

COMMUNITY PARTNER DESCRIPTION*:

Feed Nova Scotia collects and distributes more than three million kilograms of food annually to 140 member food banks, meal programs, and shelters across the province. This equates to over \$1 million worth of food each month. Feed Nova Scotia also supports member agencies to build capacity to serve their communities. While Feed Nova Scotia helps Nova Scotians meet a very basic need, we are committed to raising awareness and advocating to address the root causes of food insecurity--things like systemic racism, discrimination against 2SLGBTQ+ communities, low wages, inadequate income support, and unaffordable housing. Feed Nova Scotia advocates for sustainable, policy-based solutions that will allow everyone to live a life of dignity and leave no one relying on charitable band-aids to address human rights.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The goal of the proposed project is to find out more about how Feed Nova Scotia can best reach and provide support for the 2SLGBTQ+ communities experiencing food insecurity in the province. By asking participants about the barriers they face that lead to food insecurity, we hope to gain a fuller, richer, and more nuanced understanding of not only what barriers exist for this marginalized community, but also why they exist. The data and accompanying analysis will provide detailed information about what causes food insecurity in 2SLGBTQ+ Nova Scotians, allowing Feed Nova Scotia to initiate effective, appropriate, and culturally competent advocacy efforts for inclusive government policies for these marginalized groups.

PROJECTED BENEFITS:

One of Feed Nova Scotia's aims is to generate its own research and data to serve as evidence to influence policy decisions related to food insecurity in the province. The data that will emerge from the proposed community research project will enable Feed Nova Scotia to more effectively reach and serve 2SLGBTQ+ communities in Nova Scotia facing food insecurity. This data will help Feed Nova Scotia tailor our services to 2SLGBTQ+ clients in ways that are both culturally competent and effective. Detailed information about the lived experiences of 2SLGBTQ+ Nova Scotians experiencing food insecurity will help guide our policy advocacy efforts for this group, as well as help us to better understand the particular ways in which determinants of food security for this community are deeply interrelated with one another.

* [These are excerpts from the Community Partner's original proposal]