



FOOD BANK IMPACT REPORT

**6 month report
30 June 2026**



FOOD BANK

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Salt's Food Bank, in partnership with Northgate Baptist Church, continues to provide practical support to individuals and families experiencing food insecurity in our community. The service is made possible through the generosity of volunteers, donated food, and community support, enabling us to respond to those in need with dignity and compassion.

In response to the ongoing reduction in available funding for food security initiatives, together with the impact of the cost-of-living crisis on revenue from Salt's three social enterprise op shops, we transitioned to a more sustainable operating model in August 2025. The food bank is now delivered in partnership with Northgate Baptist Church and is entirely volunteer-led, with food supplies sourced through generous donations and rescued food from local partners.

Collaboration with other local food banks remains an important part of our service delivery. By working together, we can share resources, coordinate support, and reduce duplication, helping to ensure that available food reaches as many households as possible in a fair and equitable way.

We are very grateful to the Ministry of Social Development, Here for NZ, Gilmours North Shore, KiwiHarvest, Fresh Freight, Chevalier Wholesale Produce, NZ Food Network, The Good Grain Wholefoods, Dad's Pies, Love Soup and other generous donors for continuing to support this programme.

Local businesses and schools also contribute to helping us run the food bank by donating their time and running food donation campaigns to collect non-perishable items.

We are also very grateful for the many volunteers who give so much of their time to this cause. Without them and the generosity of the organisations we partner with, there would no longer be a foodbank.

The key challenge for us continues to be to ensure the long-term sustainability of the programme due to the decreased availability of funding.

We are still inundated by the needs we are seeing in the community, especially with increased costs of living and a marked decrease in available funding across the board.

FOOD BANK

HOW IT WORKS

Our food bank model is a partnership between Salt and Northgate Baptist Church. Northgate generously allowed use of the food bank venue at no cost since September 2025, which means we have been able to keep the food bank open. The food bank is now entirely staffed by volunteers, sourced through Salt and Northgate communities.

On a Monday morning, Salt and Northgate volunteers make food parcels with donated fresh fruit and vegetables. Volunteers also package up donated bulk dry goods from Good Grain into family sized portions and add these to the food parcels.

In addition to this, when recipients arrive in the afternoon, they are then able to choose fresh bread, meat, and dairy products (if available) for their food parcel, as well as 'shop' for pantry staples including cereals, spreads, canned food, pasta, rice, cooking sauces, snack items and cleaning products. There is often bonus donated items as well eg. Dad's Pies and bakery goods.

A percentage of this is food recovery items from Kiwi Harvest Food Recovery and local food recovery. We are also very grateful to a local fresh freight company who have partnered with a produce supplier to deliver us a generous donation of fresh produce (e.g. potatoes, carrots, broccoli, onions, apples) weekly.

With funding received from Here for NZ and MSD, together with donations of non-perishable food, we have been able to create a 'shop' where people are able to select the items they need based on the number of people in their household. We estimate that the average number of meals from a food parcel is 36 meals for a household of 3-4 people. Whilst we attempt

to meet the AFPM standards, due to reduced financial assistance this is not always possible.

Due to the significant increase in demand, and significant reduction in funding, we have had to cap our numbers and recipients are only able to receive a parcel each fortnight – this means we are making 30-35 parcels each week and supporting 60-70 families a fortnight.

A big improvement in our operations this year has been the implementation of 'Helping Hand' food bank ordering system. This enables an easier ordering experience for recipients, and a more efficient and effective recipient management and communication system for our volunteer food bank coordinator.

Food parcel requests and referrals are received via our online Helping Hand ordering system from individuals or other agencies and community organisations, including other food banks, Te Whatu Ora, Plunket, Oranga Tamariki, NZ Police, Women's Wellness Refuge, Steps Forward, MSD, WINZ, Ember, CYC Trust, WDHB, Harbour Hospice, schools, social workers, youth workers, and mental health workers.

Salt has been very blessed to engage with a large team of volunteers (75-80 people) who fulfil a variety of roles. Our volunteers come from Northgate Baptists Church, Salt Community Trust and a regular team of students (2-6) from Kingsway School. Volunteers help with all aspects of the food bank from management, following up food parcel requests, liaising with recipients, inputting & analysing data, through to the unloading of food delivery trucks, packing food and produce boxes, supporting recipients at collection, and providing follow up care and support, and referring to other agencies where necessary.



