



SCARBOROUGH FOOD SECURITY INITIATIVE

# IMPACT REPORT

## 2025





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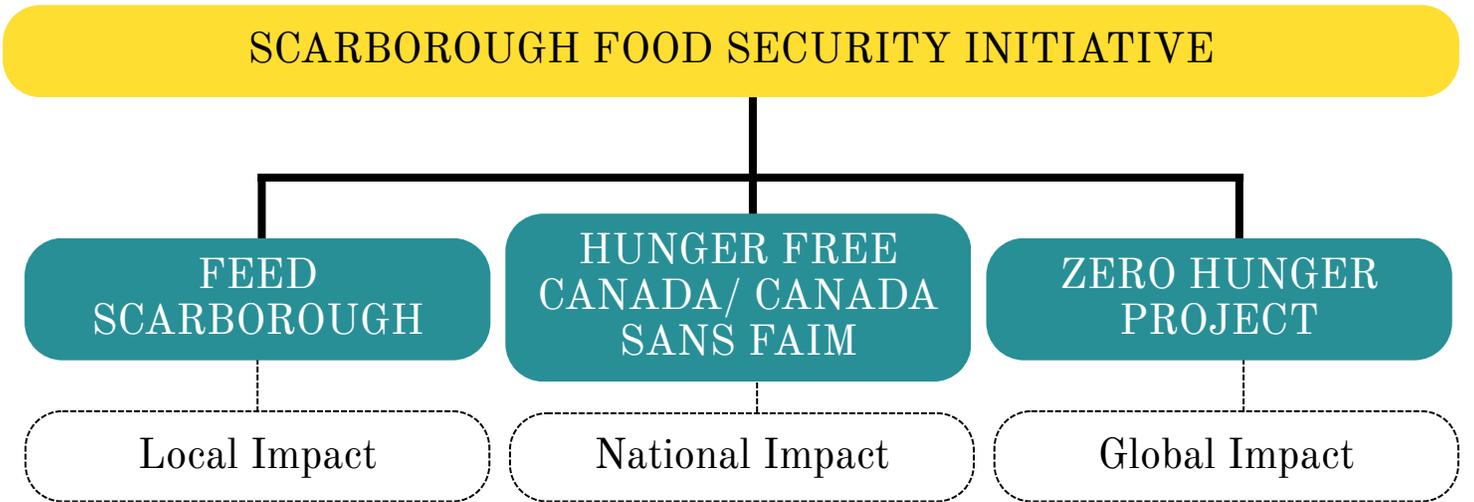
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# Who We Are & How We Create Impact

The Scarborough Food Security Initiative works to address food insecurity through a comprehensive approach that connects community action with broader systems change. Through a range of programs and partnerships, the initiative supports access to nutritious food, economic opportunity, and sustainable food systems. This impact report highlights the collective work carried out across its three interconnected platforms—local, national, and global. Together, these efforts demonstrate how community-driven solutions can contribute to wider conversations on food security and sustainable development. The following structure illustrates how these platforms work together to create impact at multiple levels.



**Mission**

Scarborough Food Security Initiative designs and implements scalable food security ecosystems that deliver dignified access to food, create workforce and entrepreneurial pathways, influence national policy, and advance global Sustainable Development Goals.

**Vision**

*“A hunger-free, resilient Scarborough, Canada and World”*

A world where integrated food security systems eliminate hunger, advance economic mobility, and strengthen communities locally, nationally, and globally.



# Message from our CEO

## Scarborough Food Security Initiative 2025 Impact Report

In 2025, Scarborough Food Security Initiative strengthened its role as more than a food security organization. We solidified our position as an integrated, SDG-aligned ecosystem bridging emergency food access, economic mobility, and global systems change.

At the local level, through Feed Scarborough, we continued to provide critical emergency food support, serving over 350,000 individuals and distributing more than 130,000 meals. These numbers represent more than relief — they represent stability for families navigating rising costs, housing insecurity, and economic volatility.

But in 2025, we did not move away from food distribution. We built on it.

