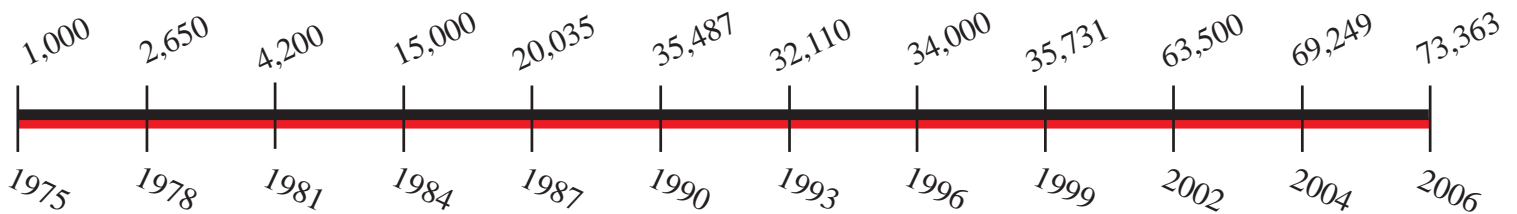




LOAVES & FISHES

Making Ends Meet
Since 1975

Number of People Fed



1975-1983

- A dedicated group of volunteers at Holy Comforter Episcopal Church opens an emergency food pantry to help fight hunger in Charlotte. The pantry is called “Loaves & Fishes”. (1975)
- Virginia Sampson joins the volunteer effort – with Virginia’s organization, dedication and enthusiasm, Loaves & Fishes prospers and she becomes known as “the Mother of Loaves & Fishes”. (1976)
- Loaves & Fishes feeds 1,000 people in its first year.
- Statesville Presbyterian Church opens an L&F pantry (1982), followed by Calvary United Methodist church and St. Giles Presbyterian Church. (1983)
- First central phone center to receive client referrals opens at St. Giles Presbyterian, staffed by volunteers. (1983)



1984-1987

- Loaves & Fishes incorporates, becoming “Loaves & Fishes, Inc.”, hires Marty Furr as director, and establishes its first Board of Directors. (1984)
- Administrative offices set up at Park Road Baptist Church. (1984)
- Loaves & Fishes’ produces its first newsletter, “*The Fishnet*”, and offers the first Holiday Alternative Gift Card as a donor option. (1984-86)
- Loaves & Fishes conducts first “Charlotte Has Heart” Food Drive, yielding 4 tons of food. (1985)
- Charlotte Mayor Harvey Gantt and County Commissioner Carla DuPuy proclaim February 9-16 “Loaves & Fishes Charlotte Has Heart Food Drive Week”. (1986)
- Scottie Lindsay receives first Virginia Sampson Award. (1986)
- First Presbyterian opens pantry (1984), followed by Galilean Baptist. (1985)
- Over 20,000 people are fed through Loaves & Fishes pantries. (1987)



1988-1999

- Loaves & Fishes hires Beverly Howard as its second Executive Director. (1988)
- Loaves & Fishes purchases first delivery truck with help of donations following Hurricane Hugo. (1989)
- Administrative offices move to St. Luke's Lutheran Church on Park Road. (1989)
- Loaves & Fishes becomes computerized! All client files are transferred from card files to a computer database. (1990)
- First professional warehouse space is rented to store food. (1992)
- Loaves & Fishes' current logo, designed by Price McNabb is adopted. (1996)
- The first Cheese Ball is held at Spirit Square. (1998)
- Mini-pantries open at Crisis Assistance Ministry (1988), Department of Social Services (1989), Metrolina Aids Project (1994), Jewish Community Center (1998) and Fire & Police (1998).
- Loaves & Fishes adds the following pantries: Thomasboro Presbyterian (1992-94), St. Andrew's Episcopal (1992), Mt. Carmel Baptist (1994), Huntersville United Methodist (1995), Ada Jenkins Center (1997), Westview Christian (1998-2004), First United Presbyterian (1999-2001).
- Over 35,000 people are fed through Loaves & Fishes. (1999)



2000-2007

- Compass Group receives Loaves & Fishes' first "Hand Up Award" at the Cheese Ball. (2000)
- Loaves & Fishes opens a pantry at Plaza United Methodist Church. (2000)
- With help from the Philip Morris Employee Community Fund, Loaves & Fishes purchases first refrigerated truck, fondly called "Big Loafie" - just in time to preserve perishable food during the unexpected December ice storm. (2002)
- Loaves & Fishes moves into a new, larger warehouse space, outfitted with industrial cooler/freezer space, drive-up ramp, professional shelving and storage equipment. (2003)
- Loaves & Fishes sends 20 tons of food to Cabarrus County to help laid-off employees of textile mills. (2003)
- Loaves & Fishes celebrates its 30th anniversary! (2005)
- Loaves & Fishes opens pantries at New Emmanuel Congregational United Church of Christ and Harvest Church (2006)
- With a donation from an anonymous donor, Loaves & Fishes purchases a panel van nicknamed "Biscuit" – a welcome addition in the face of rising fuel costs. (2006)
- A record setting 73,363 people fed. (2006)