

WISCONSIN FOOD RESCUE

● WI DNR WASTE & MATERIALS MANAGEMENT GROUP | SECOND HARVEST
FOODBANK OF SOUTHERN WI

AUGUST 2026

AGENDA

01 Second Harvest Foodbank of Southern WI

02 WI Food Rescue + Retail Donations

03 Retail Agency Capacity Grant

04 Wrap + Q&A





SECOND HARVEST FOODBANK OF SOUTHERN WI

ABOUT US

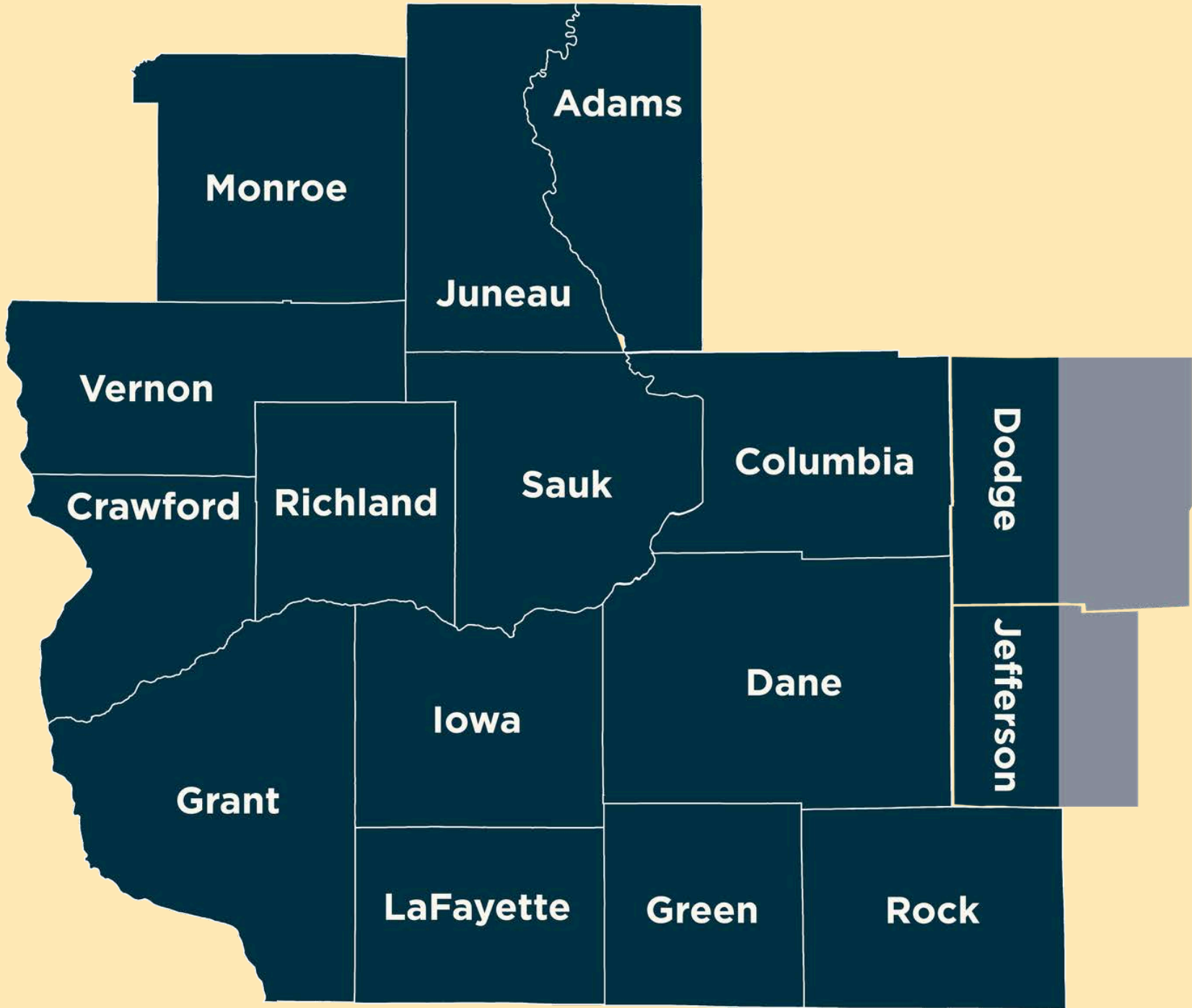
Mission: Second Harvest Foodbank exists to end hunger in southwestern Wisconsin.