We expanded workforce pathways, newcomer integration programs, youth culinary training, and entrepreneurship incubation. Through initiatives such as The Bridge for Newcomers, The Bridge for Culinary & Hospitality, the Youth Culinary Program, FoodHall TO, and StartUp Scarborough, we supported over 75 newcomers, trained 68 culinary participants, empowered 44 youth, and helped create more than 50 jobs.

Food access became a gateway — not an endpoint.

The launch of RxEats and the Healthy Meal Truck marked a pivotal shift toward food as medicine, fulfilling distributing 4,000 meals within the first two months of operation. This integration of health and food security reflects our commitment to SDG 2 (Zero Hunger) and SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-being), while strengthening long-term community resilience.



Nationally and globally, through Hunger Free Canada and Zero Hunger Project, we expanded our engagement across multiple United Nations platforms, participated in global conferences including the World Food Forum, and contributed to international dialogue on scalable food security systems. Our presence in these spaces ensures that Scarborough’s model informs national policy conversations and global SDG implementation frameworks.

The bridge we are building is intentional:

*Local implementation informs national advocacy.*

*National research strengthens global positioning.*

*Global collaboration reinforces local innovation.*

From emergency food relief to economic mobility pathways, from community gardens to global SDG engagement, Scarborough Food Security Initiative is demonstrating that integrated systems — not isolated programs — are the solution to food insecurity.

As we look toward 2026, our focus remains clear: scale responsibly, deepen impact, and continue building a replicable model that connects dignity, opportunity, and sustainability.

The work ahead is significant. But so is the progress we have made — together.

With gratitude,

**Suman Roy**

**CEO & Founder**

**Scarborough Food Security Initiative**





# Our Board of Directors



**CLIFFORD GOMES**  
Chair of the Board



**CECILIA PARTAP**  
Director, Brand & Marketing



**RINKEE AHMAD**  
Treasurer



**TINA HURL**  
Vice Chair and Secretary

## Governance & Leadership

The Board of Directors of the Scarborough Food Security Initiative provides strategic oversight, governance, and accountability to ensure the organization continues to advance its mission with integrity and impact. Drawing on diverse professional backgrounds and community experience, the Board supports long-term planning, strengthens partnerships, and helps guide the organization's growth across its local, national, and global initiatives.

Their leadership ensures that the organization remains responsive to community needs while advancing sustainable solutions to food insecurity.

*"Addressing food insecurity requires not only compassion, but leadership, collaboration, and long-term vision. Our Board is proud to support an organization that continues to innovate and expand its impact from Scarborough to the global stage."* - **Clifford Gomes, Chair of the Board**



# Feed Scarborough

## *the local impact*

Feed Scarborough is the local implementation arm of the Scarborough Food Security Initiative, working at the frontline of food insecurity in Scarborough. Rooted in the belief that access to nutritious food is a human right, the organization continues to provide essential food support through food banks, meal distribution, fresh food markets, and community initiatives. In 2025, Feed Scarborough served over **350,000** individuals and distributed more than **130,000** meals, ensuring that families facing rising costs and economic pressures had reliable access to nutritious food and community support.

Recognizing that food insecurity is often linked to broader challenges such as unemployment, newcomer integration barriers, and limited economic opportunity, Feed Scarborough has expanded its work beyond emergency food access. New programs including The Bridge for Newcomers, The Bridge for Culinary & Hospitality, and the Youth Culinary Program create pathways for skill development, employment readiness, and workforce participation. In 2025 alone, these initiatives supported **75 newcomers**, trained **68 culinary participants**, and engaged **44 youth** in hands-on training and employment opportunities.

Feed Scarborough has also introduced innovative programs that connect food security with health and entrepreneurship. Through RxEats, a food-as-medicine initiative, **2,000** meals were distributed to support improved nutrition and health outcomes. The Healthy Meal Truck, launched in late 2025, distributed **2,000** nutritious meals within its first two months of operation, expanding access to healthy food across underserved neighborhoods. Alongside entrepreneurship initiatives such as FoodHall TO and StartUp Scarborough, which supported **25 entrepreneurs** and contributed to over **50 jobs**, Feed Scarborough continues to build an integrated local ecosystem that addresses immediate food needs while creating long-term economic mobility and community resilience.

