



Annual Report 2019-2020

Mission

CHEP works with children, families and communities to improve access to good food and promote food security.



CHEP Good Food acknowledges that we operate on Treaty 6 Territory and the Homeland of the Métis.

BOARD



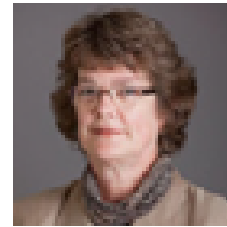
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Chair



Bryn Rawlyk
Vice-Chair



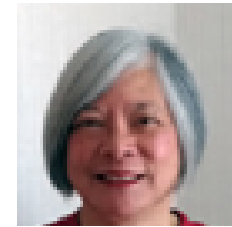
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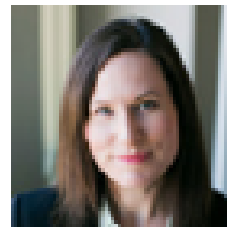
Carolyn Chu



Colleen Hamilton



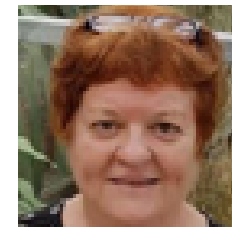
Paul Janzen



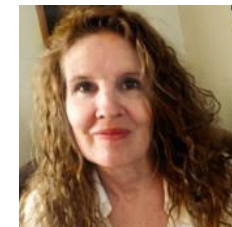
Siobhan Morgan



Amy Rederburg



Val Veillard



Jean Goerzen
Interim Executive
Director

STAFF

Zoe Arnold - Urban Ag Coordinator

Katie Crawford - Centralized Purchaser

Kevin Crickett - Driver Assistant

Jean Goerzen - Interim Executive Director

Yvonne Hanson - Executive Director

Della Harder - Centralized Kitchens

Jaci Hutton - Good Food Box Coordinator

Dale Jack - Driver

Ali Lewis - Registered Dietician

Jordan Morton - Urban Ag Assistant

Eduardo Nunez - Driver

Janet Phillips - Collective Kitchens Coordinator

Oiza Rufai - Office & Volunteer Coordinator

Rita Stalker - Centralized Kitchens

Michayla van de Velde - Markets & Outreach Coordinator

Barb Zintel - Accounts Coordinator

askîy Urban Ag Interns (Summer 2019)

Rain (Kiyari) McNab, Jordan Morton, Justice Noon,
Michelle Pritchard, Louisa Tomasiewicz

Contract Staff: Monica Brescia, Maia Grise, Elaine Haugen,
Chantalle Morrow-Fescuic

Staff that have moved on this year: Stefanie Foster, Leia
Fedyk, Vince Head, Sandra Schweder, Donna Meister



MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

CHEP Good Food has been focused on addressing food security in Saskatoon for over 30 years. As we end one of the most challenging years in our history, the Board would like to acknowledge the amazing work of the staff and the Executive Director in nimbly responding to the necessary changes brought about through COVID-19 restrictions. Prior to mid-March, CHEP was engaged in its many programs to improve access to nutritious food. CHEP supports schools, the university, seniors residences, and the broader community through a wide array of programs such as school lunches, Good Food Boxes, subsidized market sales, seniors stores, Collective Kitchens, nutrition education and community gardens including the nationally recognized askîy project.

Mid March, CHEP responded to the COVID-19 pandemic in Saskatoon by providing food access through new programs and changes to existing programs:

1. Senior Stores switched to delivery only with no-contact drop-offs
2. Good Food Delivery: No-contact deliveries of groceries directly to households.
3. Children's Nutrition: No-contact deliveries of School Family Lunch Boxes to households affected by school closures
4. New Horizons for Seniors (in partnership with United Way): No-contact deliveries of groceries to seniors requiring food support.

The Board is very proud of the staff of CHEP who are continuing to improve food access in Saskatoon. We would also like to thank Jean Goerzen for her tremendous leadership as the Interim Executive Director. She has handled all challenges and pressures of responding to the changing food security environment and leading the amazing staff of CHEP in determining new ways of ensuring access to nutritious food. Given the dedication of the staff and the strong leadership of the Executive Director, as well as the tremendous support of sponsors, including the Government of Saskatchewan, the City of Saskatoon and the many incredible donors, CHEP will continue to fulfill its mission of ensuring a food secure community.