Vision: Everyone in our community has enough nutritious food to thrive.

Values: Equity • Humility • Inclusion • Innovation • Integrity • Trust

What is a food bank: A food bank is a regional nonprofit organization that sources, stores, and distributes millions of pounds of food to a network of local hunger-relief partners. It serves as a hub that supplies the community organizations providing food assistance across the region.

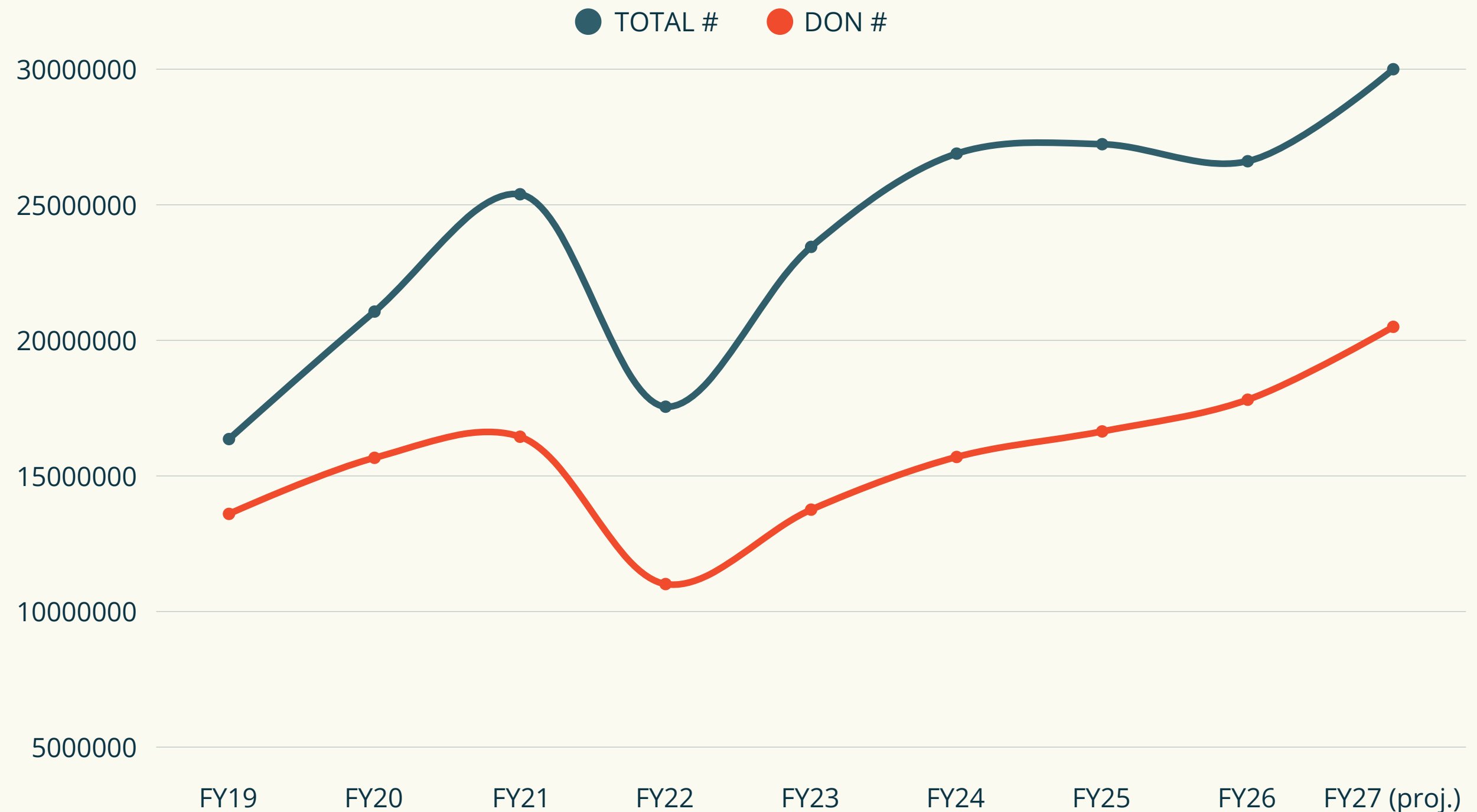
SERVICE AREA MAP



GROWTH AT SECOND HARVEST

Second Harvest Foodbank of Southern WI has grown significantly to meet rising community need. Annual food distribution has increased by more than 62% since FY19, rising from 16 million pounds to more than 26 million pounds in our most recent FY.