FOOD BANK OUTCOMES

What outcomes are we seeking?

The key outcomes we are attempting to achieve for our clients are:

- increased food security
- increased dignity through choice
- increased Hauora (physical, mental/emotional, social, spiritual wellbeing)
- reduced stress
- increased engagement in community
- increased connection to relevant services (education, employment, budgeting, social work, parenting courses)
- returning to work
- increased attendance at school
- more equitable distribution of resources
- decreased food waste

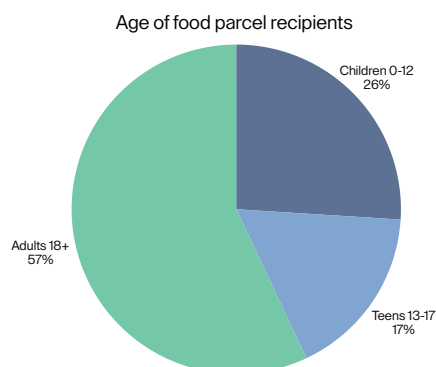
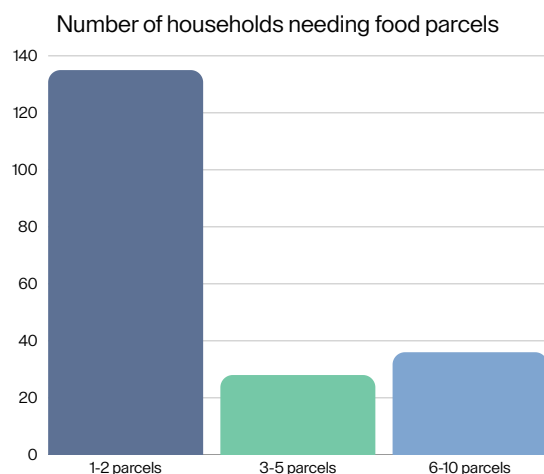
Have we achieved these outcomes?

Analysis of our Jan-June 2026 recipients shows that 68% of households are receiving just 1-2 boxes in the 6 month period, only needing temporary support to get through a difficult time.

Those needing ongoing support have complex situations, many that are not going to change quickly i.e. chronic illness or injury, terminally ill, refugees/ immigrants, mental health and addiction, grandparents raising grandchildren, pensioners, and solo parents with young children.

In Jan-June 2026 we have supported 198 households with 575 parcels. This has comprised 898 adults, 117 teenagers aged 13-17 years, and 181 children aged 0-12 years.

We believe we are achieving our outcomes, albeit it is hard to quantify this. The feedback we are receiving from clients would suggest the food bank is definitely addressing some of our outcomes listed, including helping the young people engage in education and improving their wellbeing.



FOOD BANK

CLIENT FEEDBACK

Just a few of our feedback messages from clients recently -

- Thank you kindly Salt for your love and generosity for my family and I. I truly appreciate it.
- You're amazing thank you so much
- Everything (food) you sent is helpfully useable and appreciated, will be liked by taste buds.
- Everything you brought is needed. I am so thankful.
- Thank you so much. God Bless you all.
- William has now moved into supported living so won't be needing another box for him. Thank you so much for all your support, I don't know how we would have managed without it. Truly a blessing.
- I will be grateful with whatever I get, as always thank you for the continued love and support
- Thank you for everything you do. Feel so loved.
- Thanks for the fruits they make my day. Blessings.
- Please know I am so grateful for all the love and support. Life is looking a bit calmer now that I know I can come to you when desperate and only feel kindness towards me and my family.

"Salt food bank did more than just provide food for our family at an extremely difficult time, they provided support, happy faces and constructive conversations. Having the food bank support helped keep my children healthy and happy and I could sleep at night knowing we had healthy meals thanks to Salt."

"Thank you so much for all the support from Salt Food Bank. The help we have received has made a huge difference to our family. As parents of three young children, the food support has helped us save a lot on everyday expenses and ensured that our family always has enough food. It has also given us peace of mind during challenging times. We are very grateful for the kindness, generosity and care shown by everyone at Salt over the past six months. Thank you for everything you do for our community."

"I would like to say a few words about how grateful I am for everything you do. My family is going through one of the hardest times in our lives. Jodie and the team at the food bank gave us more than just food. They gave us hope. Every box of groceries meant that my children could have a proper meal, and it took away some of the worry and stress we were carrying every day."



