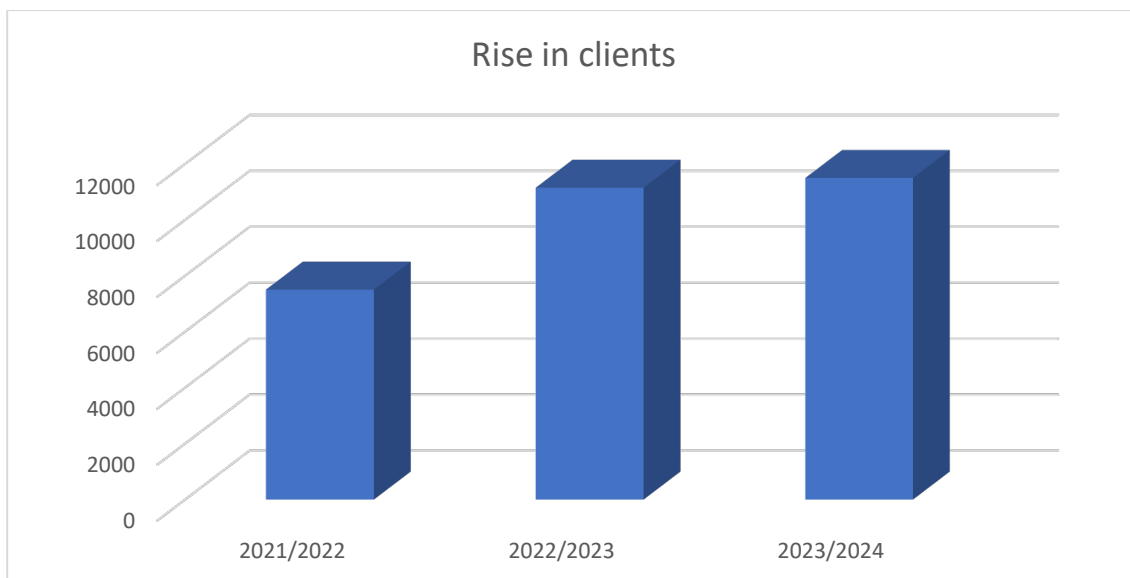
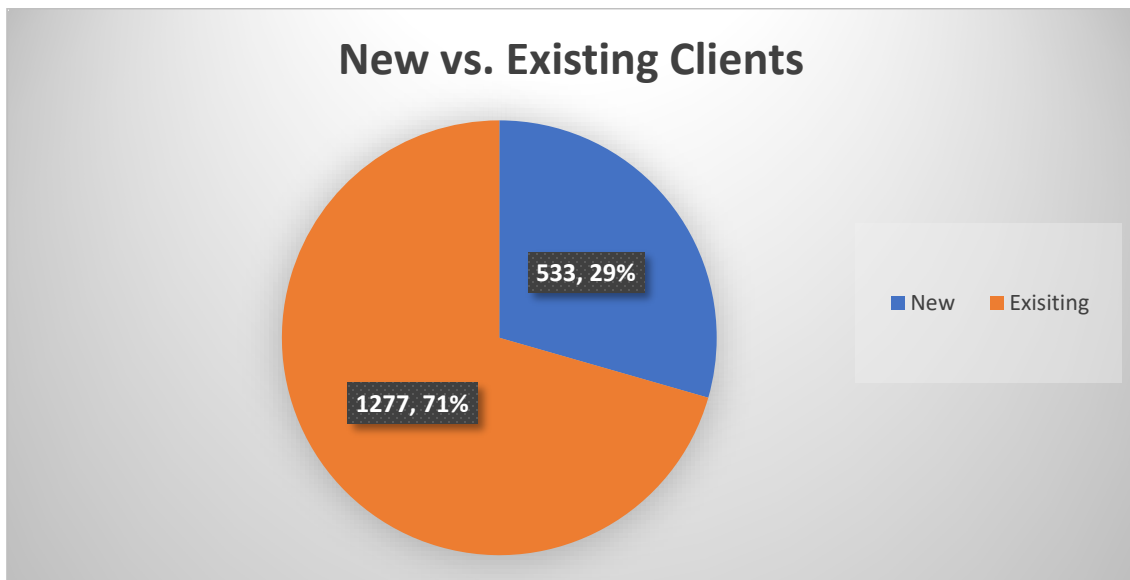


Executive Director's Report

The end of September marked the end of our Fiscal 23/24 year. We held our AGM on October 23, 2024. As always, our financials will be posted on the CRA website. As previously mentioned, it can take up to 6 months for CRA to post financial statements. Therefore, we wish to publish a few points that will shed light on how our last Fiscal year was.