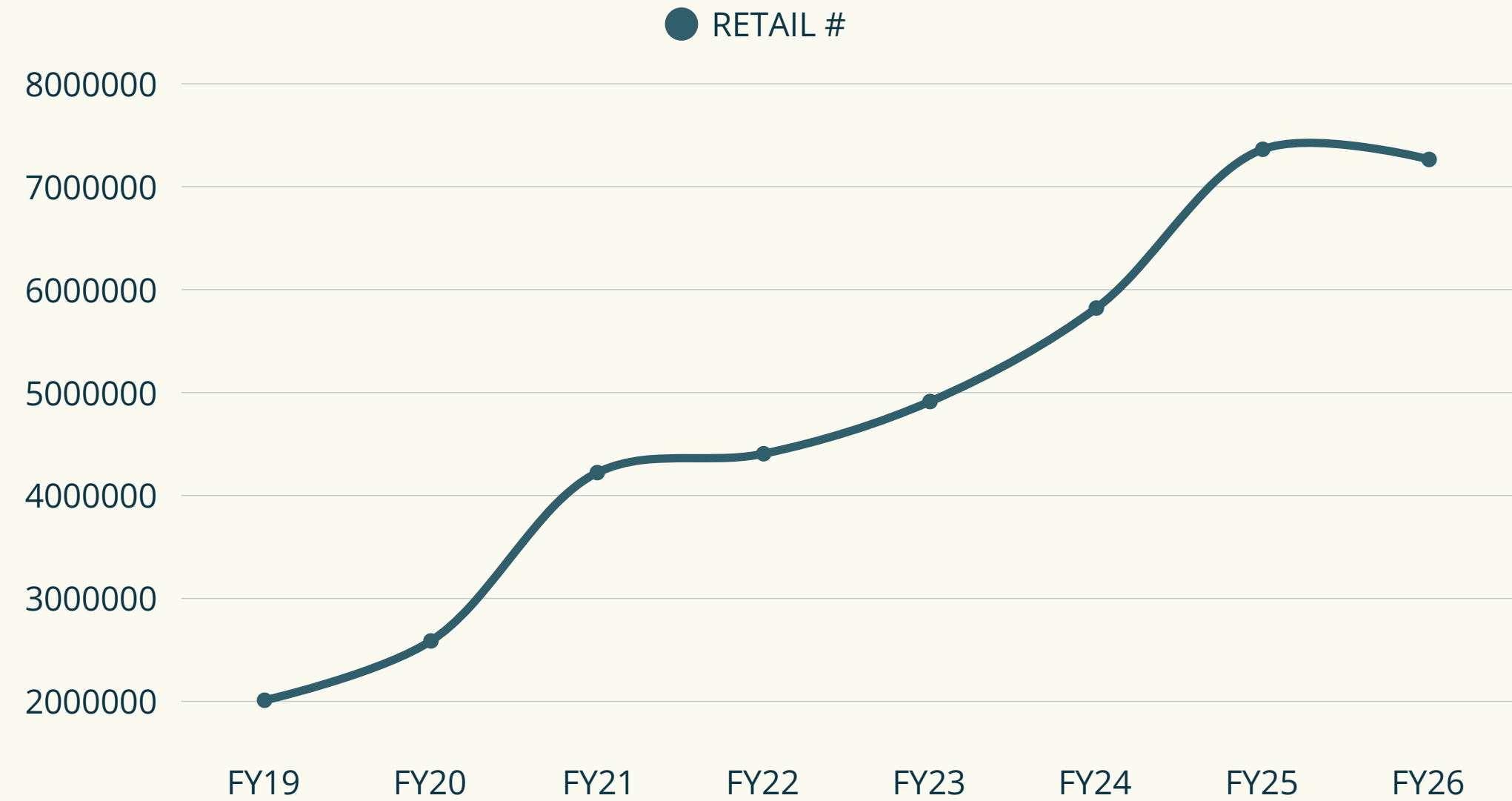
Despite this growth, the need for food assistance continues to increase. According to the latest Map the Meal Gap data, food insecurity across our service area now exceeds 12%. In 2021, the rate was 6.8%, demonstrating a steady upward trend and highlighting the growing need for hunger-relief services in our communities.