FOOD BANK STATISTICS

Funding we have received

In the 6 months to 30 June 2026, Salt has received funding toward the food bank as follows:

Funding we have received

	2025 Q3	2025 Q4	2026 Q1	2026 Q2	Total
MSD - Community Food Provider fund	15,000	-	-	15,000	30,000
Foodstuffs (Here for NZ) grant	-	-	-	-	-
Donations and other fundraising	1,688	670	85	180	2,623
Totals	16,688	670	85	15,180	32,623

How we have spent the money

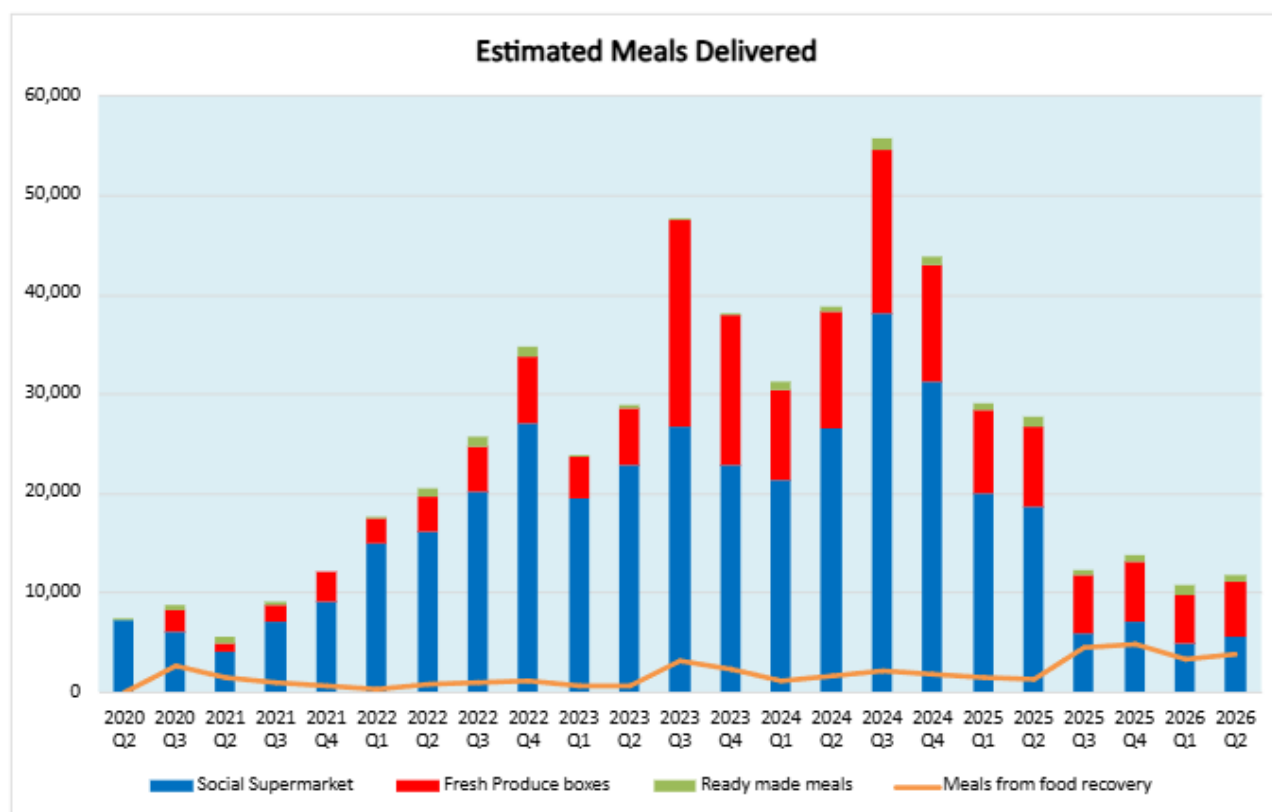
	2025 Q3	2025 Q4	2026 Q1	2026 Q2	Total
Food and hygiene items	-	-	-	12,316	12,316
Staff costs	7,161	-	-	890	8,051
Transport costs	-	-	-	-	-
Facility costs	10,612	-	-	-	10,612
Other expenses	388	356	272	1,574	2,590
Totals	18,161	356	272	14,780	33,570

It should be noted that the above staff costs only include costs to cover one staff member who is employed to do the reporting, and help transition to the new food bank system. We have other management staff who have also been heavily involved given the size and complexity of the current operations, and as of Q4 they are now 100% volunteer.

