threaten our diverse community." —Rev. Sarah Trone Garriott,

Coordinator of Interfaith Engagement

STORYTELLERS ROUNDTABLE

The Storytellers Roundtable is a project of DMARC that aims to elevate voices of people experiencing food insecurity in our community and promote their stories to be shared with fellow residents, media outlets, community leaders, and elected officials.

"Thanks to DMARC and the Storytellers Roundtable, I've been given countless opportunities to use my voice to advocate for myself and my community. I have a space where I know my voice will be heard and respected. It's an honor to have people at DMARC consider me their friend."

—Tara Leigh Kramer (pictured right)



ADVOCACY AND EDUCATION

PROTECTING SNAP

DMARC fought successfully at the state capitol to protect the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) from harmful changes and strengthened our coalition work with state and national partners in the process.

DMARC also worked to raise awareness about the drop in SNAP benefits that occurred in Iowa in April 2022, garnering national media coverage on the subject and highlighting its impact on the emergency food sector.

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING DMARC

\$100,000 and up

FEMA/Emergency Food & Shelter Program, United Way of Central Iowa

\$25,000 to \$99,999

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\$1,000-\$2,499

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*deceased donor  Spring Greens Hunger Champion

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FINANCIALS

PROGRAM SERVICES EXPENSES

Food Pantry Network	\$2,998,052	63%
Advocacy and Education	\$71,005	1%
Interfaith Engagement	\$34,168	>1%

SUPPORTING SERVICES EXPENSES

Fundraising	\$410,688	9%
Administrative	\$426,459	9%

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN EXPENSES

Consulting Fees	\$44,000	>1%
Construction Cost	\$788,855	17%

Total Expenses **\$4,773,227**

SOURCES OF SUPPORT

Individuals	\$1,904,533	38%
In-Kind Contributions	\$1,311,879	26%
Grants	\$671,826	13%
Congregations	\$474,940	10%
Organizations/Groups	\$390,574	8%
Events/Miscellaneous	\$181,099	4%
Planned Giving	\$47,068	1%
Investments	(\$128,752)	-

Total Support **\$4,853,167**

Total Net Assets* **\$7,768,259**

* includes fixed assets

Working Together to Meet
Basic Human Needs.

STAFF:

MATT UNGER,

Chief Executive Officer

LESLIE L. GARMAN, CFRE,

Director of Development & Outreach

REBECCA WHITLOW,

Food Pantry Network Director

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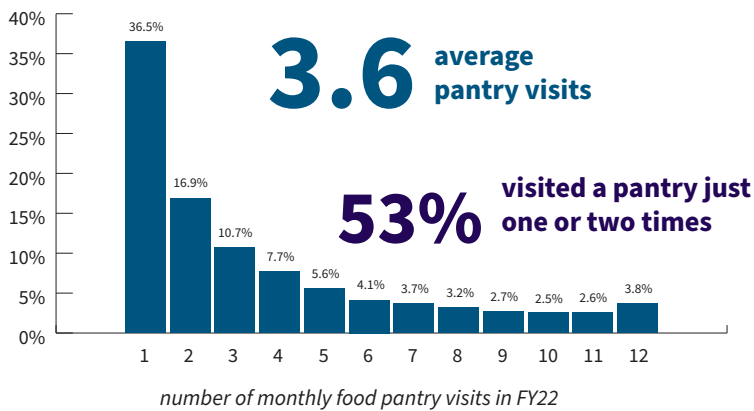
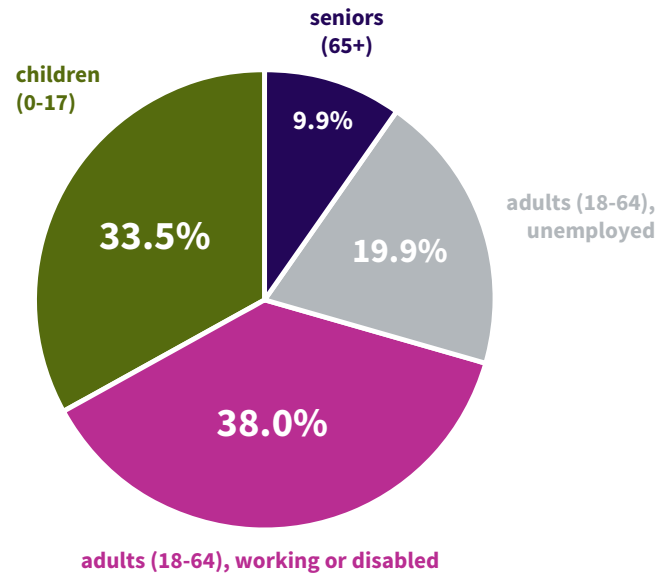
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To see a complete donor list of in-kind and cash contributions
over \$100 and a virtual version of the annual report.

