

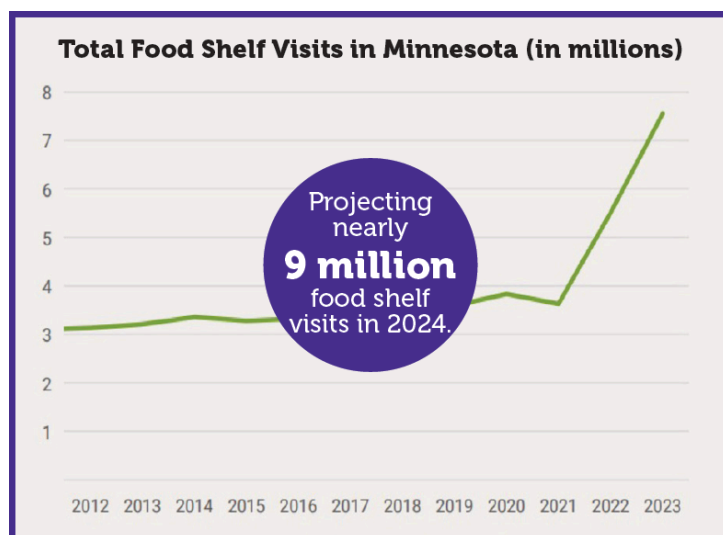


# SUSTAIN FUNDING FOR MINNESOTA'S FOOD SHELVES

SF 1112 / HF 777

Last year, food shelves across the state saw nearly 9 million visits, up significantly from the 7.5 million visits in 2023. Food shelves are a vital safety net for families, seniors and children facing food insecurity in our state. Reducing funding for food shelves would directly impact their ability to provide nutritious food to those in need and force some to make difficult choices that could lead to fewer hours of operation and reduction in services, increasing food insecurity across the state.

Investing in food shelves in Minnesota is a proven way to strengthen communities around our state. We must protect the previous funding levels to ensure food shelves in our state can meet the rising need and do not see a reduction in funding when the need is higher than ever.



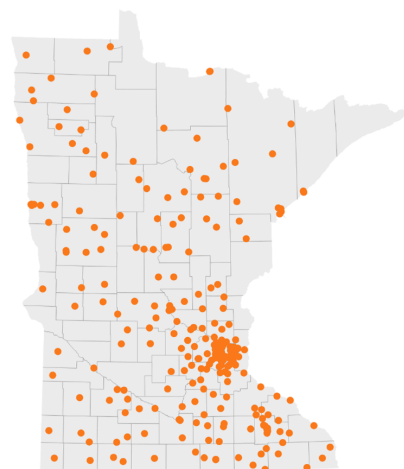
## What is the Minnesota Food Shelf Program?

The Minnesota Food Shelf Program (MFSP) is the main source of support for many food shelves in Minnesota. Funded by the Minnesota State Legislature, MFSP grants allow food shelves flexibility in funding, giving them the power to allocate funds to what is most needed. While most of the funding is used to purchase food to keep their shelves stocked for community members, funding is also used to pay for utility costs, personnel and transportation options allowing food shelves to remain open and help meet the needs of elderly, disabled and home-bound community members.

*"Right now the Food Shelf relies on private donations to supplement the grants, and donations can vary over time. Consistent grant funding from the state would greatly help with keeping the food shelf open and operating to its full capacity." – Aurora Area Food Shelf, Aurora Minnesota*

Supporting MFSP is an investment in the well-being and resilience of our state. Consistent state funding for food shelves ensures that people in urban, suburban, and rural communities have access to the food they need. The Minnesota Food Shelf Program is an essential element of Minnesota's social safety net.

## 2023 - 2024 MFSP Grantees:



**Protect Minnesota's food shelves. Keep funding whole by supporting SF 1112.**

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