

#206

COMPLETE

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Q1 Name of your organization.

Missoula Food Bank & Community Center

Q2 Grant #

20170913

Q3 Grant Period

December 12, 2017 - June 12, 2018

Q4 Location of your organization

City	Missoula
State	MT

Q5 Name and Title of person completing evaluation.

Jessica Allred, Director of Development & Advocacy

Q6 Phone Number:

406-549-0543

Q7 Email address.

jessica@Missoulafoodbank.org

Page 2: Key Outcomes and Results

Q8 Total number of clients served through this grant funding:

16,740

Q9 Describe the project's key outcomes and results based on the goals and objectives. Use the following format: State the Goal: State Objective 1: Describe the Activities, Results and Outcomes for Objective 1: State Objective 2 (if applicable): Describe the Activities, Results and Outcomes for Objective 2: State Objective 3 (if applicable): Describe the Activities, Results and Outcomes for Objective 3:

Goal: Source needed food resources in bulk.

Objective: Purchase 20,016 nineteen oz. cans of soup

Activities: Because of constant fluctuating prices, MFB&CC was able to purchase slightly more cans of soup: 20,243.

Goal: Distribute food resources to families struggling with hunger and poverty.

Objective: Provide hearty soup to 10,000 unduplicated individuals.

Activities: Through our Store (emergency food pantry) program, MFB&CC was able to serve 16,740 different people with the food purchased from the S. L. Gimbel Foundation. Of those 16,740, 2,678 were over the age of 65 and 5,859 were children age 0-17.

Q10 Please describe any challenges/obstacles the organization encountered (if any) in attaining goals & objectives.

A key challenge MFB&CC experienced this year has been a significant increase in services (20% growth from FY 17 to FY18). In May of 2017, our food bank relocated to a larger facility that is more accessible, has more parking, is on a bus line, and we have added 12 hours of distribution to our weekly schedule (from 21 hours of service per week to 34 hours per week). These changes were intended to break down barriers for families who have needed our services, but have been unable to access food through our programs because of some challenge.

We are careful to explain that most of this growth is not from new need in our community, but rather our organization being better able to meet the existing need in Missoula County. With 20% growth, we know we are reaching more people who experience hunger; however the strain on our staff and food inventory have required additional funding and human resources.

Q11 How did you overcome and/or address the challenges and obstacles?

We continue to deepen relationships with existing funders and are working to develop new partnerships to help bridge the financial gap caused by this unanticipated stretch in services. We also work to cultivate additional community volunteers to help stock our shelves more often, provide more resource referrals to more people, and bag the groceries of our neighbors.

The funding landscape is changing, particularly for direct service providers that do not measure long-term impacts. Access to funds, such as the S. L. Gimbel Foundation, that remain committed to basic need services, allows MFB&CC to continue to deliver dignified services to 26,000 different people each year.

In addition to raising more resources, MFB&CC is committed to partnering within our community to address the causal issues of hunger. In recent months, MFB&CC has piloted a program that engages women with lived experience (those who are currently living in food insecurity) in an advisory council capacity to help MFB&CC make program decisions that work best for families living in crisis and poverty.

Q12 Describe any unintended positive outcomes as a result of the efforts supported by this grant.

Beyond the direct benefit of providing food for families experiencing hunger, the S.L. Gimbel award has helped us to leverage additional resources to help fill the gap in our inventory created by the marked increase in service described in question ten. By utilizing this funding committed in December 2017, MFB&CC was able to secure an additional \$20,000 in funding from smaller local foundations for emergency food purchase.

The opportunity to seek funding from S.L. Gimbel for three consecutive years allows us to better secure other resources to fund our work. Thank you for your continued support.

Q13 Briefly describe the impact this grant has had on the organization and community served.

Food purchase is the most fundamental need we have as an emergency food provider. By definition, the bulk of our program budget is spent on consumable goods, requiring ongoing fundraising to continue to stock our shelves.

In Missoula County, we are experiencing some of the same trends that we see nationwide. MFB&CC continues to see more aging adults (aged 65+) in need of emergency food assistance. We also see an increased need in children and young families, disproportionately so among families with children 0-5. The methamphetamine and opioid crises continue to create family separation and we see many more grandparents with custody of their young grandchildren. While this information can feel grim, we know that basic needs must first be met before a family is able to appropriately deal with crisis. More than half of our families have someone in the house working, many families even have more than one adult working. The economy in Missoula County is largely service-based, having lost many of our largest employers in the woods products industry over the past fifteen years.