FY22 BY THE NUMBERS

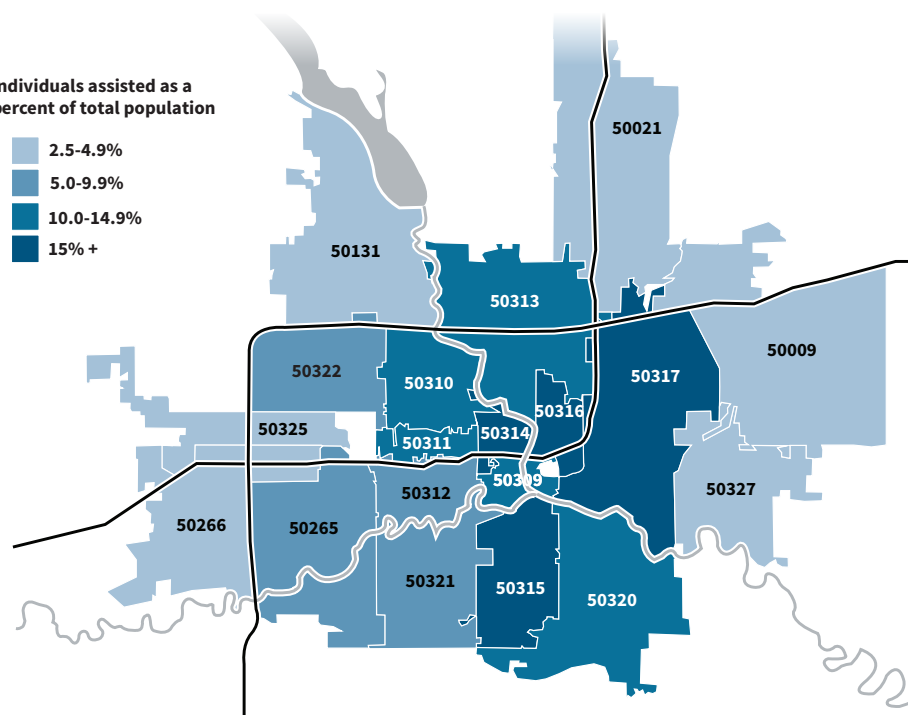
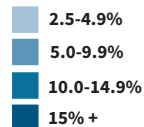
43,576
unique individuals assisted

18,656
households assisted



The **50314** ZIP code had the greatest concentration of food pantry use, with **26.9%** of residents using the DMARC Food Pantry Network in FY22.

Individuals assisted as a percent of total population



Distributed

1,116,615 lbs

**of fresh
produce**



34.4%

**of individuals
served through the
Food Pantry
Network were 17
years of age or
younger.**



10,157

Volunteers



109,961

Volunteer Hours of support

NAVIGATING SUPPLY CHAIN ISSUES

DMARC continues to deal with supply chain issues, leading to longer fulfillment times for orders, and higher food and transportation costs.

DMARC saw a 48 percent increase in food costs in August 2022 compared to March 2020.





DMARC
UNITED TO MEET THE NEED

70 years
1952-2022



www.dmarcunited.org | info@dmarcunited.org | 515.277.6969
100 Army Post Rd., Des Moines IA 50315 | @DMARCUnited

