



CEAP

2025 Impact Report



Dear CEAP Community,

2025 was a year of continuous change. From rising prices to decreases in federal funding and public support, CEAP has had to adapt alongside our neighbors to provide continued care to all.

In doing so, we've increased our capacity – adding more Food Market appointments per hour so we can reach even more families, expanding our Meals on Wheels program to serve senior neighbors in 14 cities, and welcoming new team members to support these changes.

As an agency that prioritizes sustainability, our team also doubled down on our food rescue program to ensure that food is diverted from landfills and placed into the hands of our neighbors.

CEAP has been a guiding light to our neighbors since 1972, providing access to basic needs and vital community resources. Stories like Patty's – which you'll read on the next page – remind us that we are a community of neighbors helping neighbors. And that help is always there in times of need.

But we couldn't continue to do this work without you. Our caring community of donors, volunteers, and supporters are the gears that keep CEAP in motion.

Thank you for sharing in CEAP's mission and helping to build a stronger community.

With gratitude,



Clare Brumback
President, CEAP

Our Mission

CEAP mobilizes resources, shares abundance, and nourishes neighbors to create and celebrate a healthier, stronger, and more connected community.

Our Team

Clare Brumback President

Alexis Richards Development & Community Engagement Manager

Alyssa Rehr Meals on Wheels Operations Coordinator

Beth Fitch Director of Development & Community Engagement

Brian Johnson Food Market Manager

Chris Nagel Programs Operations Coordinator

Elizabeth Orton Communications & Community Engagement Coordinator

Holli Rolfe Director of Finance & Administration

Jan Fedora Community Care Coordinator

Mike Solesky Logistics Coordinator

Peder Haugsby Family Services Manager

Whitney Kavanagh Director of Programs

Patty's Story



“CEAP was there when I had nothing. They were there when I was able to give back. Now, they are here when I need a little extra help. Wherever I’m at, CEAP is able to make a difference.”

50 years ago, a young single mother, Patty, trudged through a mile of freshly fallen snow to reach CEAP’s front door. Her three children huddled together as she dragged them along in a wooden toboggan. They had no winter clothes, no transportation, and no food. Upon arrival, she and her children were greeted with warm bread and their choice of winter clothing.

For Patty, this visit was more than just a kind gesture. It was a reminder that her community was there for her – that her neighbors believed in her and wanted the best for her and her children. When CEAP extended a hand, she took hold, fostering a strong relationship with employees and volunteers for years to come.

Later, no longer in need of CEAP’s services, Patty gave back, donating annually for over a decade to the very organization that clothed and fed her family on that cold winter day.

Fast forward 50 years, and the world looks a little different. In 2025, the rising costs of groceries, high rate of unemployment, and declining public support has led to a 29% increase in first-time Food Market visitors. In addition, many neighbors have returned to using CEAP’s services after years of donating, volunteering, and living in the community CEAP serves.

One of these neighbors is Patty. After undergoing surgery, she began receiving meals from CEAP’s Meals on Wheels program. “I never imagined CEAP would be in my life all these years later, but I’m so grateful that it is,” she notes.

Stories like Patty’s are the reason for the work we do here at CEAP. We’re committed to supporting our neighbors during times of great transition, cultivating a safe space amidst an ever-changing world.



Food Market

CEAP was founded as a food shelf in 1972 and nourishing our neighbors remains the cornerstone of our work. To meet the escalating need in our community during the year, we expanded our operations by adding 50% more appointments per hour.

Our Food Market is stocked with the help of generous donations from our community, enabling us to serve an average of 2,000 appointments each month. Neighbors are able to place orders for food that meets their family's nutritional needs and cultural preferences and request items such as hygiene or baby supplies.

Throughout the year, neighbors also received added seasonal food items in their orders – from fresh produce boxes in the summer to holiday staples like cornbread and stuffing in the fall and winter – providing not just nutrition but also joy and comfort.



“Between rent and medical bills, it’s been hard for me to pay for groceries for myself and my son. CEAP helps us out by providing meals and fresh food to support us throughout the month.”

