

Food Insecurity in Nevada County



Presentation to the Board of Supervisors

September 26, 2023

Phil Alonso, Executive Director

Defining Food Insecurity

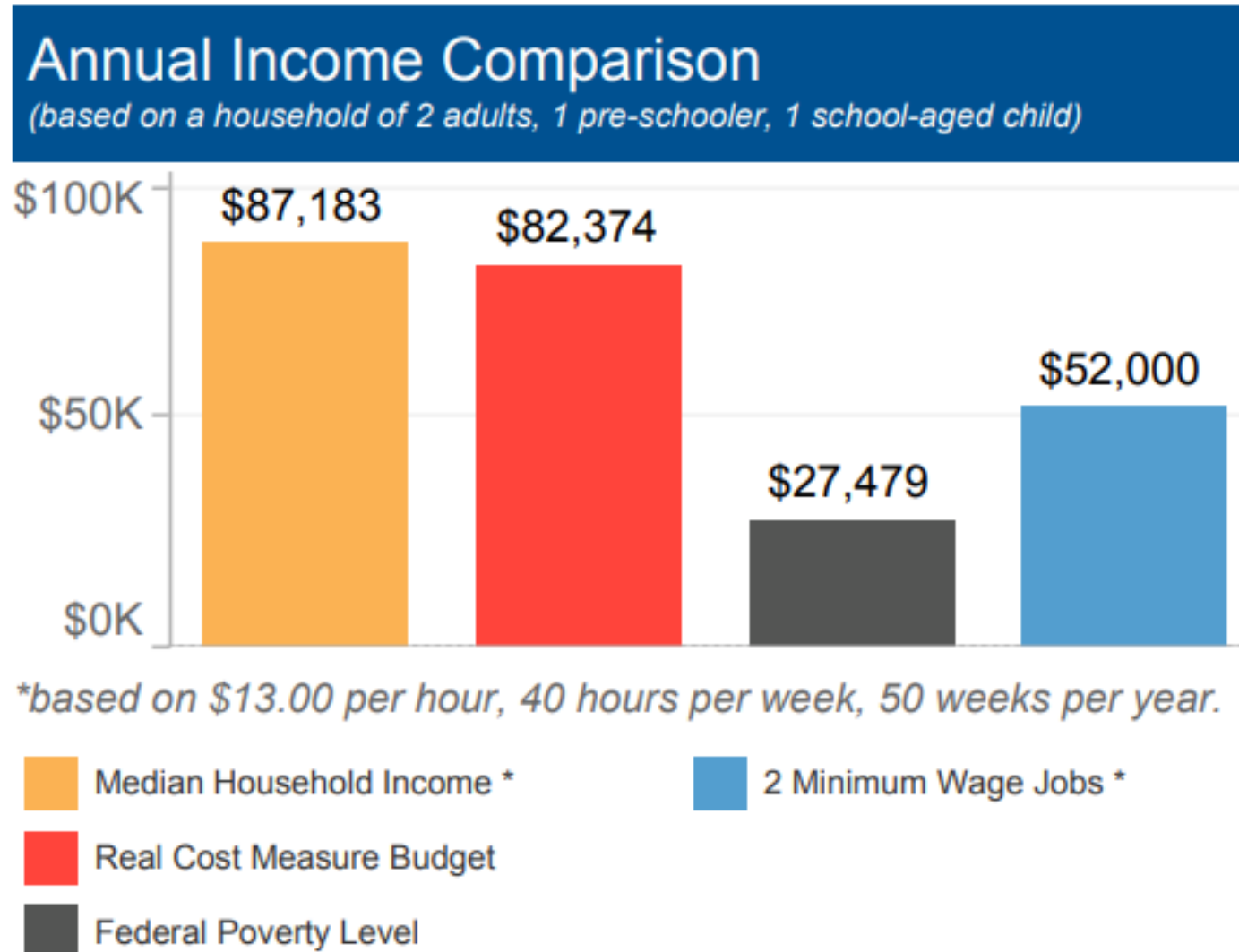
The USDA defines food insecurity as a lack of consistent access to enough food for every person in a household to live an active, healthy life. This can be a temporary situation for a family or can last a long time.



Scope of Food Insecurity

- 100,000 People in Nev Co, USDA and Feeding America report about 10% in 2020 => **10,000 People**
- We know that the scale of Food Insecurity is actually **SIGNIFICANTLY** higher!
- United Way of CA's Real Cost Measure suggests traditional, federal measures of poverty and food insecurity **UNDERESTIMATE** the true scope of the issue!
- Federal poverty level for a family of 4 is \$27K in annual income
- UW's RCM shows a family of 4 needing \$82K in income ... 3 TIMES HIGHER!