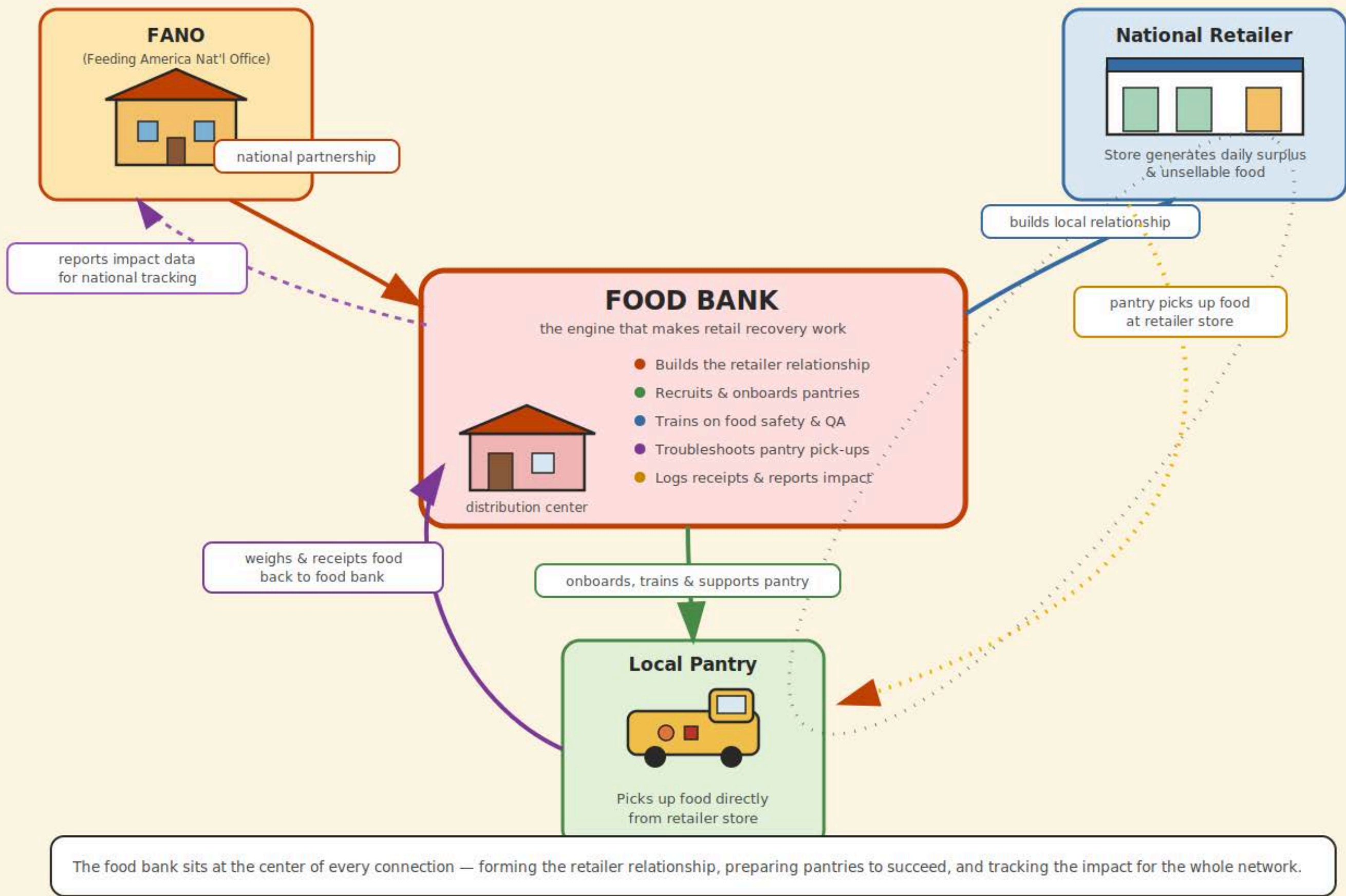
WISCONSIN FOOD RESCUE PROJECT

Wisconsin Food Rescue, an initiative of Second Harvest Foodbank of Southern Wisconsin, connects surplus food with neighbors facing hunger. Through partnerships with more than 300 food donors, the program rescues safe, nutritious food and quickly redistributes it across local communities.

