



Your Investments in Action

Spring 2019
Impact Report



A LETTER FROM OUR CEO

STEPPING UP WHERE HELP IS MOST NEEDED

It's been a tough few months for many Americans. Our country's longest government shutdown left families unable to make ends meet. Extreme weather made it difficult for struggling households to put food on the table. People across the country needed food assistance for the first time—and your caring support helped them endure.

As spring brings new opportunities for growth, Feeding America continues to make progress against hunger. Food banks work hard to provide meals where they are most needed, and we partner with them to identify challenges, rescue food from going to waste and make strides toward a hunger-free future. Our mutual success is due to dedicated supporters like you, who share your resources to help people facing hunger. Thank you for your commitment to Feeding America.

Kind regards,



Claire Babineaux-Fontenot
Chief Executive Officer
Feeding America

"The healthy food we receive has helped Dacian socially and with his speech," DeAdra said. "I see this kid emerging that I never thought I'd see."



THANKS TO YOU, WE OFFER HOPE TO STRUGGLING FAMILIES

DeAdra Lee would do anything for her 3-year-old son, Dacian. Which is why she moved out of her hometown of Chicago – to get away from a difficult situation and give Dacian a better childhood.

But what was supposed to be a fresh start for the family turned out to be anything but.

Soon after DeAdra moved to Florida, she noticed Dacian wasn't acting like other kids his age. He wasn't engaging with people and wasn't talking much. She took him to the doctor and got a diagnosis she never expected: Dacian had autism.



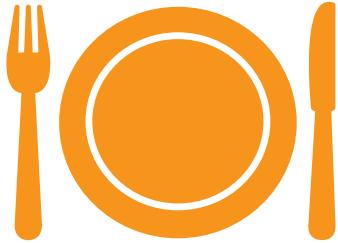
"It's changed my life entirely," she said. "Dacian is my full-time job now."

DeAdra had planned to find work after moving to Florida. But because of Dacian's diagnosis and no budget for specialized daycare, she needed to stay home and take care of him. And with no income, DeAdra turned to a local food pantry to help feed her son and herself.

"I'd spent many days going to sleep with an empty stomach, making sure he had all the food in the house," she recalls. "I don't know what we'd have done without the food from the pantry."

Today, DeAdra has the nutritious food that Dacian needs as he grows. And, it has alleviated some of his autism symptoms.

"The healthy food we receive has helped Dacian socially and with his speech," she said. "I see this kid emerging that I never thought I'd see."



YOU HELPED PROVIDE MORE THAN
ONE BILLION MEALS
FOR PEOPLE FACING HUNGER
FROM OCTOBER THROUGH DECEMBER 2018



Meals by source are compared to the same quarter last year. A meal from Feeding America is 1.2 pounds of product, based on USDA guidelines. Please contact your Feeding America relationship manager or productsourcing@feedingamerica.org with any questions.

FEEDING AMERICA HELPS PROVIDE MEALS TO PEOPLE IN NEED FROM SEVEN SOURCES:

EMERGING RETAIL DONATIONS

Donations from restaurants, hotels and convenience stores.

SNAP MEALS

SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) meals enabled by our SNAP referral and application assistance programs.

FRESH PRODUCE

Donations from farmers and growers.

PURCHASED FOOD

Groceries bought from manufacturers and distributors to fill donation gaps.

MANUFACTURING DONATIONS

Donations provided by manufacturing companies.

FEDERAL COMMODITIES

Food provided by government programs.

RETAIL DONATIONS

Donations provided by grocery and retail companies.

DID YOU KNOW?



\$200 BILLION OF FOOD WAS THROWN AWAY IN OUR COUNTRY LAST YEAR, BUT FEEDING AMERICA IS DEVELOPING SOLUTIONS TO PREVENT FOOD WASTE. WITH YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT, WE RESCUE OVER 3.5 BILLION POUNDS OF FOOD ANNUALLY.