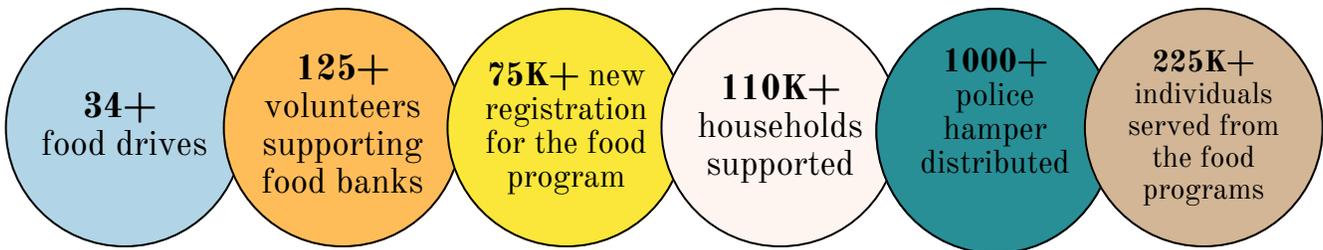




# Emergency Food Programs

## *food access & distribution programs*

Feed Scarborough's **food banks**, including the **online food bank**, remain a vital entry point for individuals and families experiencing food insecurity. Through a combination of in-person food banks, digital ordering systems, **police hampers**, **school hampers**, and **community-based distributions**, Feed Scarborough ensures that support reaches people where and when it is most needed. The online food bank allows community members to select food items that best suit their household needs, restoring dignity and choice while reducing barriers to access. Partnerships with local schools and Toronto Police divisions further extend this support, ensuring that vulnerable families, youth, and individuals facing urgent situations receive timely assistance. By prioritizing dignity, accessibility, and flexibility, these programs provide not only immediate relief but also a respectful and empowering experience for those seeking support.





# Emergency Food Programs

*meal & nutrition programs*

Feed Scarborough’s **Healthy Meal Program** provides nutritious, ready-to-eat meals to seniors, vulnerable individuals, and community groups across Scarborough. Through strong community partnerships, meals are prepared and distributed to ensure consistent access to healthy food for those facing barriers to cooking or mobility. In Nov 2025, this work expanded with the launch of the **Healthy Meal Truck**, bringing meals directly to underserved neighborhoods. Additionally, **RxEats** was introduced as a food-as-medicine initiative, providing medically tailored meals. Together, these programs strengthen access to nutritious meals while supporting improved health and community well-being.



130K+ meals distributed

7 locations for the healthy meal food truck

8 locations for the Rx Eats





# Long Term Impact Programs

*workforce pathways & community skill development*

Feed Scarborough’s long-term impact programs focus on building pathways that connect food security with employment and skill development. Programs such as **The Bridge for Newcomers**, **The Bridge for Culinary & Hospitality**, and the **Youth Culinary Program** provide hands-on training and exposure to the culinary and hospitality sectors. These initiatives support newcomers as they navigate the Canadian workforce while also creating opportunities for youth to gain early work experience. Participants learn practical skills, workplace expectations, and confidence through structured training and mentorship. By combining food security with workforce development, these programs help individuals move toward greater independence and long-term stability.



We also support workplace and skill development by hiring youth through contract roles, co-op placements, and internships. In 2025, a total of **36 youth were engaged** through these opportunities, gaining hands-on experience, practical skills, and valuable exposure to real work environments.