Today, nearly 60% of the food distributed by Second Harvest comes through Wisconsin Food Rescue and donor partnerships.



How Retail Food Recovery Works



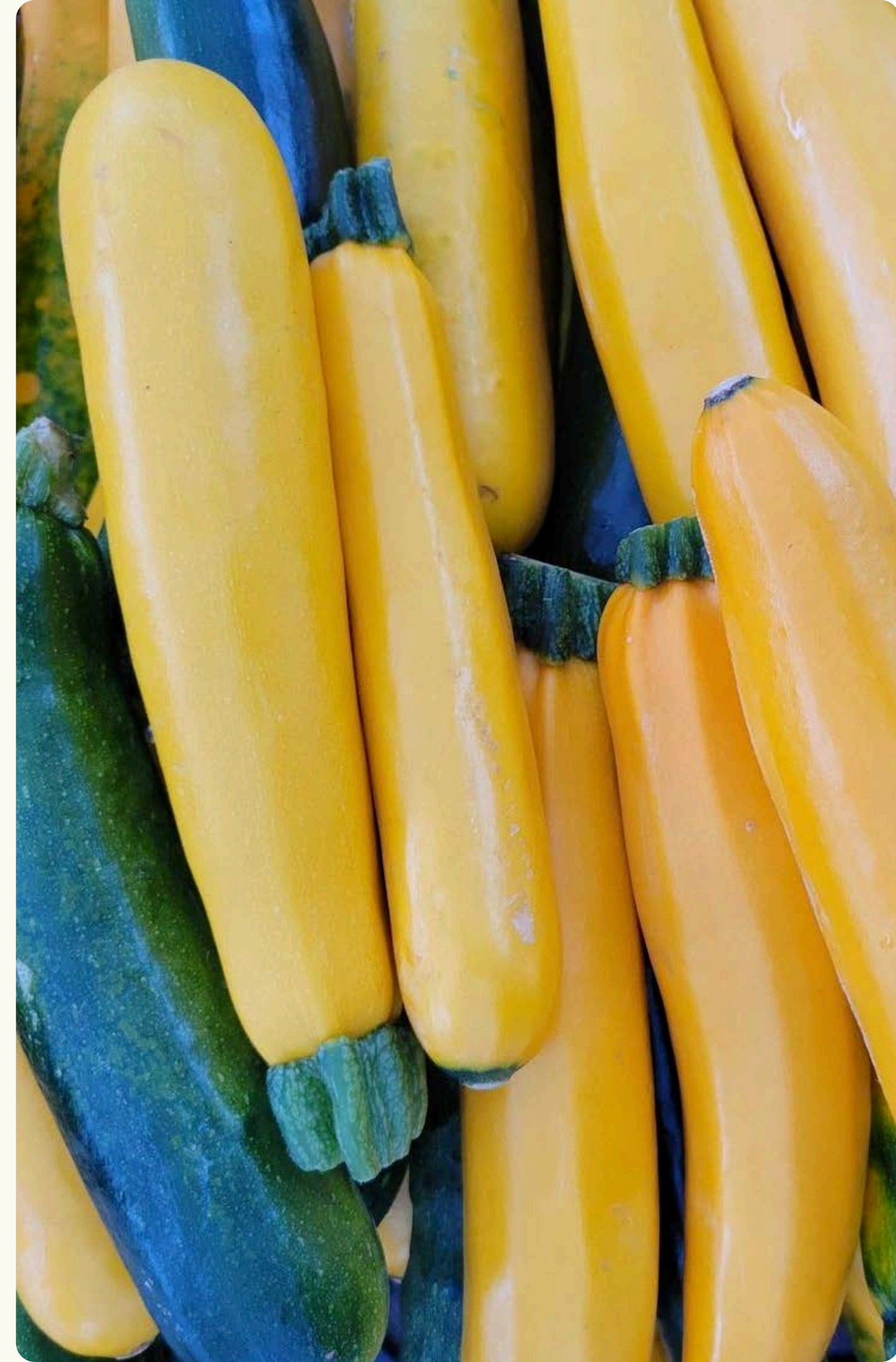


RETAIL AGENCY CAPACITY GRANT

Second Harvest Foodbank of Southern Wisconsin was selected as a national grantee in Feeding America's Retail Agency Capacity grant.