FOOD BANK STATISTICS

Meal statistics chart

	2025 Q3	2025 Q4	2026 Q1	2026 Q2	Total
Non-perishable food - supermarket					
Food parcels produced	392	328	269	306	1,295
Food parcels distributed	392	435	269	306	1,402
Equivalent meals	5,880	6,999	4,842	5,508	23,229
Fresh Produce Boxes					
Fresh produce boxes distributed	392	405	269	306	1,372
Equivalent meals	5,880	6,075	4,842	5,508	22,305
Equivalent meals from food recovery	4,116	4,253	3,389	3,856	15,614
Ready-made meals					
Frozen meals distributed	410	672	971	797	2,850
Equivalent meals	410	672	971	797	2,850
Totals					
Total equivalent meals distributed	12,170	13,746	10,655	11,813	48,384
Meals from food recovery	4,525	4,925	3,391	3,858	16,699
Food recovery %	37.2%	35.8%	31.8%	32.7%	34.5%





FOOD BANK HIGHLIGHTS & CHALLENGES

Highlights during January - June 2026 include:

- Being able to purchase protein, non perishables & cleaning products with MSD funding
- Donations from Good Grain Wholesalers – bulk sugar, flour, oats, salt and rice
- Donation from The Warehouse Silverdale - \$750 worth of non perishable products – cereal, noodles, lunch box items, cleaning products
- Love Soup's ongoing support with bread and bakery goods weekly and helping with recovery produce to fill the gaps on the odd occasion where there has been no produce donation or Kiwiharvest delivery
- Afternoon tea provided for recipients – with options of sweet & savoury and able to take some home for family
- Recipients feeling safe, comfortable and enjoying connecting with volunteers and each other
- Church community donating food and funds to keep food bank operational
- Kiwi Harvest delivering food recovery items most Mondays and donating frozen items for us to collect periodically
- Regular donations of pies from Dad's Pies
- Helping Hand food bank system making admin and data analysis more streamline
- Multiple long-term recipients now back in employment and no longer needing food support
- Recipients engaging in community and finding a place of connection and belonging
- Recipients wanting to give back and volunteering at food bank and op shops
- Quarterly volunteer pot luck dinner building whanaungatanga

Challenges during January-June 2026 include:

- Key volunteers being away (Annalee – 8 weeks, Nigel – 5 weeks)
- Reduced funding meaning parcels are smaller and less protein eg. less meat, no eggs or butter
- Reduced storage capacity at facility



FOOD BANK

SUSTAINABILITY

In the current economic climate, with limited funding available for food security initiatives, a fully volunteer-led and donation-based model continues to be the only sustainable way for Salt's Food Bank to operate.

We are encouraged by the continued growth of our volunteer team and are grateful for the generosity of local businesses, community groups, and national organisations that donate food and essential items. These partnerships enable us to continue providing food support to individuals and families experiencing hardship.

The implementation of the Helping Hand food bank ordering system has strengthened the sustainability of our service by streamlining referrals and will enable a wider team of volunteer coordinators to manage enquiries and food parcel requests efficiently.

Collaboration remains at the heart of our approach. Weekly operational contact and quarterly meetings with other local food banks ensure resources are shared effectively, support is coordinated, and food assistance is distributed as fairly and equitably as possible across the Hibiscus Coast and surrounding rural communities.

We continue to collect key service data and recipient feedback to monitor the impact of the programme.

However, without additional funding, our ability to undertake more comprehensive surveys, detailed outcome measurement, and monthly reporting remains limited.

The Future:

The very generous donation of our food bank coordinator's time and energy is deeply appreciated, and we are now ready to build a team of coordinators to share the workload.

To continue to meet AFPM, we need more consistent donations of meat, eggs, dairy, cereal, and lunch box items (muesli bars, biscuits etc) or the financial assistance to enable the purchasing of these items.

The future of our food bank is subject to the continued financial contributions from the Ministry of Social Development and Here for NZ, and the donations of food from Gilmours North Shore, KiwiHarvest, Fresh Freight, Chevalier Wholesale Produce, NZ Food Network, The Good Grain Wholefoods, Dad's Pies, Love Soup, and other donors.

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