



Food Secure
North Canterbury
Report 1st June - 31 January 2021



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About Us



From left to right:
Brent Cairns, Louise Griffiths,
Ronel Stephens, Rachel Thornton, Phillipa
Hunt, Stef Van Meer, Nicki Carter.

The Food Secure North Canterbury governance group was born out of the local food and budgeting forum.

For the last ten years locally in North Canterbury the foodbanks have been meeting to work collaboratively for the benefit of the district.

During the COVID event of 2020 this collaborative partnership was critical in taking care of the food needs of the most vulnerable in our community.

When the funding rounds were released for creating food secure communities this group supported by the Waimakariri District Council and Social Services Waimakariri applied knowing that the existing collaboration could extend and develop its work to a wider purpose for our community.

The governance group was then chosen strategically to look at food security in our region. Represented on the governance group is Satisfy Food Rescue, Kaiapoi Food Forest, Oxford Community Trust, Kaiapoi Community Support (representing the four local food banks), Waimakariri District Council and Social Services Waimakairi.

Each member of the group brings specific skills and experience that enhance the work of Food Secure North Canterbury.

As you will see throughout the report and attached documentation we have had a very busy first six months. From a governance perspective our focus has been initially to establish our systems and process to ensure sustainability.

Members of the governance group have been involved in local evaluation training and organising a recent community wide collaboration forum that Rata foundation funded. We are committed to establishing this work well and engaging multiple avenues to do so.

To that end we have developed terms of reference for the governance group, a strong financial process for partner organisations, and we are also in the process of logo/brand development.

A website is in development also that will work alongside the social and community sector to enable the “newly vulnerable” to access the help they need, whether that be food, counselling or employment assistance.

It has begun!
Nga Mihi

Numbers at a Glance



Rescued & Produced Food
49,112 kgs of food distributed
140,320 equivalent meals
3000 kgs of produced food

Education

Double the visitor numbers to the food forest
Double the education classes
Liaison with schools



Foodbanks

4 new freezer/chillers, generator
Over 800 food parcels delivered
43% of one foodbank's distribution was to households that hadn't requested assistance from them before July 2020

Governance Group

Vision, Mission
Terms of Reference
Reporting template
Financial process
Logo/brand development
Monthly governance meetings
Community wide forum

Larger Community Projects

Kaipoi Community Hub Development
Website



Partner Organisations

Satisfy Food Rescue Partner Report

Role within FSNC: Satisfy Food Rescue is contributing towards a food secure community by re-directing surplus edible food from food retailers, growers and wholesalers to community organisations that are working with those in need.

Two members of our organisation (one staff and one trustee) are a part of the FSNC is in the governance group.



Actions currently planned:

Kaiapoi Community Hub - Continuing to work with Waimakariri District Council, funders and other stakeholders to realise the vision of a community hub in the Kaiapoi Red zone that will have among other things collaborative spaces and a dedicated purpose-built facility for Satisfy to operate out of.

Amberley Offshoot – Continue to work with Hurunui District Council and local Hurunui food banks to establish a collaborative space that Satisfy can operate an Offshoot out of so that we can better serve the people in the Hurunui.

Other FSNC initiatives – Supporting and promoting the work and plans of FSNC as a whole and also the work and plans of the member organisations.

Highlights/Achievements to date:

- We have rescued significantly more food than in the same period last year (21% increase in 2020 four-month period Sept to Dec compared to 2019)
- Hired a new staff member resulting in staff hours almost doubling per week (35 hrs/wk to 65 hrs/wk)
- Moved into new larger and more functional premises which means:
 - it is a safer work space for our staff and volunteers
 - o We can modify the workspace to meet H&S and volunteers needs
 - o Allowed us to purchase equipment to enable all of the above:
 - o Pallet jack
 - o Scissor lift table
 - o Extendable and moveable conveyor table
 - o Shelving
- Purchased new walk in 3m2 outdoor freezer (combination of funding including MSD COVID Response Grant)
- Opening/blessing celebration for our new premises on 11th November. It was a wonderful evening attended by many of our volunteers, recipient organisation and other stakeholders.
- Increased connections and collaboration with other food rescue organisations e.g. Kairos and NZ Food Network
- Becoming a member of Aotearoa Food Rescue Alliance
- Being part of setting up Food Secure North Canterbury