**75**  
newcomers supported

**68**  
culinary students supported

**44**  
youth trained in culinary

**46**  
gained food handlers certification

**50+**  
gained jobs through program

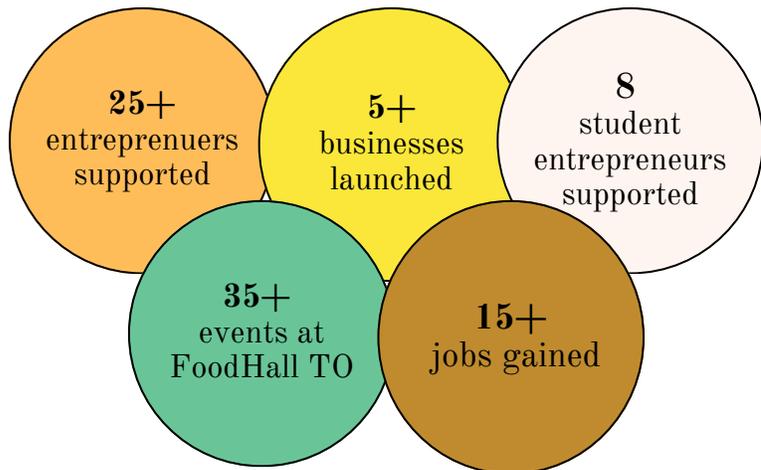




# Long Term Impact Programs

## entrepreneurship & economic mobility

Feed Scarborough’s entrepreneurship initiatives help community members transform their skills and ideas into viable businesses. Through programs such as **FoodHall TO** and **StartUp Scarborough**, aspiring entrepreneurs receive mentorship, business development guidance, and opportunities to test their concepts in real market environments. These programs support individuals who may have previously faced barriers to employment or business ownership. Participants gain knowledge in areas such as marketing, operations, branding, and financial planning while building networks that support long-term growth. By fostering entrepreneurship within the community, Feed Scarborough contributes to local economic development and creates new pathways for financial independence.

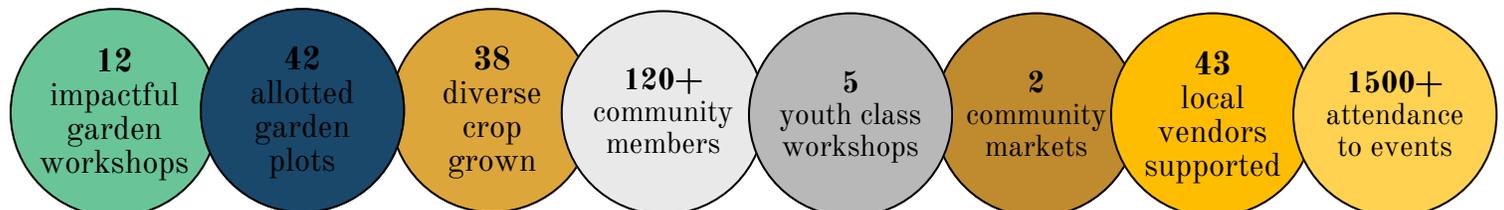




# Long Term Impact Programs

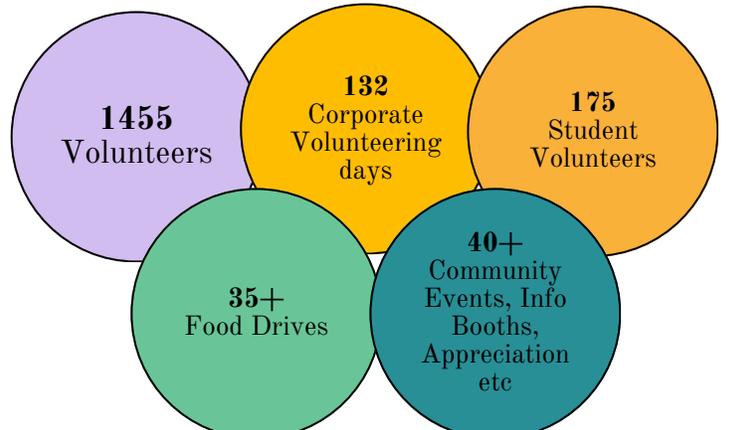
## *sustainable food systems & community resilience*

Feed Scarborough also strengthens long-term food security by investing in sustainable local food systems. Through **community gardens, markets,** and educational workshops, community members are encouraged to engage with food production, nutrition, and environmental sustainability. These initiatives bring together residents, volunteers, and local partners to grow fresh produce, share knowledge, and promote healthier food choices. Community spaces such as gardens and markets become hubs for learning, collaboration, and connection. By encouraging local food production and food literacy, these programs contribute to healthier communities and a more resilient local food ecosystem.





