BOUNTIFUL BASKET
FOOD SHELF

Together, We Support. Nourish. Empower.

Summer 2026

Dear Friends and Supporters,

As we reflect on the past several months, we are filled with gratitude for this incredible community and the many ways you continue to support the families we serve. **Because of you, we have been able to respond quickly to growing needs while continuing to provide stability, nourishment, and hope to thousands of individuals and families across our community.**

Responding to the Moment, Staying True to Our Mission

The past six months have been some of the most challenging—and defining—in Bountiful Basket's history. As our community faced a government shutdown, SNAP disruptions and increased fear and uncertainty - many families experienced heightened stress and barriers to accessing food. In response, Bountiful Basket remained flexible, adaptable, and deeply responsive to community needs.

Durning this time, we **hosted** emergency food distributions during the government shut down and **expanded** our home delivery program for individuals and families unable or afraid to leave their homes. **In March alone, we completed 381 deliveries**. These efforts were made possible through strong partnerships with Mi CASA and Latino Voices, along with the incredible support of volunteers, donors, businesses, faith communities, and civic organizations. **We also partnered closely with the Carver County CDA to support families facing housing instability and connect them with critical resources.**

Even while responding quickly to emerging needs we were also able to continue the regular momentum of our organization—operating our food shelves, school partnerships, senior deliveries, and community programs without interruption.

Looking Ahead: Building a More Responsive Future

As we look ahead, our commitment remains clear: to continue expanding access to healthy, nutritious, and culturally appropriate food while responding thoughtfully to the evolving needs of our community. We know our community is growing and the cost of gas, groceries and housing continue to rise.

This spring, our staff and Board of Directors **began work on Bountiful Basket's next strategic plan** to help ensure we are prepared to meet those growing needs—both today and in the years ahead. Key areas of focus include **expanding** our building capacity, **exploring** new, innovative and flexible ways to distribute food and reach more neighbors, and **enhancing** support services beyond food to better support overall family stability and self-sufficiency.

What we have learned over the past several years is that **community needs continue to evolve**—and so must we. At Bountiful Basket, **we remain committed** to being an organization that listens, adapts, collaborates, and responds with dignity, compassion, and care.

Because of you, we were able to respond during a time of uncertainty—and because of you, we are building a stronger, more responsive future for our neighbors.

With heartfelt gratitude,

Patti Sinykin

Patti Sinykin | Executive Director

Growing Responsibly, Leading with Integrity

Over the past four years, Bountiful Basket has increased the number of individuals served by more than 350%, and our community's investment in this work has grown right alongside it—a reflection of growing community need, expanded access to our services, and the incredible generosity of our supporters.

With this growth, we reached the threshold requiring our first official independent financial audit. We are proud to share that the audit resulted in no major findings, affirming our commitment to strong stewardship, accountability, and integrity.

over 4 years

350%

increase in both individuals served and community support

STRETCH YOUR IMPACT THIS SUMMER!

Your monthly gift can go even further this summer—each new or increased recurring donation generates an extra $100 for Bountiful Basket! **Learn more on the back!**

Ways to Support this Summer

Become a Sustaining Member

Monthly giving provides dependable, ongoing support that helps us plan ahead, respond to growing needs, and ensure families can count on nutritious food and caring support year-round.

This summer, thanks to a generous donor, Bountiful Basket will receive an additional $100 donation—up to $5,000 total—for every new sustaining member who signs up during June, July, or August, regardless of the monthly amount! Or, for every current Sustaining Member who increases their monthly gift!

Scan to Donate

Give During the July Open Your Heart Match

Thanks to the Open Your Heart to the Hungry and Homeless Foundation, every donation made during July receives proportional matching funds, helping your gift go even further for your neighbors.

Free Summer Market Returns

Free Summer Food Market
Carver County

Summer can place an additional strain on families when children no longer have access to meals and snacks at school. For many households, grocery costs increase significantly during the summer months, making programs like the Free Summer Food Market an important source of support.

That's why we're grateful to again be a partner and supporter of the Free Summer Food Market, helping ensure children & families have access to nutritious food throughout the summer. Beyond groceries, the Market provides stability and relief during a season when many budgets are stretched thin.

Free Summer Food Market
Mondays from June 8–August 17
4:00–5:30 p.m.
Everyone is Welcome

Learn about all of Bountiful Basket's food assistance programs at bountifulbasketfoodshelf.org/programs/

Beyond Food: Building Stability Through Connection

During our first full year of having a Community Resource Navigator on site, we saw firsthand how relationship-based support can change lives.

While food remains at the heart of our mission, many families facing food insecurity are also navigating challenges related to housing, transportation, healthcare, childcare, and other basic needs. Janet, our Community Resource Navigator, builds trusted relationships with the people we serve, and is able to identify additional barriers people are experiencing.

Throughout the year, Janet provided 626 direct services to 439 individuals helping connect families to resources including housing support, utility assistance, healthcare, clothing, transportation, beds, and more.

Recently, generous supporters of Bountiful Basket provided funds specifically to help families facing urgent, unexpected situations. One individual who came to us had been working to secure stable housing. They found a place but needed an immediate $35 deposit with the application. They didn't have it, but we did. Because those emergency funds were available, Janet was able to step in and remove that final barrier.

Without this support, they would have lost the opportunity. It's not always a huge obstacle standing in someone's way—it's one small unmet need.