– Cindy, CEAP Food Market Participant

By the numbers

2M+ pounds
of food distributed

16,118 total visits
providing food to more
than 50,000 people

29% increase
in first-time visitors

> 60% of orders
are fresh produce



Meals on Wheels



CEAP's Meals on Wheels Program delivers more than just hot nutritious meals. By connecting our neighbors to a friendly volunteer each day, it also decreases senior anxiety and isolation. The connections made between our volunteers and Meals on Wheels participants build into lifelong friendships that keep our seniors safe in their homes and volunteers engaged.

CEAP operates the second largest Meals on Wheels program in the state of Minnesota. We rely on the dedication of up to 30 volunteers daily, delivering meals to nearly 450 seniors across 14 cities!

“We all need human connection, and Meals on Wheels allows us to bring that to our neighbors while also checking in on their physical health and wellbeing. It’s a unique and rewarding experience that I look forward to each month.”

– **Todd Berg**, Meals on Wheels Volunteer and Brooklyn Center Fire Chief

By the numbers

60,590 total
meals delivered

447 neighbors
supported by Meals
on Wheels

14 cities served
from Golden Valley
to St. Michael



Wrap Around Services

CEAP provides comprehensive wrap-around services that meet neighbors where they are and support the whole household. Beyond nutritious food through the CEAP Food Market and Meals on Wheels, families can access essential resources like clothing and household goods through CEAP's Turning Leaf Clothing Program, seasonal programs that ease financial strain during high-cost times of year, and personalized connections to community partners.

CEAP partners with health, civic, economic, and community organizations to provide health and wellness program referrals for ongoing and comprehensive support. These integrated services ensure that every neighbor receives dignified support. CEAP strengthens stability today and builds pathways to long-term well-being.



CEAP connects neighbors with community tools to address the root causes of food insecurity. As a food shelf, we take a whole-person approach to hunger and wrap our arms fully around each neighbor.



Services Include

**Resource
Navigation**

**Turning Leaf
Thrift Store**

**Learn Strong
Back to School
Program**

**Toys
for Joy**



Seasonal Programs



Holiday Toys

Nearly 400 families

received toys for the holidays

“This is such a help. It’s been a really tough year and there’s not much room for ‘fun’ when you’re trying to put food on the table. Without CEAP, my kids wouldn’t have gifts this holiday season.”

– CEAP Holiday Toys Recipient

When costs and needs continue to rise, our neighbors are forced to choose between food, bills, and creating memories with their families. Birthdays, holidays, and back-to-school shopping are memories that should be made, not missed.

With community investment, CEAP provided backpacks with supplies for students in the fall, toys for kids during the holidays, and birthday bags and cakes for all year long. Through these annual programs for our children and families, CEAP nourishes our community in body, mind, and spirit.



School Supplies

3,800 backpacks

full of school supplies provided to kids in our community.



Volunteerism

We know that none of what we do would be possible without the hard work of our dedicated volunteers. From our Meals on Wheels drivers to our Thrift Store volunteers to our newly launched Food Market Takeovers for volunteer groups, our more than 700 volunteers are critical in fulfilling CEAP’s mission.

Every volunteer has their own story – their own values and beliefs that have led them to our doors. Whether volunteering with a corporate group, faith community, civic organization, or as an individual, their unique experiences and passions make CEAP’s volunteer community a welcoming and caring place to connect. And their commitment and compassion make our community healthier and stronger.



“Volunteering at CEAP is a great way for me to stay active and connect with my neighbors. It’s more than just something to do. It’s a community of good people working together for one another.”

– Margaret, CEAP Volunteer



By the numbers

709
total
volunteers

19,594
total
hours

280
Meals on
Wheels
Volunteer

107
Food Market
Volunteers

Thank you

The CEAP team and Board of Directors continue to be astounded by the unrelenting support of our community. Thank you to our dedicated volunteers, generous donors, steadfast Partners in Possibility monthly donors, our Corporate Council members, and all of the amazing local businesses, civic organizations, faith communities, and more. We are so grateful each of you who raised your hands in support time and time again this past year. 2025 brought countless challenges to our community and agency, and we couldn't have provided the assistance and nourishment our neighbors needed without your partnership.



**And a special thank you to our Board of Directors
for their ongoing leadership!**

Polly Berry Dorr, Chair
Jeff Uecker, Vice Chair

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Kimberly Boll-Farrington
Kristi Ryman

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Obad Ruiz Méndez
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