# Our Community of Support





# Hunger Free Canada / Canada Sans Faim

*the national impact*

Hunger Free Canada / Canada Sans Faim serves as the national engagement and systems arm of the Scarborough Food Security Initiative, working to strengthen food security efforts across Canada. While local programs address immediate community needs, this platform focuses on **mentoring grassroots organizations, supporting community-led initiatives, and connecting local experiences to national conversations around food systems and economic inclusion.** Through policy dialogue, advocacy, and knowledge sharing, Hunger Free Canada helps amplify community perspectives and encourages collaboration among organizations, researchers, and sector leaders working toward a more resilient and food-secure Canada.

## World Food Forum – Ontario and Quebec Chapter

A key milestone has been the establishment of the **World Food Forum (WFF) Ontario Chapter, the first of its kind in Canada and North America.** The Chapter creates a platform for youth engagement, innovation, and dialogue within Canada’s agri-food systems by bringing together young leaders, community organizations, researchers, and policymakers. It connects local initiatives with national and global conversations on sustainable food systems while empowering youth to actively contribute to shaping the future of food security. Building on the success and momentum of the Ontario Chapter, the initiative has also supported the launch of the **WFF Quebec Chapter,** further expanding youth leadership and engagement across Canada. Together, these Chapters reflect a vision where youth leadership meets global change, strengthening Canada’s contribution to global food systems transformation.

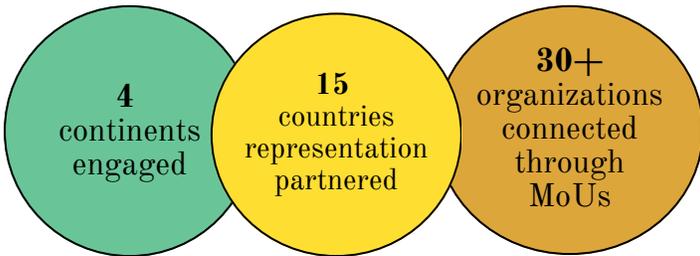




# Zero Hunger Project

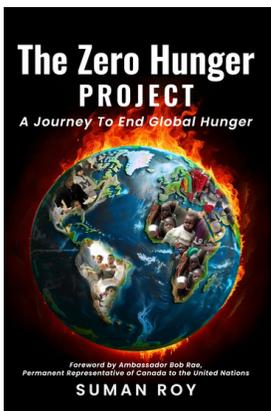
## *the global impact*

The Zero Hunger Project serves as the global engagement platform of the Scarborough Food Security Initiative, advancing solutions toward SDG 2 – Zero Hunger. It connects grassroots organizations, researchers, policymakers, and global partners to strengthen collaboration and knowledge sharing on food security. Through mentorship, partnerships, and international dialogue, the initiative amplifies community-driven solutions and links local action with global policy conversations. By bringing together leaders from sectors such as agriculture, public policy, business, and technology, the Zero Hunger Project promotes innovative and scalable approaches to addressing hunger and building more resilient food systems.



## Zero Hunger Book, Podcast and Report Card

The Zero Hunger Project advances global dialogue on food security through the Zero Hunger Book, Podcast, and Report Card. The Zero Hunger Podcast, released weekly, features conversations with internationally recognized leaders from policy, academia, business, and grassroots sectors discussing solutions to global food insecurity. The Zero Hunger Book compiles insights and perspectives from global changemakers working to transform food systems.



The Zero Hunger Report Card analyzes food security progress across 50 countries, assessing what has worked and what has not across key parameters such as policy commitment, access to nutritious food, equity, and food system resilience. By identifying successful approaches and gaps in action, the Report Card encourages stronger collaboration and accountability toward achieving SDG 2 – Zero Hunger.