The gift of food is always more than just food. It is security, hope, and dignity. A full belly enables parents to be more patient; it improves a child's attendance at school; it sends parents to their first day at a new job ready to succeed.

Page 3: Budget

Q14 Please provide a budget expenditure report of the approved line items. Include a brief narrative on how the funds were used to fulfill grant objectives.

100% of funds were spent on bulk purchases of hearty soups in cans.

We were able to purchase 20,423 cans, which helped 16,740 different people.

An expense report has been emailed to grant-info@thecommunityfoundation.net.

Page 4: Success Stories

Q15 Please relate a success story:

S. L. Gimbel helps us provide for grandparents like Jeanne, a wonderful grandma who recently got custody of her three-month-old grandson.

On her first trip to the food bank, she showed our staff pictures of her tiny grandchild. Before he came to live with her, she didn't have much, but she had been making things work. However, even with the assistance of WIC, expensive formula had taken so much of her limited budget that she found herself in need of the food bank. Tearfully she told our staff how she hopes to be able to give back someday.

Jeanne was skipping meals, something that is hard on her because her daily medication needs to be taken on a full stomach. Your support of our emergency food pantry program made regular meals possible for this woman who is now also responsible for her very young grandchild.

Q16 Please relate a success story here:

Margaret is a single mom of three children. She is in her last year of a graduate program, after which she will be a certified Physicians Assistant. The demands of school, parenting children aged 5-14, and some semblance of self-care has been next to impossible. For her success and the success of her children, eating a healthy, balanced diet is key. Before coming to Missoula Food Bank, Margaret was faced with disconnect notices from basic utilities including the water and power in her family's home. With the help of our food bank, the money she is able to save on keeping food on the table has allowed her to keep her basic utilities serviced.

Q17 Please relate a success story here:

Every Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, Lila and Penny walk to EmPower Place at Missoula Food Bank & Community Center from their home a few blocks away. Ages seven and five, they are proud to tell you about how they look both ways when crossing the street.

The girls are so different. Lila has pored through our collection of Geronimo Stilton books – part of EmPower Place's collection from Missoula Public Library. And Penny buddies up with our dedicated education team and meal service volunteers to play games or tell stories. She loves interacting with adults in the space.

Lila and Penny eat four meals per week at EmPower Place – lunch each of the three days and dinner on Thursday. They are able to visit at times when our Summer Meals program allows children to be in the space without supervision, breaking down barriers for kids no matter their caregivers' ability to be with them during meal times.

Last week, Penny was playing with a little boy about her age – he's 6 – who loves to cook. His specialty is sauces – and he calls himself the Sauce Boss. They ate lunch together, pretended to cook some things with our farmer's market set, and he let her know that kindergarten is pretty cool. Penny starts school this year, and the Sauce Boss is going into first grade. They were excited to realize that they will go to the same school.

Families who come to Missoula Food Bank are given more than just a supply of food; in our community center model, we are able to build resiliency among families and children who need our services.

Page 5: Organizational Information

Q18 Which category best describes the organization.
Please choose only one.

Basic Needs Support

S.L. Gimbel Foundation Fund

Q19 What is the organization's primary program area of interest?

Food Bank

Q20 Percentage of clients served through grant in each ethnic group category. Total must equal 100%

African American	1
Asian/Pacific Islander	1
Caucasian	85
Native American	11
Other	2

Q21 Approximate percentage of clients served from grant funds in each age category.

Children Birth-05 years of age	10
Children ages 06-12 years of age	15
Youth ages 13-18	11
Young Adults (18-24)	19
Adults	29
Senior Citizens	16

Q22 Approximate percentage of clients served with disabilities from grant funds.

Respondent skipped this question

Q23 Approximate percentage of clients served in each economic group.

At/Below Poverty Level	100
Homeless/Indigent	20
Migrant Worker	0
Working Poor	52

Q24 Approximate percentage of clients served from grant funds in each population category.

Single Adults	19
Families	66
Single Parent Families	32
Disabled	15
Ethnic Minority	4
Homeless/Indigent	20
Students	8
Elderly	16
Children/Youth (those not included in Family)	36