Challenges:

The increased quantities of rescued food have resulted in a number of challenges:

- oMore employee hours required (to manage logistics of food distribution and storage)
- oMore volunteer hours required (to sort and distribute food)
- oMore chiller space required (our existing 3m x 2m outdoor walk-in chiller is often not large enough)
- oIncrease pressure on space for transporting food. We may need an additional vehicle soon.
- oThe new premises has also had some challenges:
- oIncreased expectations on volunteers especially in regards to cleaning
- oLarge truck manoeuvring for deliveries can be tricky since we do not have a turn-a-round area. We have had to arrange to pick up some deliveries from third party locations since some vehicles can't drop off at our location.

Key Story

As we started to share the Food Secure North Canterbury vision and opportunity the governance group was approached by the Oxford Lions Club. They had land and volunteers and were offering to plant potatoes for the upcoming Christmas rush to supply the local foodbanks and community groups, through Satisfy, with potatoes.

The Lions Club are also going to grow and harvest corn as well.

They approached Food Secure North Canterbury officially and the governance group agreed to its alignment with our purpose and so paid for fertiliser and seeds.

Neighbouring areas have heard about this and may initiate their Lions Clubs to do a similar thing.

Stef van Meer (manager Satisfy Food Rescue) is pictured here visiting the crop prior to harvest time. To date this project has provided our community with a whopping 540kg of potatoes!!!



Kaiapoi Food Forest Partner Report

Role within FSNC: Kaiapoi Food Forest is a member of the FSNC governance group.

Our Community Food Forest in Kaiapoi (Mahinga Kai), is a park that people come to picnic and play, but also to forage for food 24/7, ie. fruit, veggies, berries, herbs, citrus, medicinal plants (rongoa). We are actively contributing to a food secure community by providing food forest tours for schools and interested groups, holding events to increase the profile. There is a large focus on education. We teach people how to grow food sustainably, without pesticides or herbicides; along with propagation, edible weeds, mushroom growing, kumara growing - just to name a few things.



Actions Planned:

After COVID, we became aware that people were keen to grow their own food, but didn't know how, "whilst we are all eaters, we are not all producers." We need to change this paradigm.

We have developed a successful food security model by creating the food forest. We believe that using under utilised reserve land in towns and cities throughout New Zealand is a way of helping people to connect with their food and help them to feed their whanau.

One of the many courses we run is a Food Forest design course. By holding such courses throughout NZ we will be able to identify interested locals who will lead the creation of their own food forest. We will be then be able to help those kaitiakitanga with design, advocacy, mentoring and help with sourcing of trees and plants to help them get started, helping their own communities to be more food secure.

We are also in the process of planning a new bbq/shaded education space to enhance our classes and what we can offer; as well as toilet facilities.

Highlights to date:

- We won New Zealand Gardener of the Year Competition. We have been contacted by groups from Waikato, Chch, Amberley, Selwyn District and Lyttleton (Owen Wright Memorial), with the view of replicating food forests in their communities.
- We have almost doubled the number of educational programs with increased number of people attending.
- People are coming from a wider geographical area and the audience is getting younger. Selwyn District Councillor visited.
- Kaiapoi North School with our help are creating their own food forest, choosing edible plants that they like and able to be harvested when the students are not on holiday.
- Increased number of volunteers helping. Eg - We regularly have international students helping, thanks to Kaiapoi High School.
- Being part of the FSNC group is opening doors and enabling us to move forward with projects much more confidently and collaboratively. Shared skill, resource and experience is very valuable.

Challenges:

- We need to increase awareness of the food forest, as a successful component to food security.
- There is a growing number of people visiting the food forest, so ripe fruit is gone within a day or two. (In township of 11K residents, we could have 2-3 food forests, so long as there are people willing to guardian them)
- There is a rising number of people visiting to receive free surplus food.
- We need to have more people growing their own food, and mitigate the rising percentage of people living in rented accommodation, who do not see spending money on edible trees and plants as worthwhile.
- There needs to be a paradigm shift in the way we garden. Ie no dig, no sprays, growing food in layers, which is less labour intensive.