Vicki Squires

Chair, CHEP Board of Directors

2019-2020 HIGHLIGHTS

CHEP has had a very interesting year. We celebrated our 30th anniversary in 2019 and, up until March of 2020, delivered our regular programs to promote food security. These included hosting regular fresh food markets, packing and delivering our biweekly Good Food Box, bulk buying and delivering of fresh produce and dairy to school food programs, preparing nutritious bag lunches for schools, cooking skills workshops in schools and the community (Chefs in Training and Collective Kitchens), nutrition education, community gardens and the askîy project's summer internship.

The askîy project was privileged to work with Elders and Cultural Mentors Lorna and Eugene Arcand, Rose Roberts and Maria Campbell. The new garden season was officially opened in June when Eugene provided teachings on planting and Maria offered a prayer and blessing. The askîy project's partnership with the U of S traditional garden team was of upmost value to the crew and included many different aspects of learning Indigenous ways of relating to food, medicine, the land, each other, and how to walk in good ways.

We also introduced a new initiative with the Mobile Community Market. With funding from Affinity Credit Union, we partnered with the Saskatchewan Cancer Agency who very generously offered us the use of their bus to take our markets to the road with weekly visits to four locations around Saskatoon. The pilot provided useful insights into the future of Community Markets, including the idea to use a food truck model in future planning.

Another new initiative introduced this year was 'Growing Relationships Over Food', or GRO Food, in collaboration with Saskatchewan Intercultural Association and supported by Dakota Dunes Community Development Corporation and SaskCulture. Chefs in Training and Collective Kitchens participants shared cultural stories and recipes, and prepared and enjoyed diverse cultural foods together. This initiative was well-received with early interesting results, such as elementary students requesting wild meat and sharing stories about the impact of Residential Schools on their families.

By mid-March 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic was upon us. Against a rapidly changing landscape, we had to abruptly cancel our annual Seedy Saturday event, and our food skills programs, fresh food markets and Good Food Box went on hiatus. The amazing CHEP team pivoted into a food access focus by immediately introducing the Good Food Delivery program offering no-contact deliveries of fresh food to enable people to stay at home.

With the closure of schools, we shifted our North Park Wilson Centralized Kitchen activities to Station 20 West and began making nutritious bag lunches for distribution first through Friendship Inn and then White Buffalo Youth Lodge. With acknowledgement that food insecure school children have food insecure families, CHEP introduced the School Family Lunch Box to deliver healthy lunch fixings to families affected by the school closures.

The Saskatoon community instantly came together to form the Inter-Agency Response to COVID-19. With regular meetings via Zoom, the good will generated and the support provided was unparalleled. New partnerships were formed and existing partnerships were strengthened as CHEP participated actively in the Food Working Group. Saskatoon agencies and individual volunteers stepped up to support CHEP's daunting task of no-contact delivering food, on a daily basis, to hundreds of school families, seniors and other members of our community.

We are grateful to the Saskatoon Community Foundation, Community Food Centres Canada, Cameco, United Way of Saskatoon & Area, Community Initiatives Fund, Saskatchewan Roughriders Foundation, Kinsmen Club of Saskatoon, Bank of Nova Scotia and our donors for emergency funding that enabled CHEP to meet community food needs. We are indebted to Riide for the generous use of their minivan; Saskatoon Co-op for gift cards for fuel; Saskatchewan Egg Producers for donations of thousands of eggs; John Howard Society, Access Transit, and Saskatoon Indian and Métis Friendship Centre for magnanimously offering up their staff on a regular basis to do deliveries; and Kids First and Elizabeth Fry staff for helping us pack endless orders of food. We appreciate the large donation of hand sanitizer we received from 3Twenty Modular, the hand-sewn masks from 'Days for Girls' and the weekly deliveries of personal protective equipment from the Inter-Agency Response.

CHEP's mandate to improve access to good food and promote food security has given us a clear focus during the pandemic and we are more determined than ever in working towards achieving our goal of food security for everybody in our community.



ACTIVITIES & ACHIEVEMENTS

Food Access

COMMUNITY MARKETS

Hosted weekly community markets and reached **12,000** clients with market sales of over **\$76,000** providing low-cost produce to families and individuals living in food deserts, including 4 new weekly markets.

Ran weekly/bi-weekly Senior Stores markets at 8 seniors' residences, bringing over **\$49,000** worth of produce, fresh baking and dairy products directly to seniors facing mobility challenges.

GOOD FOOD BOX

Fostered a network of volunteers, clients, customers and community members across Saskatoon and area, who came together to package, coordinate, order, and purchase **4,794** Good Food Boxes full of fresh produce – food for over **10,546** people.

