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Feed Ontario is an umbrella organization that represents 130 food banks and 1,100 affiliate organizations in our province. Their annual report on the experience of hunger in our community was released on Monday, 30 November 2020.

Over 500,000 residents of Ontario visited a food bank at least once last year. And one-third of our clients were children.

Although most food bank users are employed, their income is insufficient to provide for the ordinary necessities of life. Of course, the onset of COVID-19 has made their circumstances even more precarious, and there was a surge in demand for the services of food banks last Spring, especially from families that were not already our clients.

The full Hunger Report is available at feedontario.ca.

Over the past eight months, Community Food Share has worked tirelessly to source and stockpile food so that no one in our service area (Dundas & Stormont Counties) will go hungry. We have received increased support from individual residents, businesses, service organizations, churches, Feed Ontario, Food Banks Canada, and all levels of government. This extraordinary generosity is inspiring.

But please, let us not forget that the problem of hunger in our community is the consequence of systemic inequality of economic opportunity. Even before the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, poverty and the resulting hunger and housing struggle for many of our neighbours was increasing. We have now shown that if the will exists to help, we can support those who need it.

Community Food Share thanks everyone who has donated to our mission, and we look forward to your continued support.

Jim Wilson, Board Chair (on behalf of all our clients, staff, and directors).