# Zero Hunger Project

*the global impact*

## Representation at International Forums

Through the Zero Hunger Project, the initiative represented community-driven food security solutions at **15+ international and national platforms** across 4 continents in 2025. These engagements included policy dialogues, global leadership summits, and academic forums where discussions focused on advancing SDG 2 – Zero Hunger, youth leadership in food systems, and innovative approaches to addressing food insecurity. Key representations included the **United Nations High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development Goals in New York (Official Canadian Delegate)**, the **Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) in Rome**, the **OECD Global Roundtable in Ottawa**, and **global forums in Bangkok, Hong Kong, Vancouver, Calgary, Montreal, London (University of Oxford), Dubai, Las Vegas, Dakar, Edmonton, and St. John’s**. These platforms allowed the Zero Hunger Project to bring grassroots experiences into global dialogue, strengthen partnerships, and advocate for stronger political commitment toward sustainable and equitable food systems.



### Highlight: World Summit for Social Development – Doha

A major milestone occurred at the 2nd World Summit for Social Development in Doha, Qatar, where the Zero Hunger Project presented a **side solution outlining the evolution of global hunger commitments from 1995 to 2025, while projecting pathways toward 2055**. The presentation introduced the Zero Hunger Report Card, a framework designed to track global progress on SDG 2 – Zero Hunger and identify gaps in policy action, accountability, and collaboration. The session brought together a distinguished panel featuring representatives from the **Governments of Canada, Finland, Guinea, and Costa Rica**, creating an opportunity for cross-country dialogue on advancing sustainable food systems and strengthening global commitments to ending hunger. By presenting community-driven insights within this international forum, the Zero Hunger Project helped bridge grassroots action with global policy discussions, reinforcing the importance of collaboration in the collective effort to eliminate hunger worldwide.



SECOND  
WORLD SUMMIT  
FOR SOCIAL  
DEVELOPMENT  
DOHA 2025





# Local Action, Global Goals: Advancing the Sustainable Development Goals

The work of the Scarborough Food Security Initiative is guided by the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which provide a global framework for addressing hunger, poverty, health, and sustainable communities. Through its three interconnected platforms—Feed Scarborough (Local Impact), Hunger Free Canada (National Impact), and the Zero Hunger Project (Global Impact)—the initiative aligns community-driven programs with global priorities to create meaningful and scalable change.

At the local level, Feed Scarborough focuses on priority SDGs such as **Zero Hunger (SDG 2)**, **Good Health and Well-Being (SDG 3)**, **Quality Education (SDG 4)**, and **Decent Work and Economic Growth (SDG 8)**. Through food access programs, workforce training, entrepreneurship initiatives, and youth development opportunities, these efforts strengthen economic mobility while ensuring dignified access to nutritious food.

At the national level, Hunger Free Canada / Canada Sans Faim contributes to policy dialogue, knowledge sharing, and mentorship for grassroots organizations working to address food insecurity across the country. Globally, the Zero Hunger Project connects community-driven innovation with international dialogue through partnerships, global representation, and collaboration across multiple countries.

Together, these three platforms demonstrate how local action can inform national dialogue and contribute to global progress, advancing the shared commitment to building sustainable and hunger-free communities.

**Core / Priority SDGs:** These represent the primary goals where the Scarborough Food Security Initiative delivers direct impact through programs addressing food security, health, education, and economic opportunity.



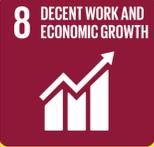
**Focus / Strategic SDGs:** These goals support the broader systems change and partnerships that strengthen long-term sustainability, innovation, and inclusive community development.





| Sustainable Development Goals   | Scarborough Food Security Initiative Alignment   | Programs  |
|---|--|---|
|    | <p>Programs aim to alleviate poverty and promote economic empowerment within the community through skills development, entrepreneurship, and workforce pathways.</p> | <p>StartUp Scarborough, FoodHall TO, Bridge for Newcomers, Bridge Culinary &amp; Hospitality Program, Youth Culinary Program, Community Gardens</p> |
|   | <p>Ensuring access to safe, nutritious food while strengthening community food systems and food access programs.</p>   | <p>Food Banks, Online Food Bank, Healthy Meal Program, Healthy Meal Truck, RxEats, Fresh Food Markets, Community Gardens</p>                        |
|  | <p>Promoting health and wellness through nutritious meals, food-as-medicine initiatives, and community wellness programming.</p>                                     | <p>Healthy Meal Program, RxEats, Healthy Meal Truck, Seniors Wellness Program, Youth Wellness Initiatives</p>                                       |
|  | <p>Supporting lifelong learning through skill development, workforce training, and entrepreneurship education programs.</p>  | <p>StartUp Scarborough, FoodHall TO, Culinary Training Programs, Bridge Culinary &amp; Hospitality, Youth Culinary Program</p>                      |
|  | <p>Promoting gender-inclusive participation and leadership across programs, entrepreneurship initiatives, and organizational leadership.</p>                         | <p>All programs with inclusive participation, entrepreneurship initiatives, leadership opportunities</p>  |