CHILDREN'S NUTRITION

Our bulk buying program administered **\$66,000** in Fresh Food for Kids grants and sold **\$221,830** worth of low-cost produce and dairy to Saskatoon Public Schools to help them keep their school food programs cost-effective and nutritionally dense.

Our Centralized Kitchen handmade **16,448** nutritious brown bag lunches and delivered them to schools to ensure that no child has to learn on an empty stomach.

Food Skills & Education

COLLECTIVE KITCHENS

Ran **9** Regular Collective Kitchens benefiting **170** families (126 adults, 78 children and youth) with **83%** participants indicating an increase in vegetable and fruit consumption

CHEFS IN TRAINING

Facilitated **10** Chef's in Training cooking programs at local schools, teaching basic kitchen and food safety skills to over **100** elementary and high school students

PRESENTATIONS, OUTREACH & WORKSHOPS

Delivered **5** workshops and **68** presentations on topics including adding nutritional value to prepackaged foods, cooking on a budget, picky eating, gardening, and cooking with pulses, reaching over **1,778** people.

Ran a one-week garden camp for **7** neighbourhood children to learn about growing and preparing fresh vegetables.

Sustainable Food Systems

THE BIG CRUNCH

Engaged **22** schools, **7,600** students, and **490 lbs** of carrots in the 2019 BIG CRUNCH event celebrating healthy eating, local food systems, school food & farm-to-table eating.

COMMUNITY GARDENS

Mentored and nurtured **52** community gardens comprised of over **1,500** individual garden plots for around **3,200** gardeners.

CENTRALIZED PURCHASING

Worked to strengthen the local food system by purchasing over **\$30,000** in fresh produce from local Saskatchewan farmers, growers, and producers.

GREEN INITIATIVES

Good Food Box reduced plastic usage by **75%**, saving approximately **6,700** plastic bags from the landfill. Food shrinkage was reduced by **23%**; produce was donated and rerouted to ensure it could be enjoyed before spoiling.

Established the Reusable Bag Exchange at our Station 20 West Market, providing free reusable bags to market customers and acting as a donation hub for reusable bags otherwise destined for the landfill.

THE ASKÎY PROJECT

Employed **5** youth in our askîy project youth internship.

Expanded garden space, grew and harvested **923 lbs** of produce (our biggest harvest yet) and generated **\$3,224** in sales.

Piloted the askîy box subscription in partnership with the Good Food Box; supplied fresh, locally grown produce to Community Markets and local restaurants.

Social Enterprise

DONATIONS

Hosted our biggest Karma Box ever and raised **\$3,160** to purchase **158** Karma boxes for food insecure clients of AIDS Saskatoon & the Student Wellness Initiative Towards Community Health (SWITCH).

Donated over **\$5,000** in fresh fruits and vegetables to community partners.

Strong Partnerships

VOLUNTEERS & PARTNERSHIPS

The askîy project logged **557** volunteer hours with **277** volunteers; Good Food Box brought together **85** volunteers biweekly to pack and deliver good food.

Expanded and strengthened partnerships with local agencies through the COVID-19 response.



FEEDBACK FROM OUR CLIENTS, VOLUNTEERS & SUPPORTERS

Food Access

"Thank you for what you do. I grew up depending on scraps from food banks and I know what it's like to be hungry and desperate. When you are malnourished, it's hard to believe that anything in your life can get better. You give people hope packed in that box." - **CHEP Supporter**

"I love how community focused it is. There are so many places in the city where people can't access fruits and vegetables without having a vehicle. Knowing that this provides access, and provides access at a significantly lower cost than could be achieved otherwise, makes me very proud to participate in the program. And I love that as many items as possible come from local producers--there's something really special about that." - **Good Food Box client**

"The CHEP deliveries give us hope... We struggle with food security every day - EVERY day. The COVID crisis exacerbated our plight times a million. People that have money cannot possibly understand the stress of not really knowing how to get food. With hampers we feel WE have the right to quality food like everyone else. Honestly, this program makes us feel important and healthy." - **New Horizons Delivery for Seniors participants**

"Volunteering with the Good Food Box has given me confidence in myself and has improved my mental health. When I first started volunteering I was in a bad place, but now I know I'm able to do the work and I like it." - **Good Food Box Volunteer**

Food Skills

"I can cook on the stove at home now!"

"I made my own salad at home."