United Way CA – Real Cost Measure

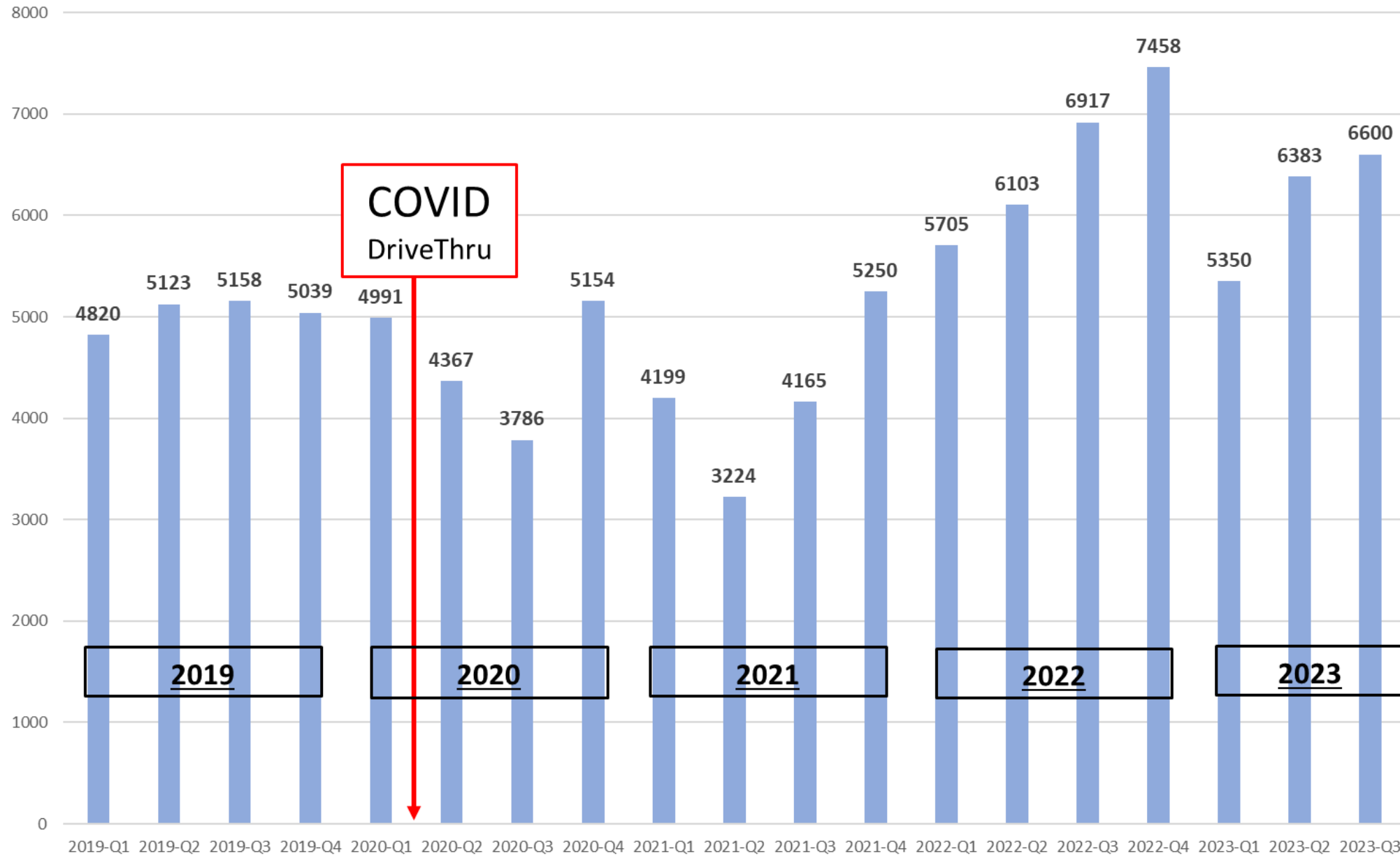


Source: 2021 Data, <https://unitedwaysca.org/realcost/>

Responses by Interfaith Food Ministry

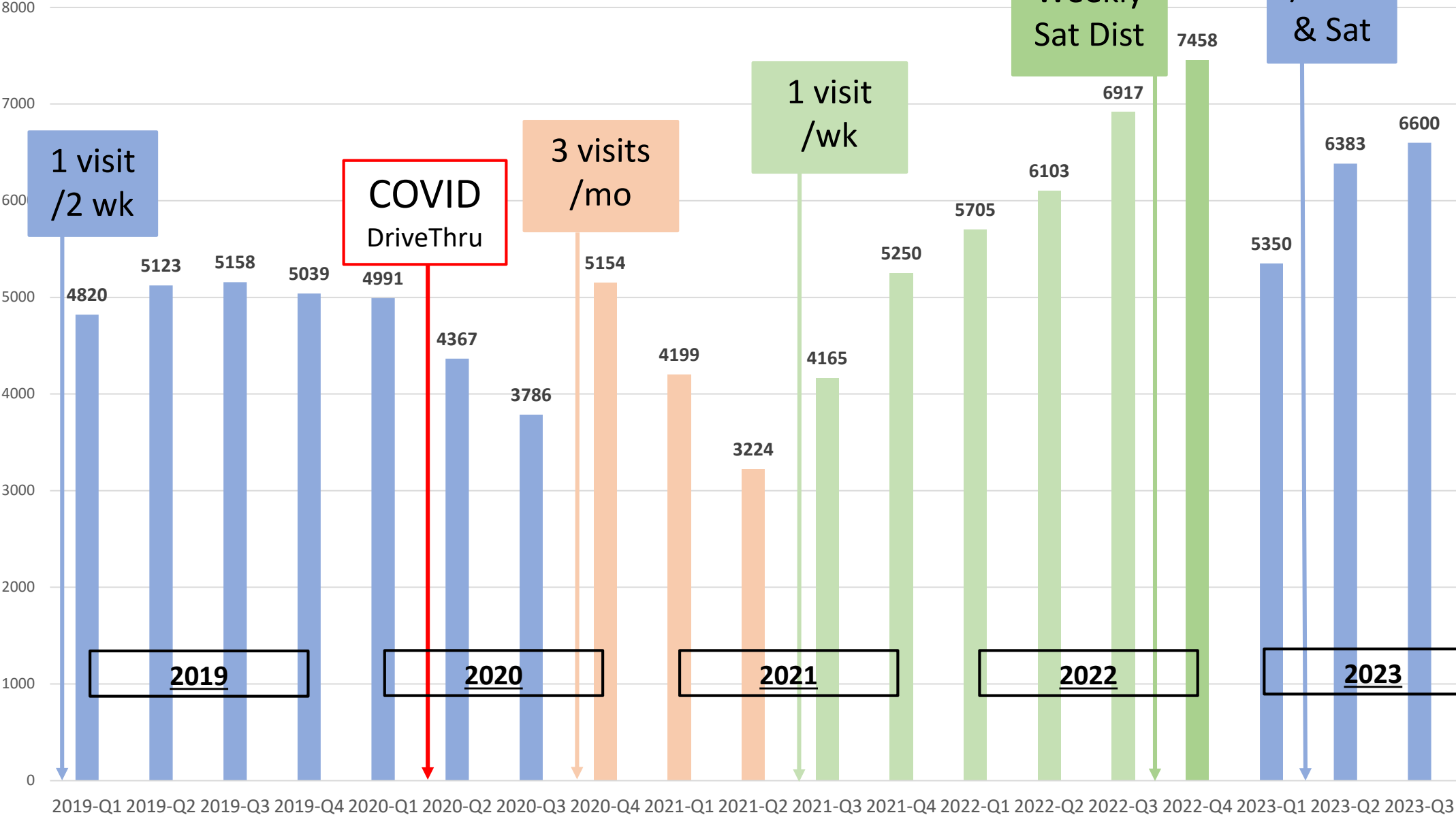
- Services include 4 weekly food distribution events, homebound delivery, food to 20 partner agencies, food to 10 schools, and emergency response services
 - In 2022, IFM had a record numbers for its food distribution programs:
92,000 Visits **210,000 Bags**
10-13,000 Unique People
- Client survey data shows 30% are kids, 45% are adults, and 25% seniors (55+)
- Avg annual income is \$20K, 50% are families w kids, 7% w/o permanent housing
- Data trends show some increases in 2020 and 2021 due to COVID, but inflation and the loss of extra benefits in 2022 and 2023 have caused the largest increases in need that IFM has ever seen!

