The 2023 Elevating Voices: Insights Report explores the experiences of neighbors facing hunger. A theme emerged that inflation and food prices have exacerbated hunger in America, a reality echoed by on-the-ground reports from food banks across the country and confirmed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s (USDA) latest data on food security in the United States. Our mission to provide hunger relief today and to end hunger—for good—tomorrow is both imperative and possible.

This year, we continue to focus on community-led solutions and national advocacy, recognizing that achieving food security should be a nationwide priority—and one of the best ways to end hunger is by co-creating solutions with people in communities that are disparately impacted, especially people with lived experience. Their shared knowledge has helped shape our strategy, spurring innovation and collaboration, and we are seeing evidence that the things we are doing are working.

We are deeply grateful for the partners, advocates and volunteers who are part of this diverse and growing movement. Together, we can end hunger.

Claire Babineaux-Fontenot
Chief Executive Officer
Feeding America

Kelvin H. Taketa
Former President and CEO, Hawaii Community Foundation
Chair, Feeding America Board of Directors

When you support Feeding America, you’re joining a nationwide movement to help hardworking people gain access to the food they need to thrive. In fiscal year 2023 (July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023):

- **3.96 billion** pounds of food rescued by working with retailers, manufacturers and growers
- **3.2 billion** pounds of agricultural products procured through our produce, protein and dairy channels
- **8.6 million** pounds of food and supplies to supplement local disaster-relief efforts
- **825,803** actions including signing petitions and writing letters to members of Congress, taken by digital advocates and neighbors—58% more than prior fiscal year
- **1 billion** meals rescued through MealConnect®, the only food-rescue and sourcing technology available nationwide

Neighbors facing hunger gained access to **5.3 billion meals** supported by the Feeding America network.
Jeff teaches a skills class at the county jail near his home in Sarasota, Florida—skills he perfected as a successful electrician before a near-fatal electrical shock in 2007 left him with a traumatic brain injury. “From the time I felt I was sent back from death, I had something else to do here on this earth … My life continues,” he says. Jeff joined classes to relearn how to cook, balance a checkbook and more at Suncoast Center for Independent Living, where participants have access to food through its partnership with network member All Faiths Food Bank. “The food I get helps me keep my other food costs affordable, so my fixed income can actually ‘fix’ me that month,” he says.

Partner food banks across the country work to ensure neighbors facing hunger have access to healthy food needed to thrive.

Our mission is to advance change in America by ensuring equitable access to nutritious food for all in partnership with food banks, policymakers, supporters and the communities we serve.

A Bold Aspiration for Our Nation

We have a vision for an America where no one is hungry—and a bold aspiration for our nation to achieve that.

2030 Bold Aspiration: Every community and each person within it has access to the food and resources that they say they desire and need to thrive. The food insecurity rate is 5% by 2030 and disparities by race and place are cut in half.
Ensuring equitable access to food so all people have the chance to thrive is at the core of our work—but our vision for America spans far beyond.

In addition to food, we can apply pressure and influence on existing systems that withhold resources from people in underserved and marginalized communities.

Grounded in equity and social justice, the Food Security Equity Impact Fund (FSEIF) awarded over $4 million in the second round of grants in June 2023. Since its inception in 2021, the FSEIF has awarded more than $20 million in grants to support 35 food banks and more than 75 community partners to address the root causes of hunger in their communities.

To drive systemic change and increase equitable food access for families, partners and fund supporters like Shipt recognize that when we listen to communities and support the hunger-relief solutions they deem best, long-term impact can be achieved. “Our spirit in trust-based philanthropy is that we trust the folks most proximate to the work to tell us what they believe is important,” said Khadijah Abdullah, the company’s Vice President of Economic Development and Social Impact, during a LinkedIn Live fireside chat moderated by our CEO Claire Babineaux-Fontenot. The discussion was part of the fund’s first summit, held in July in Houston, uniting over 150 attendees, including inaugural grantees and thought leaders, who celebrated impacts and shared lessons learned.