"Mom was surprised I made it all by myself!"

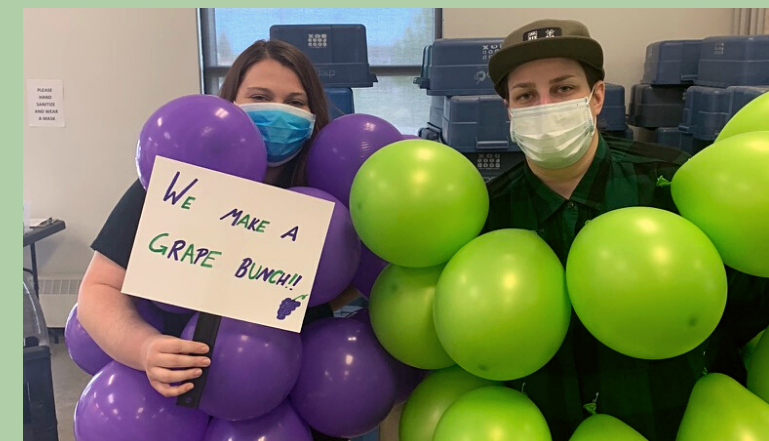
- **Chefs in Training participants**

Growing Food

"To see seedlings to sprout, to full on plants to harvest and onto a dinner plate was very eye opening." - **askiŷ intern**

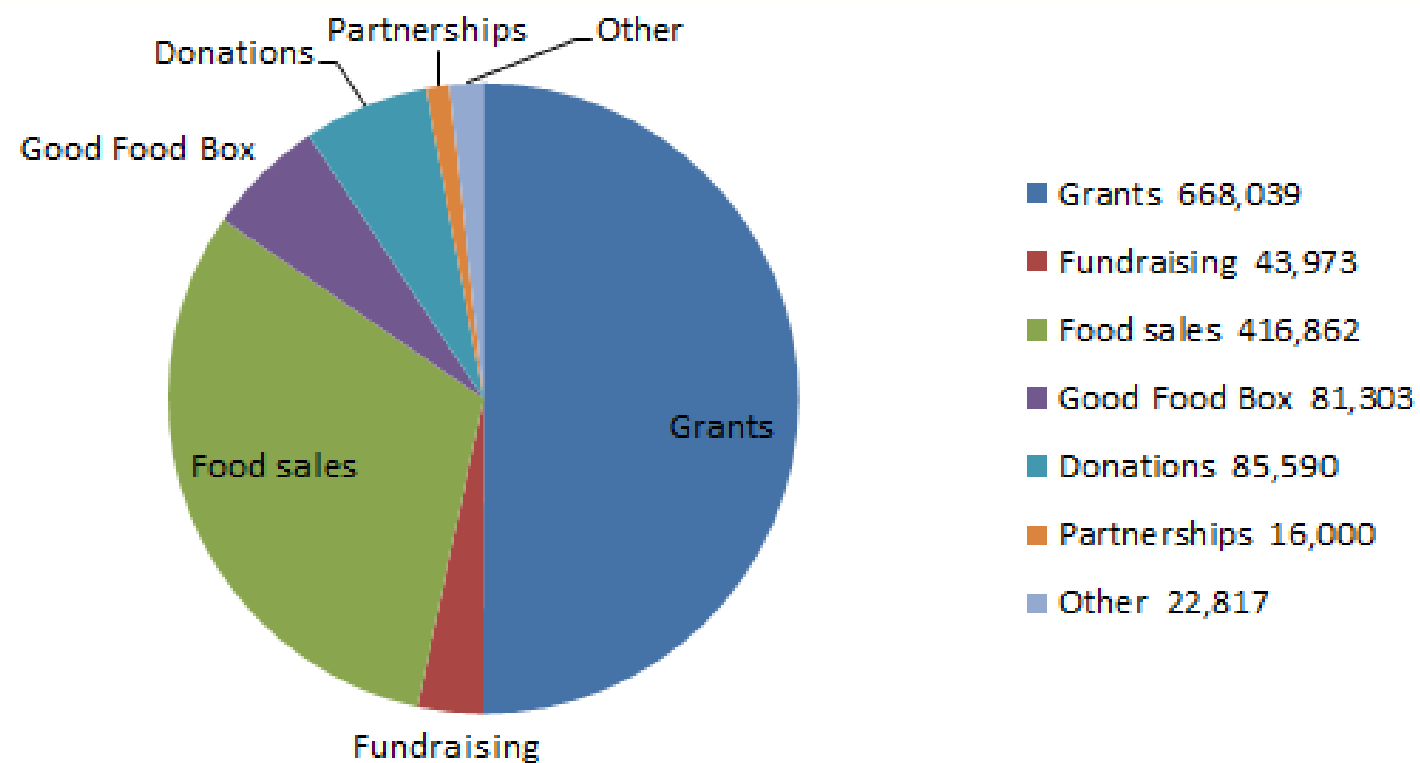
"It has given me an entirely new lens to seeing the world, the impact my choices of food have on my community and the part I can play with the knowledge and skills I've acquired." - **askiŷ intern**