THE IMPACT OF YOUR GENEROSITY

When the unexpected happens, people turn to Feeding America to get the meals they need. Your support makes it possible for us to identify what works best to provide nourishment today, while also charting a path to long-term food security tomorrow.



REMOVING BARRIERS TO HEALTHY FOOD

Feeding America is convening a select group of member food banks in an Innovation

Cohort to test creative solutions for eliminating the barriers that prevent people from accessing the nutritious food they need. These tests will be carefully planned, conducted, studied and refined using a quality improvement tool. To promote action and learning, we will share the Innovation Cohort's test results with the Equitable Access Community of Practice, a larger group of food banks committed to increasing access to nutritious food in their communities.

Special thanks to Walmart Foundation for generously supporting this initiative.



RESCUING FOOD, REDUCING WASTE

Feeding America is expanding MealConnect, our food-rescue tech platform that has been

used by over 100 food banks to rescue more than 1 billion pounds of food. Seven food banks are using MealConnect to engage local volunteers to pick up food donations from local businesses and drop them off at nearby food pantries. We have already rescued 265,000 pounds of food through this pilot program, which will be expanded to additional food banks later this year. As food businesses offer more fresh items, MealConnect will help us rescue more meals and feed more people in need.

We are grateful to General Mills for helping us prevent food waste and nourish struggling families.

Because of you, nearly 70% of food distributed by member food banks is classified by Feeding America as *Foods to Encourage*—foods that promote good health, including fruits, vegetables, dairy, whole grains and protein.





COMING TOGETHER TO END HUNGER

Feeding America is establishing testing cohorts of food banks to work together to enhance and expand programs that support long-term food security. We started a cohort last year focused on job training programs, and this year, we established three additional cohorts. They are testing the impact of bundling food assistance, public benefits access and financial security tools; assessing existing food bank programs designed to increase financial security; and evaluating the impact programs from outside the anti-hunger community have on our goals. We will share insights from the testing cohorts with food banks through our Ending Hunger Community of Practice and determine which programs to replicate.

Feeding America is grateful to the Bank of America Charitable Foundation and the PwC Charitable Foundation for supporting our efforts to build long-term pathways out of hunger.



ENHANCING OUR WORK WITH DATA

Data can make all the difference in recognizing and meeting a community's unique needs. Feeding America is helping food banks use technology to responsibly collect data from the people they serve. Our objective is to help member food banks develop deeper local insights that enable them to improve outreach to families facing hunger. Generous supporters have made it possible for us to provide grant funding to food banks so they can adopt new data collection technologies. We are also offering technical guidance and data analytics support to help network members implement the solutions and use data to make evidence-based decisions. Additionally, we have formed peer learning groups where food banks can share solutions to common challenges as they engage in this important work to better understand the households they serve.

We would like to thank Link2Feed for generously supporting this initiative.

WHY THE MARGARET A. CARGILL PHILANTHROPIES SUPPORTS FEEDING AMERICA

When disasters strike, Feeding America quickly deploys food and groceries to people in need. Feeding America has partnered closely with food banks across the Midwest to improve their disaster preparedness, and to coordinate the response to natural disasters across their communities. Through this program, we have developed a vital roadmap for how food banks can successfully collaborate with local, state and national partners to provide meals in their communities during times of distress. We are grateful for the support and partnership of the Margaret A. Cargill Philanthropies as our network continues to build our expertise and improve our resiliency to disasters.

The Margaret A. Cargill Philanthropies is committed to relief of immediate suffering related to natural disasters, including meeting recovery needs and advancing disaster preparedness.



THANKS TO OUR SUPPORTERS, WE ARE GROWING THE HUNGER-RELIEF MOVEMENT

Hunger in America is often hidden or misunderstood. By lending their voices to the fight against hunger, Feeding America's partners shed light on the issue. They raise awareness of hunger and generate vital support that helps us feed people in need across the country.



Families nationwide teamed up with Michael B. Jordan for the Honey Nut Cheerios Good Rewards campaign. They collected "Buzzcoin" from boxes of Honey Nut Cheerios to unlock the winning prize of \$100,000 for Feeding America.