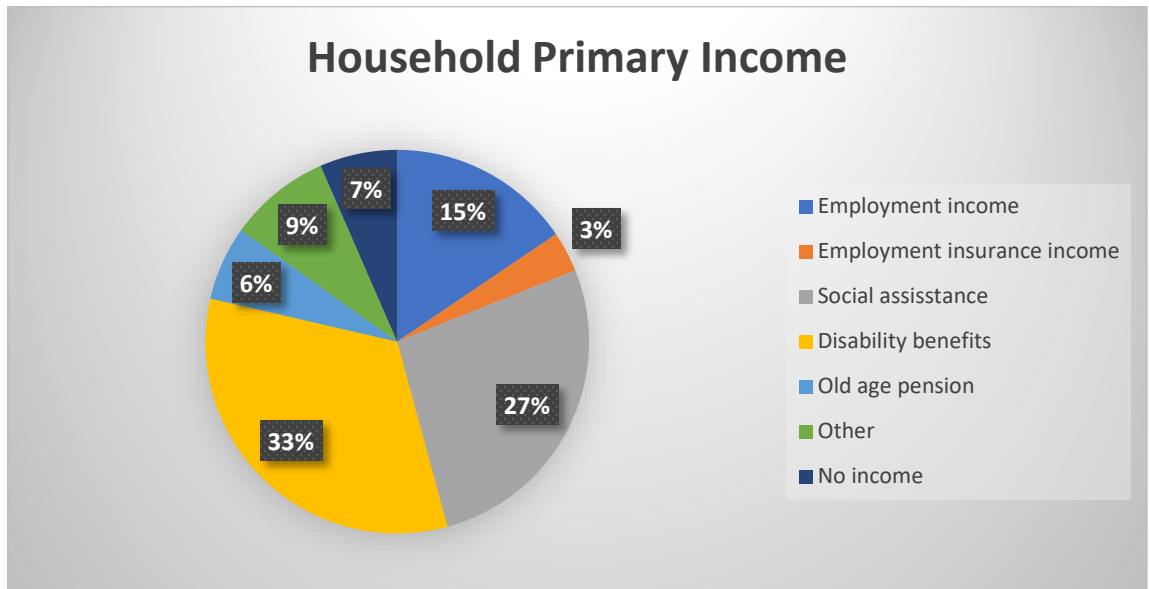
Our clients

- We served an average of 958 clients per month. 734 different households and 11,498 total individuals, which includes repeat visits. Compared to the 678 households and 11,149 clients we serviced last year. Our client numbers continue to rise but not as drastically as the past few years. Included in the total individuals' number is 533 new individuals that started using the food bank with 1,277 existing clients.

