

## 2024 Annual Report

Serving Hope, Sharing Meals, Strengthening Community

Everyone is welcome!

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Please join our table!

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## Letter from the Executive Director

Dear Friends,

Bluffton Community Kitchen carries forward my family's legacy of feeding and assisting those in need. In 2024, we served countless meals and expanded our outreach. In 2025, we remain committed to ending food insecurity across the Low Country, ensuring every neighbor has a seat at the table.

With gratitude,

Constance Martin-Witter

Executive Director, Bluffton Community Kitchen



## Mission & Vision Statements

"Without vision, progress stalls, and potential remains unrealized."

#### **MISSION**

Bluffton Community Kitchen is a service organization providing assistance and support to underserved families. Through comprehensive support programs, we strive to create lasting positive change and build a stronger healthier community for all.

#### VISION

Our vision is to build a strong supportive community where individuals have the resources and opportunities to reach their full potential. Through dedicated service and impactive programs, we strive to create lasting, positive change that benefits everyone.

CORE VALUES, LONG-TERM ASPIRATIONS:

We aim to establish a brick-and-mortar facility for expanded services.



## **LEADERSHIP**

#### **Board Members:**

Constance Martin-Witter, Executive Director

Kurt Geisheimer, President & Board Chair

Bonnie Bogart, Secretary

Gloria Gason, Treasurer

Linda Ellis, Member at Large

Sheron Walker, Member at Large

Linda Roland, Member at Large

Carolyn Stamatakis, Member at Large

Gordon Bell, Member at Large

### **Major Accomplishments Included:**

Increase in impact numbers

Awarded 2024 Non-Profit of the Year | Bluffton Chamber of Commerce

Awarded 2024 Pearl Award | Bluffton Chamber of Commerce

Our Executive Director Named 2024 Chamber Businesswoman of the Year

First full year of Ida's Closet Program

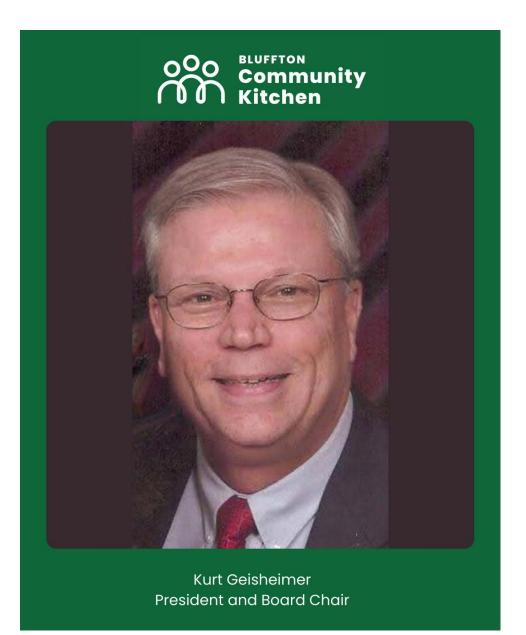


# Letter from the President and Board Chair

Dear Friends,

To our incredible volunteers and supporters—thank you! Your generosity and dedication make Bluffton Community Kitchen a place of nourishment, kindness, and community. With every meal served and every hour given, you bring hope to those who need it most. I'm deeply grateful to each of you and this report demonstrates the impact we created together in 2024."

Thank you! **Kurt Geisheimer**President and Board Chair



#### **Hot Meals Program**

- ✓ Provides freshly prepared Southern Lowcountry cuisine.
- ✓ Available for home delivery and takeout every Monday and Wednesday 1pm-2pm
- ✓ Open to all, free of charge.

Hot Meals	Total 2024
Meals distributed	36,979
Households served	308
Seniors	220
Adults	390
Children	119



Feeding minds & bodies through inclusiveness and service.

#### **Boots on the Ground Program**

Provides food and resources across multiple locations:

Location	Meals Distributed
RSI	4,320
Savannah (Forsythe Park)	2,880
Central Oak Grove	2,722
Family Promise	1,764
Bluffton High School	880
Senior Center	556
Caring Neighbors	512
Sun City Workers	480



Outdoor Food Pantry offers fresh fruits, vegetables, dairy, proteins, and bakery products in a self-serve format. Open to everyone at no cost, the pantry ensures access to healthy high-quality food. The aim is to support community members by providing essential groceries that promote nourishment and well-being without barriers.

✓ Self-serve, available Monday & Wednesday, 1pm-2pm and Thursday 12pm-1pm

Outdoor Pantry	<b>Total 2024</b>
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Times shopped 4,746

Households Served 283

Seniors 177

Adults 268

Children 97



#### **Ida's Closet Program**

- ✓ Provides hygiene and household essentials
- Available biweekly on Thursdays 12pm-1pm for registered households

Ida's Closet Total 2024

Bags distributed 1,402

Households Served 127

Seniors 114

Adults 150

Children 52



#### **After School Enrichment Program**

- ✓ Supports students (Pre-K 12<sup>th</sup> grade) in Beaufort County Public Schools
- ✓ Monday to Thursday 3pm-6pm at 21 Boundary Street, Bluffton, SC
- ✓ Offers tutoring, activities, field trips, snacks, and hot dinners