Total re-granting into our service area: \$600,000

Purpose: Increase donated food via retail recovery and the retail food channel more broadly. Build capacity among partners for more retail recovery pick-ups, and more meals to neighbors in Southwestern Wisconsin



CHALLENGES

IMPEDIMENTS TO PARTICIPATION



01 RFG/FZR Space

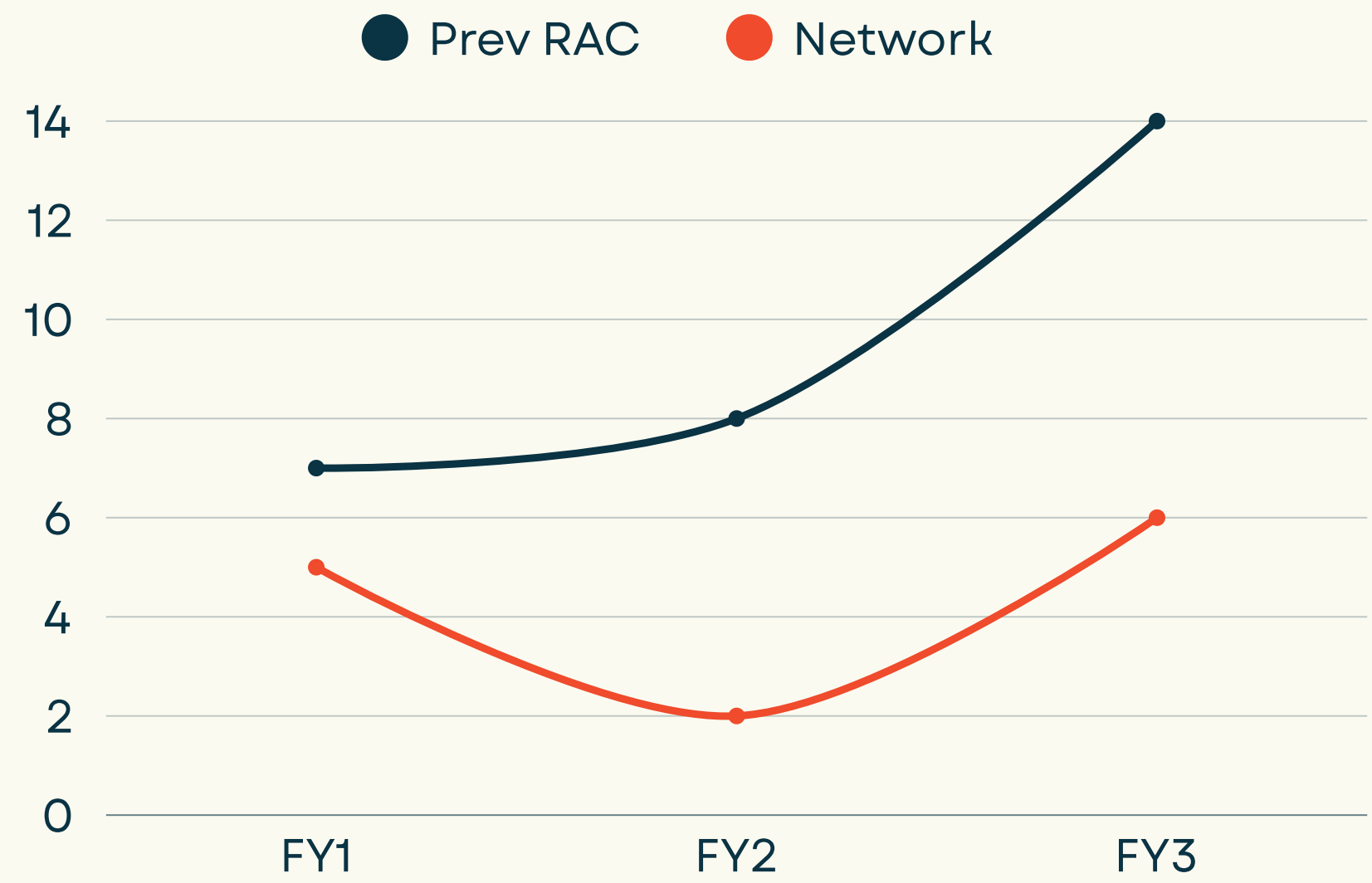
02 Vehicles & equipment

03 Staff & volunteers

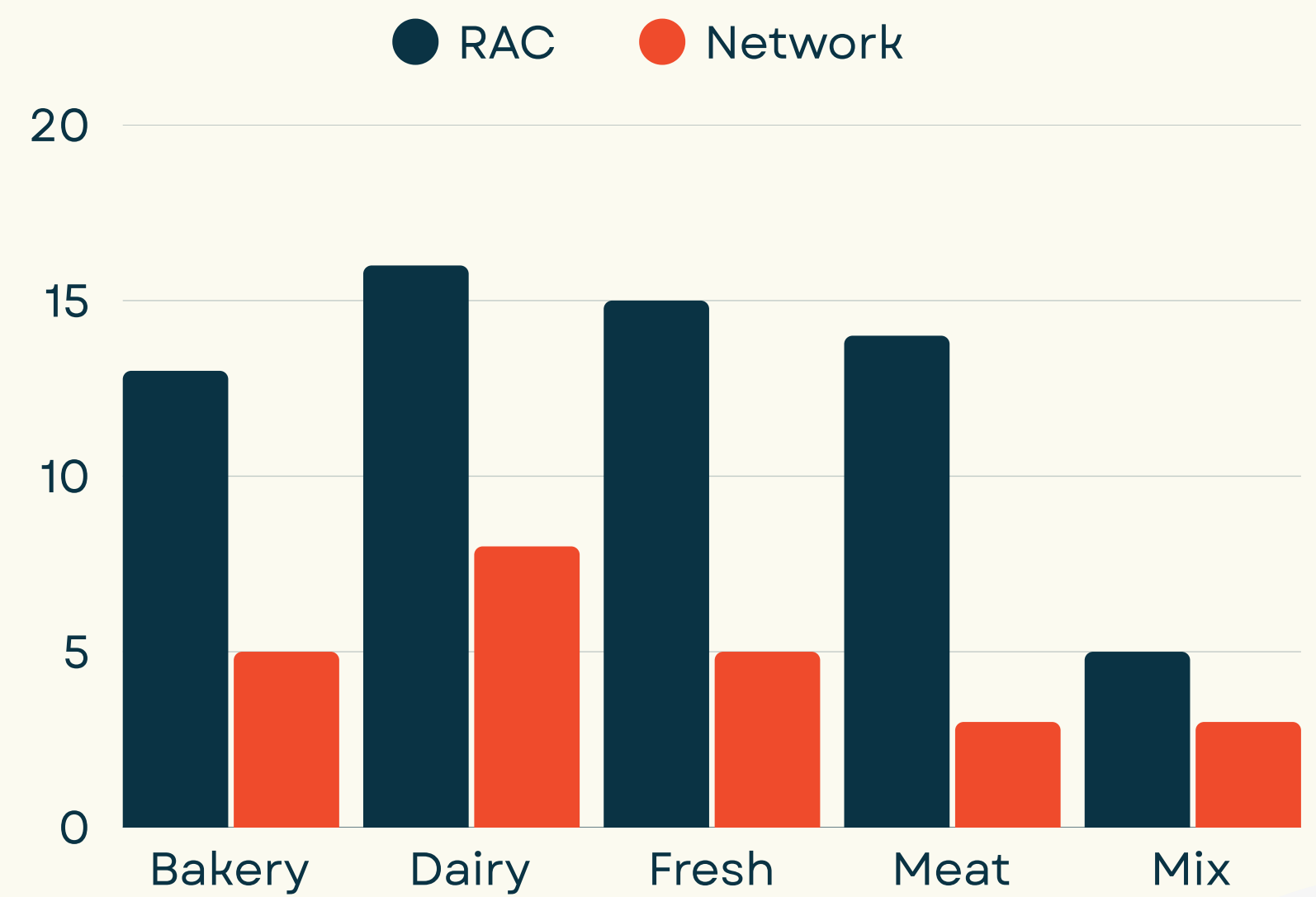
04 Distribution schedules and hours

05 Operational systems

RETAIL AGENCY CAPACITY & FANO NETWORK



RETAIL RECOVERY % GROWTH



RETAIL RECOVERY % GROWTH CATEGORY

TAKEAWAYS

1. Growth on every front. More pounds, more need.
2. Rescued. Not Landfilled.
3. Retail donations is systems work. Food bank is nexus.
4. All in on retail. More meals, by growing pantries.
5. Feeding people. Saving food. Just getting started.



THANK YOU

AUGUST 2026