| Sustainable Development Goals   | Scarborough Food Security Initiative Alignment   | Programs   |
|---|--|--|
|    | <p>Creating pathways to employment and entrepreneurship through training, mentorship, and small business incubation.</p>                             | <p>StartUp Scarborough, FoodHall TO, Bridge Programs, Culinary Training Programs, Youth Culinary Program</p>                                 |
|    | <p>Strengthening inclusion and access to resources for newcomers, youth, and vulnerable communities through food security and economic programs.</p> | <p>Bridge for Newcomers, Youth Culinary Program, Food Banks, Online Food Bank, StartUp Scarborough, FoodHall TO</p>                          |
|  | <p>Supporting sustainable urban communities through local food systems, green spaces, and community engagement initiatives.</p>                      | <p>Community Gardens, Fresh Food Markets, Urban Food Initiatives</p>   |
|  | <p>Promoting sustainable food practices and reducing food waste through partnerships, redistribution, and community food initiatives.</p>            | <p>Food Banks, Farmers Markets, Community Gardens, Warehouse Operations, Food Recovery Partnerships</p>                                      |
|  | <p>Strengthening collaboration with community organizations, institutions, and international partners to advance food security solutions.</p>        | <p>Research Collaborations, Educational Institution Partnerships, Government Partnerships, Global Engagement through Zero Hunger Project</p> |



# Voices of Impact

## testimonials & community stories

Behind every number in this report are individuals, families, and entrepreneurs whose lives have been touched by the programs of the Scarborough Food Security Initiative. From accessing nutritious food during challenging times to gaining skills, launching businesses, and finding new opportunities, these stories reflect the real impact of community-driven solutions.

Through the collective efforts of Feed Scarborough, Hunger Free Canada, and the Zero Hunger Project, individuals are not only receiving support—they are building pathways toward stability, opportunity, and long-term resilience.

### Community Voice

*"Feed Scarborough provided more than food during a difficult time in my life. The support and sense of community helped me regain confidence and focus on rebuilding my future."*

### From Training to Opportunity

*"Through the culinary training program, I gained skills that opened doors for employment. The mentorship and encouragement gave me the confidence to pursue a career in the hospitality industry."*

### Entrepreneurship Journey

*"FoodHall TO helped turn my idea into a real business. The mentorship and hands-on experience allowed me to build something sustainable while supporting my family."*

### A Pathway Forward

*"Programs like The Bridge create real opportunities for newcomers like me. It helped me connect with people, learn new skills, and start building a life in Canada."*





## With Gratitude

The impact highlighted throughout this report would not be possible without the generosity, dedication, and commitment of **our donors, volunteers, partners, and community members**. Your support strengthens our ability to provide access to nutritious food, create opportunities for economic mobility, and advance solutions to food insecurity at local, national, and global levels.

Every volunteer hour, every partnership, and every contribution plays a vital role in building a stronger and more resilient community. Together, we are not only responding to immediate needs but also creating pathways toward long-term change and a future where everyone has access to healthy food and opportunity.

We extend our sincere appreciation to all those who stand with us in this mission. Your belief in this work continues to inspire progress and makes lasting impact possible.

**Together, we are building a hunger-free and resilient future.**

### CONTACT INFORMATION

#### SCARBOROUGH FOOD SECURITY INITIATIVE

Feed Scarborough | Hunger Free Canada | Zero Hunger Project



<https://foodsecurityinitiative.ca/>



416-936-3975

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