Looking forward:

Development of our new shaded bbq/education area is a key project within Food Secure North Canterbury. This is going to enable our education program to multiply and become even more effective and accessible.

Our primary focus is to grow food and show others how to do the same, it is not to rescue food. However, by having an onsite Fruit and Veg stand and contacts within food industry we do rescue a significant amount of food per year.

Visitor numbers have doubled over the last year. Kaiapoi North School are wanting us to help build their own food forest and we aim to have that replicated in other schools across the district in the future.

Food Banks Partner Report

Role within FSNC: We have structured the governance group so that all four major foodbanks are represented by one individual. All four are working alongside FSNC and Council to come up with ways to map the areas of deprivation through reporting and a shared database system.

The foodbanks all work to make the district more food secure through providing food parcels where required alongside other supports and, in some cases, opportunities for individuals to empower themselves toward a more positive future. eg. work experience, community gardens, op shops etc.



Actions Planned:

- Creating a shared database alongside Council and other projects such as the website within FSNC.
- Community-led food gathering opportunities
- Building volunteer capacity within foodbanks and Satisfy Food Rescue to process the enormous amount of harvest fruit and vegetables that become available. This will enable them to be distributed frozen or preserved over winter.
- Toot for Tucker - our communities pre-Christmas annual food drive. Developing this collaborative project between foodbanks, businesses and the community.

Highlights to date:

This Christmas our local Lions undertook to distribute our Christmas food parcels and presents to families in the community. We were very fortunate to also receive donated boxes of food from Satisfy Food Rescue to give them, alongside \$50 supermarket vouchers from MSD. The local Lions have also donated Christmas cakes and potatoes to our families.

Working with our food rescue partner Satisfy Food Rescue, we provide basic food parcels by raising financial donations and food donations from our community. Satisfy Food Rescue's contribution of fresh produce, dairy and meat enables us to provide a much healthier range of food to our clients at no extra cost to us.

Challenges:

Communication with our community during lockdown was a challenge. Fresh food for families will always need to be purchased.



864 food parcels delivered between Sept - Dec 2020

Key Stories

We often have older people bringing in produce from their own garden or vegetable plants they want to donate to us. We do not always have room to store perishables and don't give our clients plants. It has been great to be able to direct these generous people to our local food forest instead. There they can donate their produce quickly to people who benefit and there is a way to plant their donations of seedlings where they will be grown and harvested by the community.

We have been supporting one family since COVID and her loss of job. We have worked with her to complete residency and support her with employment opportunities.

Directly after COVID we knew we had to find a way to reach out and get information to people who would not necessarily come to us. The newly unemployed were likely to be people who were not used to asking for help, so we came up with an idea to put a sticker on the back of hot chocolate and give it out at the local area school. It was a great success and we had a number of enquiries along with a positive response from people.

Community Trust recognises that times
and your circumstances may have

are to support

navigate your next steps.


to call us or pop in to have a chat.

Oxford
Community
Trust

GO
GIVE
YOUR
BACK

Food Secure North Canterbury Priorities 2021

FSNC Values session
Logo/Brand completed
FSNC Communications Strategy
FSNC Media Policy
Food Secure Forum (Community Wide)
Food Secure North Canterbury two year plan for MSD
Widening of stakeholders
Shared database and mapping project
Next Steps website
Capacity building across the district
Collaboration between partners
Kaiapoi Community Hub requirements
Education/shade bbq area for Kaiapoi Food Forest
Strategic stakeholder development (other funders)
Volunteer capacity for stakeholders

A woman wearing a bright yellow high-visibility vest over a pink long-sleeved shirt and dark pants stands smiling next to a blue food truck. The truck's bed is overflowing with various food items, including boxes of bananas, milk jugs, and other groceries. The background shows a residential street with houses and a clear sky.

"Receiving the food is an amazing opportunity to help our 'in need' families. To see the tears in the eyes of young Mums as we deliver the food says it all. They are so grateful just as we are. It is so nice to think we are part of making use of food that may otherwise be dumped but is still in good usable condition and is also making life far easier for our young families."