**Enrichment Program** Total 2024

Children Enrolled 24



#### **24-Hour Food Tree**

- Ensures access to non-perishable food items
- ✓ Restocked twice per month

Located at 21 Boundary Street, Bluffton, SC

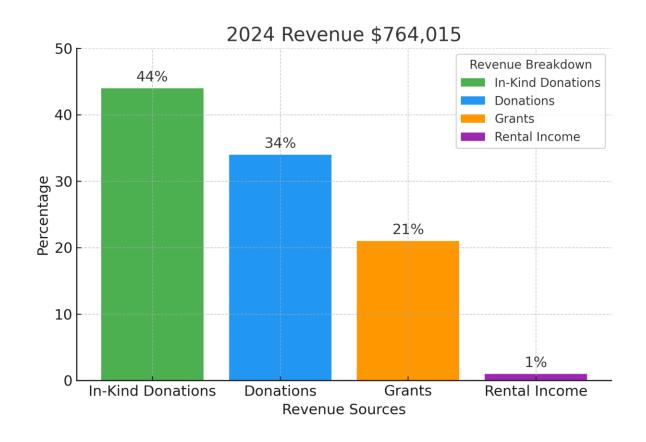


# REVENUE & EXPENSES

#### **REVENUE**

Bluffton Community Kitchen is grateful for the support of grants, corporate and community donors, individual donors, and inkind contributions. A full list of donation sources is available upon request.



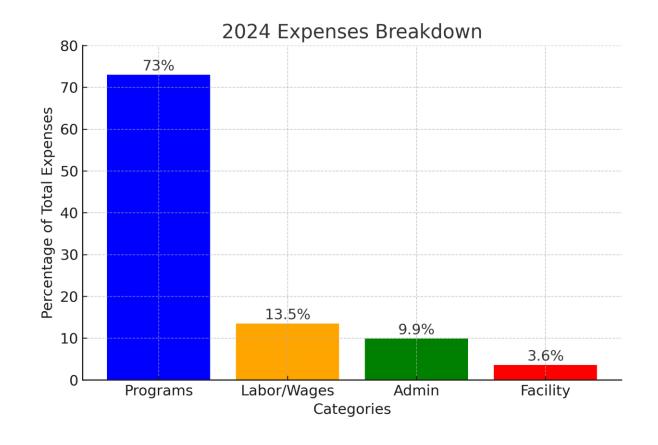


# REVENUE & EXPENSES

Continued

#### **EXPENSES**

Bluffton Community Kitchen carefully manages expenses to maximize impact. With over 75% allocated to operations to provide services, we prioritize efficiency, keeping costs low while ensuring every dollar supports our mission to fight food insecurity.



## Grateful to Our Donors & Volunteers

#### **Letter from the Program Director**

To our amazing volunteers—your dedication changes lives. Because of you, our community members receive nourishing meals, hope, and a welcoming place to belong.

With 42 volunteers giving an incredible 12,853 hours of service, you've made a real difference—every single day.

To our wonderful community members-you are the heart of everything we do. Our mission is to provide more than just a meal—we strive to create a welcoming space where everyone is treated with dignity, respect, and kindness.

Thank you for being the heart of Bluffton Community Kitchen. We couldn't do it without you!

With appreciation, **Candyce Valmont**Program Director, Bluffton Community Kitchen





Candyce Valmont Program Director



## In closing

As we reflect on another year of service and impact, we want to extend our deepest gratitude to each of you who have contributed to the mission of Bluffton Community Kitchen. Your generosity, whether through donations, time, or support, has made a profound difference in the lives of those who need it most. We couldn't do this work without you.

Together, we are not just feeding the hungry—we're fostering a spirit of community, compassion, and hope. It's your continued support that allows us to expand our reach, support families in need, and build a brighter future for Bluffton.

We invite you to continue being a part of our journey. Whether it's through a donation, volunteering your time, or simply spreading the word about our work, every action counts.





## Please join our table.

### Here's how you can make a difference:

- •Donate: Your gift helps us provide meals and support to those in need.
- •Volunteer: Give your time to help us serve our community.
- •Support Our Mission: Together, we can make a lasting impact.

For more information or to get involved, please contact us:

Website: www.blufftoncommunitykitchen.org

•Phone: 843-707-6785

•Mailing Address: PO Box 993, Bluffton, SC 29910

•Physical Address: 25 Boundary Street, Bluffton, SC 29910

•Email: info@blufftoncommunitykitchen.org

Platinum Transparency **2025** 

Candid.



### THANK YOU

From the bottom of our hearts, thank you for your unwavering dedication to making Bluffton a kinder, stronger, and more compassionate place. Because of you, we are creating a future where no one has to face hunger alone.

We invite you to continue this journey with us—together, we can make a lasting difference.

With gratitude,
Constance Martin-Witter
Executive Director, Bluffton
Community Kitchen



"AN ACT OF KINDNESS,
NO MATTER HOW
SMALL, RIPPLES
THROUGH THE WORLD,
CREATING WAVES OF
COMPASSION THAT
HAVE THE POWER TO
CHANGE LIVES."

#GRATEFUL