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Currently in Hamilton, more than 18,500 people access a food bank every month; more than 8,500 are children. The people who rely on a food bank for their survival include the disabled, senior citizens and families who are faced with the reality of "paying the rent or feeding the kids."

Thank you to *Hamilton Community News* for its generous donation of \$1,867 and 221 pounds of food. Your donation of \$1,867 will raise approximately \$9,335

worth of food.

Our emergency food acquisition and distribution program raises food supplies in three ways – first, through donations from the community and food industry, second, through bulk purchases of food items with up to a 25 per cent savings and third, through an exciting new program with area farmers called Hamilton Harvest.

This remarkable pilot program produced acres of nutritious food, grown specifically for Hamilton

Food Share. To date, we have harvested almost 86,000 pounds of fresh produce for area food bank programs.

The *Hamilton Community News* contribution will be part of every seed sown and harvested, feeding hungry children right here in our own community. Each dollar donated provides support for today and vital investments for tomorrow.

The impact of your generosity will make a difference today for people who have nowhere else to turn.

On behalf of our entire team at Hamilton Food Share, our board of directors and the agencies we serve, I wish to thank you for your generosity.

Rachel O'Reilly, resource development director and Mona Santucci, warehouse manager Hamilton Food Share

Editor's Note: For the past several years, Hamilton Community News has held a Thanksgiving food drive, with employees holding fundraisers and personally contributing food and money to Hamilton Food Share.