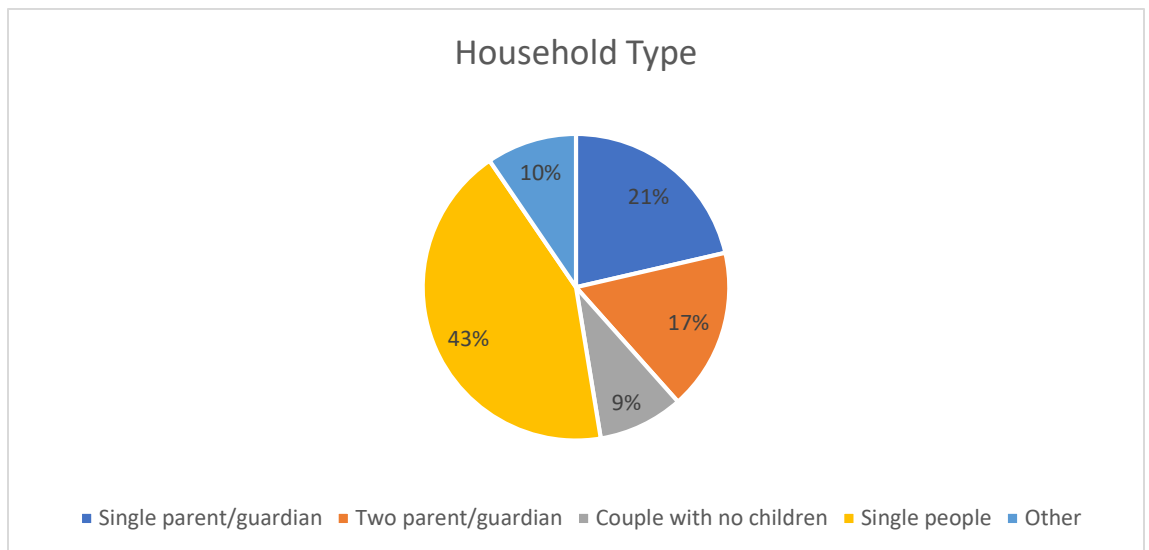


Who we serve

- Out of 734 households, 114 of them are employed whether it be full time or part time. But with the continuous rise in costs for food and housing, they are unable to make ends meet. The rest of the households represented are on some form of benefits or assistance, which is considered to be below the poverty line and not enough support in this economy.

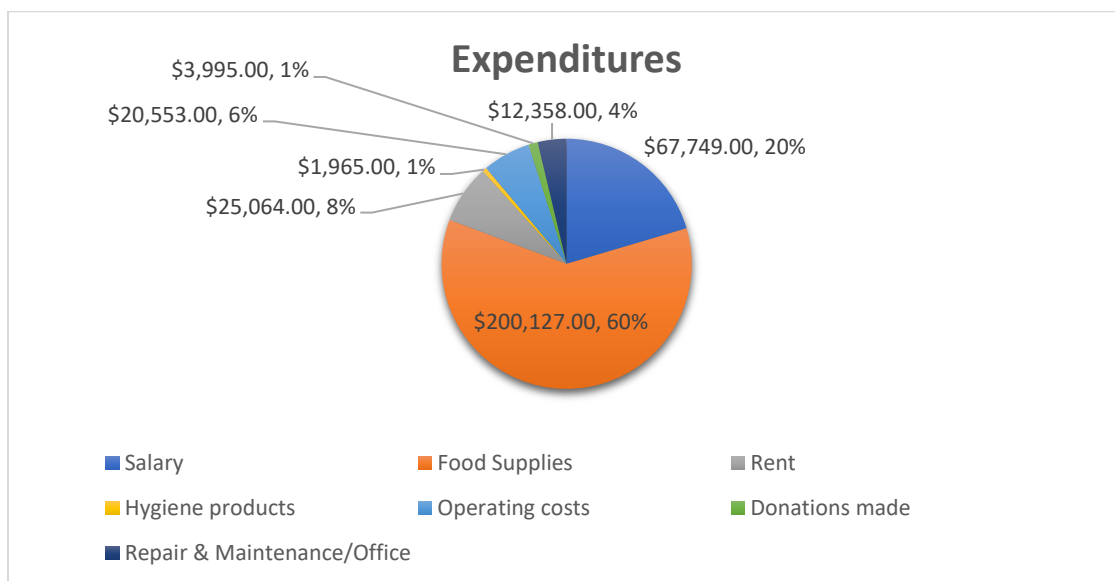


- We serve many different household types. Single person households continue to be our main configuration with single parent household being the next largest configuration.