Total Indv Visits (IFM Clients ONLY) Monthly Average by Quarter

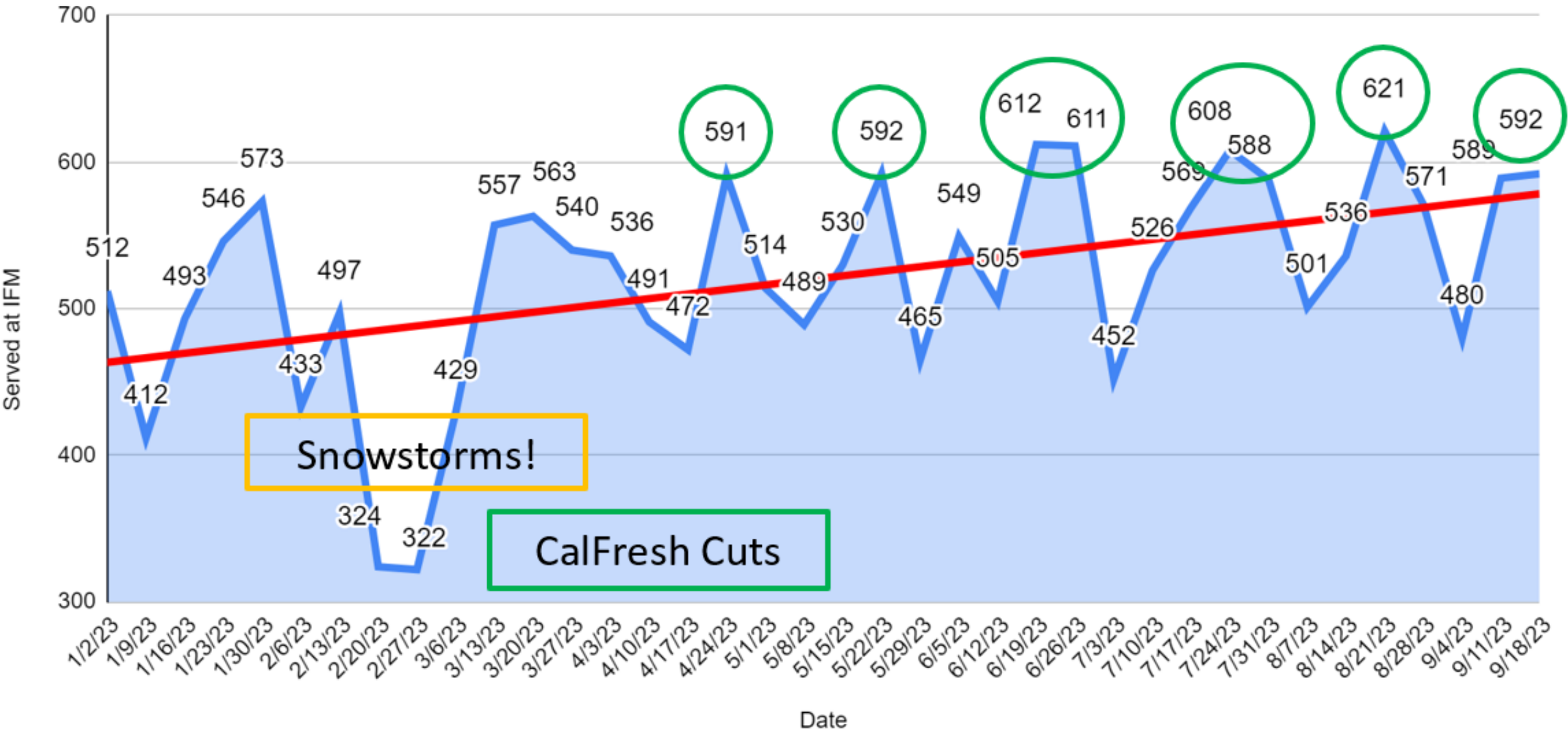




Total Indv Visits - IFM Clients ONLY
Monthly Visits Averaged by Quarter



Served at IFM (delivery clients NOT included) - # Families Served per Week



Food Procurement

- Placer Food Bank, wholesale vendors, and community food drives => 30-40 pallets/week
- Purchasing from local farms and food producers, helping to stimulate our economy
- Garden Sites growing food for IFM and the Sierra Harvest Gleaning Program
- Food Rescue – SB 1383 – An Unfunded Mandate!
- Currently Grocery Stores, but soon small markets and restaurants. Challenging to implement!



Gaps and Challenges



- Fundraising challenges and rising costs of everything
- Relying heavily on volunteers and sometimes challenging to recruit new volunteers
- Logistical challenges of the Drive Thru model and trying to handle longer lines of cars
- Freezer storage space

Impacts if Service Went Away!

- Increase in unhoused population
- Less dollars spent locally for food
- Increase burden on government resources
- Families struggling even more! Kids and seniors going hungry!!



Acknowledge The County

- IFM has a great working relationship with The County
- The County has supported IFM with grant opportunities => CDBG, CSBG, Community Resilience
- IFM, FBNC, and The County have started regular meetings on Emergency Planning and Response

BUT MORE COLLABORATION IS NEEDED!



Contact Info



Phil Alonso, Executive Director

philed.ifm@gmail.com

916-642-3112

Bob Thurman, Board President

bobthurman@comcast.net

408-499-2674

General

info@interfaithfoodministry.org

530-273-8132

We invite you to come down to IFM

Questions?