"It was very enlightening to be exposed to history and oral tradition but it was really awesome to learn about companion planting and the ecological benefits of it. Indigenous people knew what was up before western science and I really enjoy how the askiŷ project has that component in its program." - **askiŷ intern**

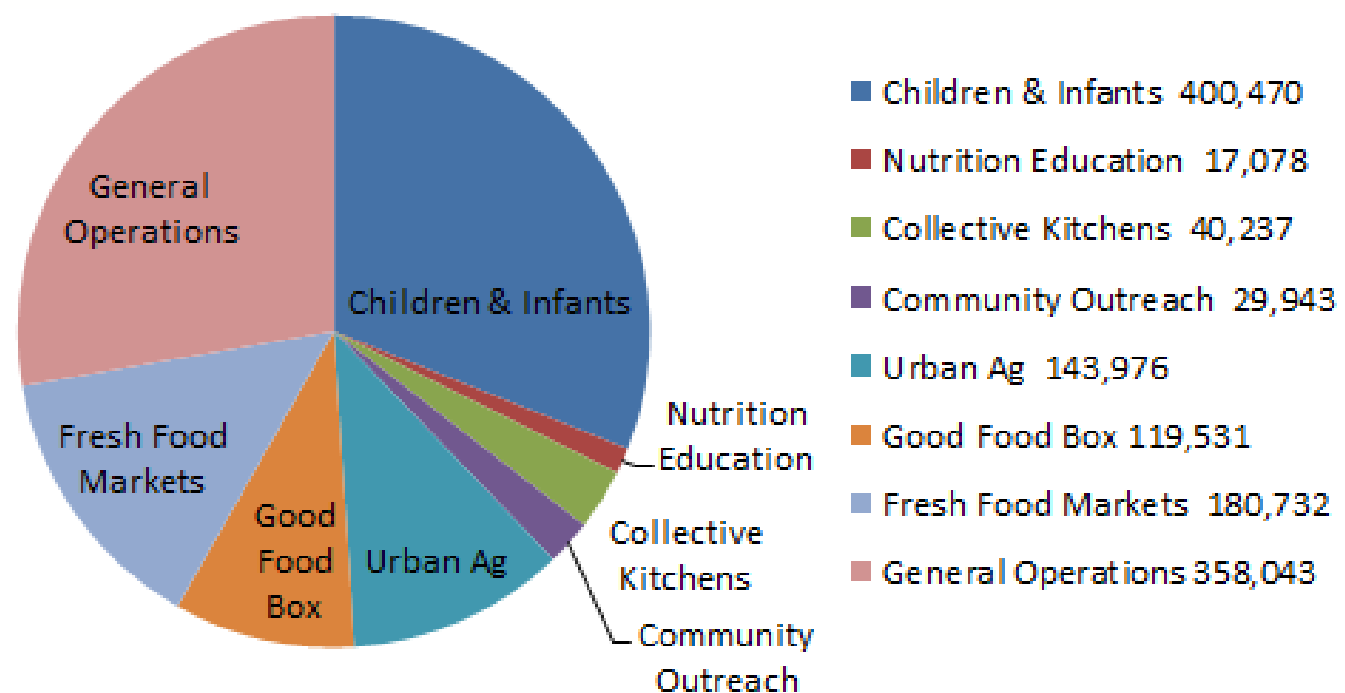


FINANCIALS

Revenue for 2019-2020 – **\$1,334,584**



Expenses for 2019-2020 – **\$1,290,010**



Audit conducted by Lingard + Dreger Chartered Professional Accountants. Audited statements available online at www.chep.org or call CHEP office at 306-655-4575

Thank you to our Program & Emergency Funders & Major Event Sponsors



Saskatchewan
Ministry of
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United Way
Saskatoon & Area



community food centres
CANADA good food is just the beginning



SASKATOON
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