- Rachel's House

Appendices

Terms of Reference
Food Rescue Data Sheet
Forum Invitation

Terms of Reference

Food Secure North Canterbury Governance Group

Vision: Nourished & empowered communities.

Mission: To pioneer change that enables our community to be food secure through sustainability, innovation, and collaboration

Nature of the Group: The FSNC governance group (governance group) is committed to creating a Food Secure North Canterbury through:



We work together by:

- Being open about uncertainties, whilst building hope
- Inquiring deeply about each other's ideas and organisations
- Noticing our own assumptions and being willing to move
- Being brave and speaking our truth – respectful
- Being possibility focussed – daring to dream
- Facing our fears and being open to leaving stuff at the door – $1 + 1 = 3$.

Membership of the Governance Group:

Membership is made up of: Social Services Waimakariri, Kaiapoi Food Forest, Oxford Community Trust, Kaiapoi Community Support, Satisfy Food Rescue, Waimakariri District Council, Hurunui District Council.

Members of the collaborative will appoint representatives to this governance group.

These Terms of Reference will be signed off by the organisations represented in the governance group.

We will regularly strategically consider how our Governance Group is representative and identify who might need to be additionally invited.

ADDITIONAL if needed: We have the right to co-opt to additional members or advisors from outside the member organisations as required.

Roles and Responsibilities of the Governance Group members:

Each member will be able to speak and make decisions on behalf of their organisation, or defer to their organisation for a decision when appropriate.

Each member will be able to interact with the coordinator of the (name) Collective outside of governance meetings, except around direct employment issues.

Role of Chairperson:

- Will be appointed by the governance group/ may be rotating.
- A Chair and Deputy Chair may be appointed if required.

Function of the Chair:

- To provide leadership and ensure the Governance Group functions properly.
- To liaise with the backbone organisation to ensure a Memorandum of Understanding is in place for finances and employment

Accountability of the Governance Group:

- Vision, goals and governance structure – To be reviewed after 24 months.
There is an intention that this group is working towards a time when this work will be completed – that this community will be food secure, therefore there is an expectation that in the future this group will no longer have a purpose.
- The governance group is accountable for ensuring ongoing funding provision is made for its agreed work plan. The fund holder, along with members of the governance group, will ensure the necessary accountabilities are carried out for each funding agency.

Financials:

- The governance group will appoint and appropriate fund holder for each grant applied too.
- Financial audit or review will happen through the fund holder.
- Financial process will be developed between the fund holder and the governance group
- This process will be followed and reviewed alongside the budget at each meeting.
- Budget to be approved annually.
- Expenditure is to be presented to the governance group at least four times a year, preferably a monthly report.
- Any amounts needing to be reimbursed will be recorded on receipts and given to the accounts officer of the fund holder and follow the fund holder financial processes for approval.

Responsibilities of the Governance Group:

- Set strategic priorities and work programme for the group
- Provide oversight of the agreed work plan for the FSNC collaboration
- To develop effective working relationships with key organisations and stakeholders
- Support the collaboration to deliver their work plan through support from our member agencies
- Identify and make recommendations on funding requirements associated with the group
- To develop effective communications with stakeholders and wider network of the collaboration

Quorum requirements and meeting format:

- 5 members present represents a quorum
- A minimum of six meetings per year.
- Some in person and some remotely via zoom or other appropriate technology as agreed by the governance group.
- Meeting procedure is informal with a focus on action and information.

- Where ever possible decisions to be made by general consensus.
- If general consensus cannot be reached, then any decisions should be deferred to next meeting. All member agencies to be advised of intention to vote on the issue at the next bi-monthly meeting. One vote per agency/organisation.

Agenda: Agenda items are sought two weeks preceding each meeting. The agenda is circulated one week prior to the meeting including all briefing/background papers to be discussed. If a decision is required a recommendation will be clearly stated at the end of the paper.

Reporting: Each meeting will have a report presented by one of the member organisations. This will be on a rotating basis to ensure the story of FSNC is told effectively.