Our costs/expenditures

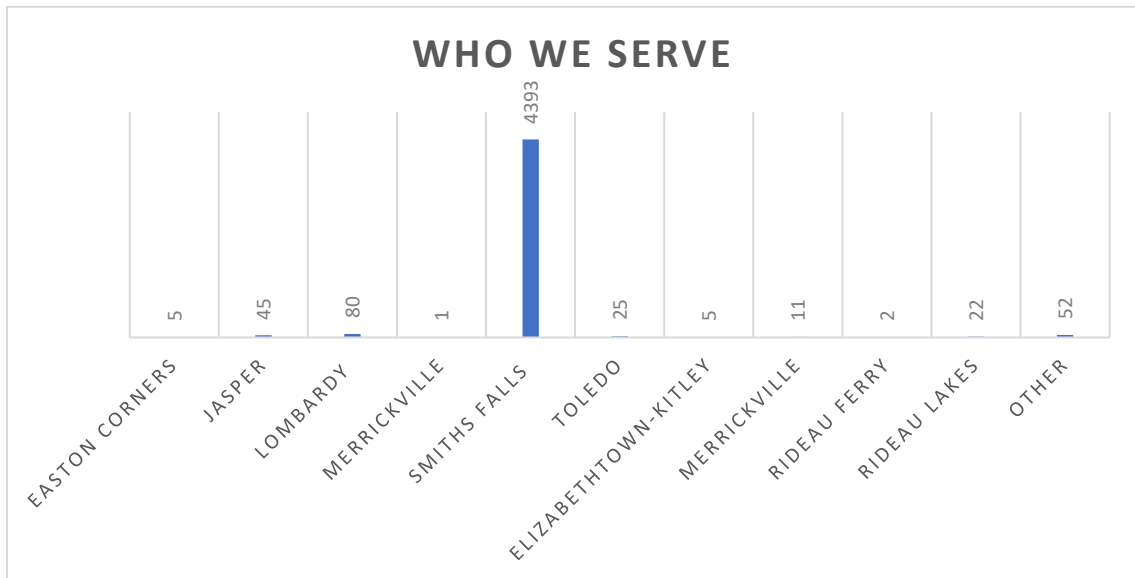
- This fiscal year, we have spent over \$200,000 on food. With overall operating expenses at over \$331,000. These costs include rent, Food Banks Canada membership, cleaners, donations to other programs, etc. This represents a small decrease in food costs due to all the donations we received throughout the year and us branching out to purchase food items throughout the different stores in our community. Unfortunately, inflation still continues to rise so we don't expect our costs to drop much more than that. The funds spent were to supplement the food we received through donations. Between Build a Mountain of Food, CP Holiday Train, and the community itself, we received almost 80,000lbs in food. Unfortunately, due to our high client numbers, the donated food does not go as far as it did in past years. Pre covid, we did not see even half the number of clients we do now. We did not have to spend as much money on food as we had great food donations and a lot fewer clients to serve. Currently, we see astronomical numbers therefore our spending has risen exponentially. All our financials are always posted on the CRA website and we use a licensed accountant to ensure our financials are always in absolute order.



- We have been very lucky this past year with donations. Because of the community's generosity, we were able to spend more money on toiletries and hygiene products.
- We continue to operate on one salary and approximately 25 to 30 volunteers. This past fiscal year we had over 3,500 volunteer hours. We continue to have an incredible team of dedicated and compassionate volunteers that devote their time, energy and talents to ensure that everyone walks into a welcoming environment at the Food Bank. Volunteers are key players in the non-profit world and thanks to their efforts and generosity, we continue trying to meet the needs of our community. We thank you!

Who we serve

- We serve a wide catchment area which includes Smiths Falls, Jasper, Lombardy, Montague Township, Merrickville, Toledo, and surrounding areas. We will serve individuals outside our catchment area when there are special circumstances.
- Outside our clients we continue to supply the Connections program with food items weekly. We continue to supply the Rideau Community Health Services as well by providing them with emergency food hampers on an as needed basis. We also continue to support five schools in town by providing them granola bars monthly for their breakfast and/or snack programs. Those schools include: Chimo Elementary, Duncan J. Schouler, Montague Public School, Smiths Falls District Collegiate Institute, Lombardy Public School and St. Luke Catholic High School.



This report represents our last fiscal year (2023/2024).

We thank all our incredible donors who help to keep our doors open to be able to serve our community. Without our donors, we would not exist. We also thank each member of our Board of Directors for their continued support and encouragement. For bringing their passion, intellect, insight, experience and resources to the table. They have generously given their time to make tough decisions and act in the best interest of our organization. Their support of the Smiths Falls Community Food Bank allows us to continue fulfilling our mission and to serve the people who are in need in our community every year.