With support from Leighton Meester, Subway and Shamrock Farms helped raise 500,000 meals for Feeding America by donating \$1 for every Shamrock Farms milk purchased with a kid's meal at Subway restaurants on National Milk Day, January 11.

Through donating to Feeding America for every bag of "Food Lion Feeds" branded oranges purchased in stores, Food Lion Feeds helped provide over 1 million meals to our neighbors in need.

Since our partnership began, BoxLunch has helped raise more than 30 million meals for people facing hunger. BoxLunch donates meals to Feeding America for every \$10 spent in-store or online and through special promotions.

Tyson Foods helped Spread the Love by raising 600,000 meals for Feeding America, donating a meal for every qualifying purchase of select Tyson Foods items at the Kroger Family of Stores.

Thanks to the generosity of T.J. Maxx, Marshalls, HomeGoods, Sierra and Homesense customers across America, The TJX Companies helped provide more than 27 million meals for families in need in 2018.

YOU ARE HELPING US MEET THE NEED AND END HUNGER

YOU MADE A DIFFERENCE DURING THE SHUTDOWN

Your support helped Feeding America rapidly respond to the partial government shutdown. Food banks extended their hours and hosted special food distributions to help impacted federal workers, contractors and Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) participants. To help food banks deliver more meals, Feeding America established a Shutdown Response Fund that has awarded more than \$4.5 million to over 120 network members to date. Additionally, we raised awareness of the shutdown's devastating impact on families among lawmakers and in the media, garnering coverage on [CNN](#) and in [The Chicago Tribune](#), [USA Today](#), [The New York Times](#), and more. In the coming weeks, we will provide an additional \$1.4 million to food banks as they help communities overcome the shutdown's lingering effects.

Feeding America is grateful to our generous government shutdown partners.



Your gifts enabled families like Zakkeas' to get the emergency groceries they needed to keep food on the table while they waited for the shutdown to end.

VOLUNTEERS LIKE YOU FUEL OUR MISSION

Volunteers are the fuel that powers Feeding America, enabling member food banks to serve more than 4 billion meals to struggling families every year. In fact, over half of all soup kitchens, food pantries and other meal programs in the Feeding America network rely entirely on volunteers. When people like you donate time to a local food bank, you make it possible for people facing hunger to fill their empty kitchens with nourishing food.

April is National Volunteer Month. Feeding America is grateful to our many partners and their employees who have donated time and energy to help feed their neighbors in need, including ALDI Inc., Ameriprise Financial, Bank of America, Cargill, Conagra Brands, The Walt Disney Company, Joy in Childhood Foundation, Morgan Stanley, Nestlé, PepsiCo, Walmart and many others.



This spring, Tracy Morgan of TBS's *The Last O.G.* joined Feeding America and City Harvest, a Feeding America network member, to celebrate the renovation of a community garden in Brooklyn and raise awareness of our collective efforts to fight hunger.

CONCLUSION

Because of you, Feeding America helps families go from hungry to hopeful. People reach out to food banks when they face difficult circumstances—such as a missed paycheck or a devastating storm—and they receive the nourishing meals they need to move forward. Between the government shutdown, a bone-chilling winter and historic flooding in the Midwest, many households turned to the Feeding America network in recent months. And compassionate supporters like you have enabled us to meet their needs.

WAYS TO ENGAGE

1 Look out for new Feeding America research in May. *Map the Meal Gap* will provide updated local estimates of food insecurity and food cost across America, and *The State of Senior Hunger in America* will provide senior food insecurity rates for states and metro areas.



2 Help fight hunger in America by joining best-selling author, entrepreneur and philanthropist Tony Robbins in the [*1 Billion Meals Challenge*](#), which aims to provide an incredible 1 billion meals to struggling families by 2025.



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Feeding America is a nationwide network of food banks that feeds more than 46 million people through food pantries and meal programs in communities across America and leads the nation in the fight against hunger.

**Support Feeding America and help solve hunger.
Donate. Volunteer. Advocate. Educate.**