Minutes: Minutes are to be circulated to members within ten working days of the meeting via email for confirmation. They will include a list of key decision made and actions required.

Conflicts of Interest Members are expected to declare conflicts of interest should they arise. A 'Register of Conflicts of Interest' will be maintained. Any conflicts will be dealt with on a case by-case basis.

Ratified by:

Food Secure North Canterbury Governance Group Membership Agreement

(Name of organisation member)

Agrees to be an member of FSNC Governance Group

Our organisation agrees:

- **To support the *Food Secure North Canterbury Governance Group* vision, mission and purpose.**
- **To adhere to all elements of the agreed Terms of Reference and take up responsibilities as required.**
- **To work in a manner that is supportive of the other organisation's in the governance group.**
- **To adhere to the code of conduct as below.**
- **Nominate a representative that can speak on our behalf and follow the code of conduct.**
- **That the FSNC Collective goal is an integral part of our ongoing strategic way forward including.**
- **To provide strategic guidance, vision, and oversight for the governance group.**

Member behaviour/ Code of conduct expectations

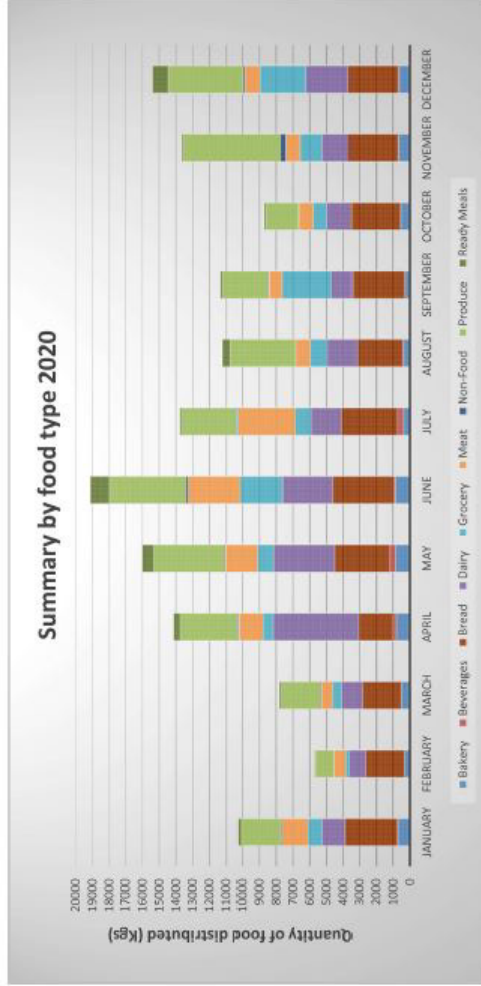
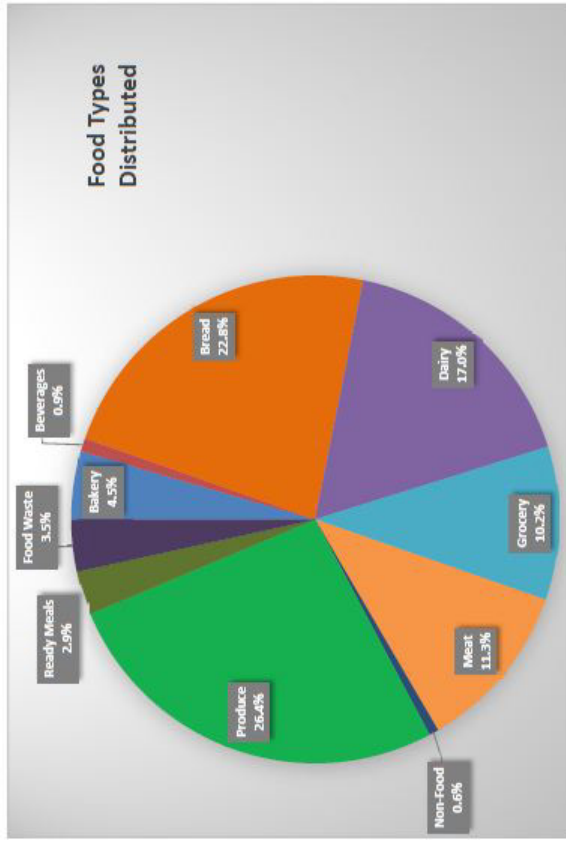
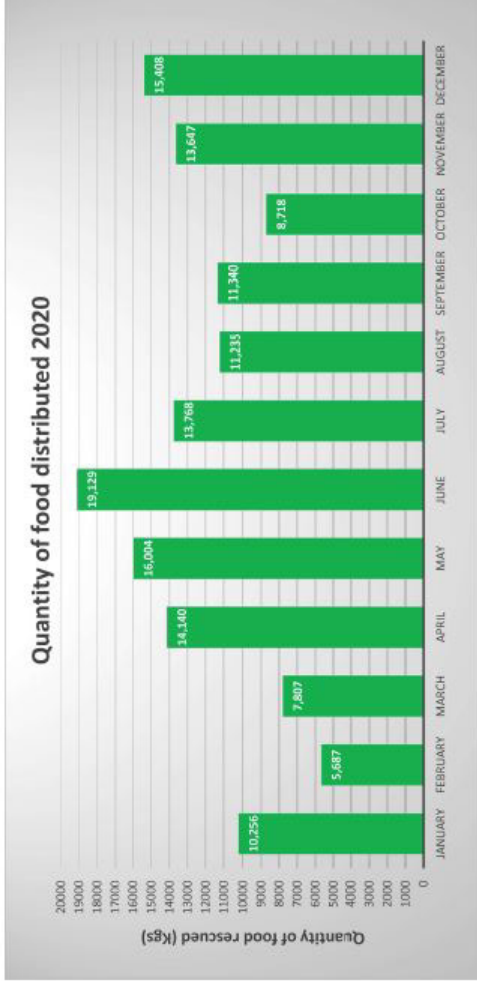
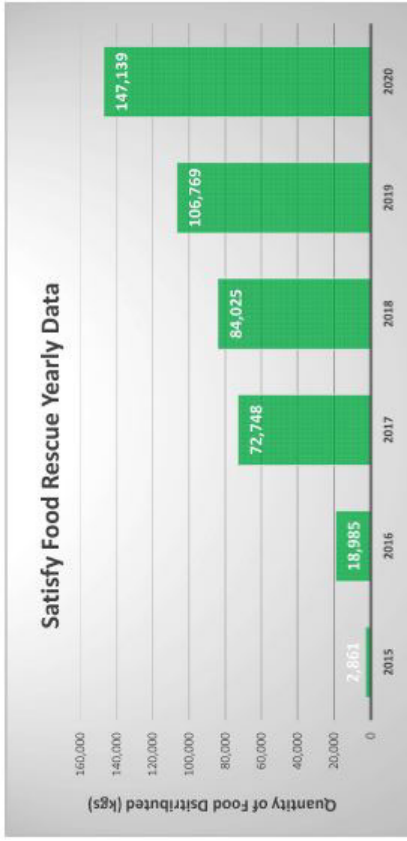
Each member will:

- Participate actively and to the best of their ability in the FSNC
- Support and promote the FSNC goals and projects, positively in the wider community.
- Act honestly and in good faith at all times.
- Being open about uncertainties, whilst building hope
- Inquiring deeply about each other's ideas and organisations
- Notice our own assumptions and being willing to move
- Being brave and speaking our truth – respectful
- Being possibility focussed – daring to dream
- Declare all interest that could result in a conflict between personal, business and FSNC priorities
- Focus on ideas and solutions.
- Listen with respect and curiosity, with only one conversation at the table at any time.
- Behave professionally and respect confidentiality.
- Be kind.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

CEO / Organisational leadership: _____

Satisfy Food Rescue - Data Summary 2020





**FOOD SECURE NORTH
CANTERBURY FORUM
HELP US PLAN A FOOD
SECURE FUTURE**

**12NOON - 3PM
25TH FEBRUARY 2021
WOODEND COMMUNITY CENTRE**

RSVP FACILITATOR@SSWAIMAK.NZ