Addressing systemic inequities with community-led solutions

During a time of increased need in fiscal year 2023, when demand was returning to peak-pandemic levels, Feeding America was able to move vital food supplies where they were most needed by families with the support of unrestricted gifts from trusted partners like The New York Times Communities Fund (NYT; formerly The New York Times Neediest Cases Fund). The flexibility of NYT’s gift made it possible for us to meet that critical moment and improve food access for people experiencing food insecurity.

Supporting our mission since 2017, NYT trusts that Feeding America has the infrastructure and scope to direct funds effectively, achieving the greatest impact for neighbors facing hunger.

Feeding America is committed to reimagining relationships with hunger-relief supporters and the communities we serve in a more equitable way.

To drive passion for the movement to end hunger, the voices of people with lived experience of food insecurity must be prioritized.

Nearly 100 neighbors met with federal decision-makers to discuss what people facing hunger in the U.S. need to thrive, including the passage of a strong, bipartisan 2023 Farm Bill. The summit and the 2023 Elevating Voices: Insights Report are key to our initiative to engage with and amplify neighbors’ voices, and turn listening into action. In “The Full Effect” PSA, Feeding America celebrated what’s possible when people are nourished.

A champion in the movement is entrepreneur and bestselling author Tony Robbins, who holds the childhood memory of a holiday meal gifted to his family years ago by a stranger as a pivotal moment in his life. In 2023, Robbins achieved his 1 Billion Meals Challenge—the first of its kind—in two years ahead of the 2025 target date. “Being able to assemble the resources and support to provide 1 billion nutritious meals in eight years is proof that if we all band together as a society, we truly can solve food insecurity for all through building transformative philanthropic efforts at scale,” Robbins said.

Amplifying diverse voices

Developed for and by neighbors with lived experience of food insecurity, the inaugural Elevating Voices: Power Summit was a two-day event in Washington, D.C.

Strengthening connections

Through unrestricted funding, we foster diverse collaborations and projects, promoting agility and efficiency in our mission to effectively support people facing hunger.

Learn more about the impact hunger-relief partners are making in support of Feeding America’s mission in communities across the country by visiting FeedingAmerica.org/partners.

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In fiscal year 2023, Feeding America had total public support and revenue of $5.15 billion and operating expenses of $5.18 billion.
With supporters like you engaged in the movement to end hunger, Feeding America awarded partner food banks $244.8 million* in grants, of which, more than 50% supported rural areas and/or communities of color. Grant funding also included $58.3 million from consumer campaigns that provided highly desired flexible funding.

**Community Programs**
Investments in strategic network capabilities, research and nutrition initiatives, and capacity building for food banks and food pantries

**Disaster Relief**
Support for network members to deliver meals in the wake of disasters and during the long recovery that follows

**Flexible Funding**
Funds that enable food banks to invest in areas of high need and high potential

**Food Sourcing**
Food-rescue initiatives, including regional AgriHubs (fresh produce, protein and dairy) and programs that prevent food waste at retail, grocery and manufacturing locations

*Feeding America distributes funds to network members year-round. Totals reflect grants awarded to food banks July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023.

Arlene never takes for granted having enough to eat. That’s because, years ago, she needed a little extra help, just like the tens of millions of people served each year by the Feeding America network. Now comfortably retired from the medical field and living in Ocean Shores, Washington, Arlene, and her wife, Judy—together for 25 years—enjoy spending time on their pontoon boat and playing poker and bingo. Another beloved activity? Volunteering. “It’s something worthwhile to do and to help our community,” Arlene says. The couple volunteers weekly at a local senior center, an agency partner of partner food bank Food Lifeline, sorting and packing food for distribution. They also prepare summer meal boxes for kids, delivering them across the county. “We just chip in and do whatever needs to be done,” Judy says.

51% of all food programs rely entirely on volunteers.
Feeding America is committed to an America where no one is hungry. We support tens of millions of people who experience food insecurity to get the food and resources they say they need to thrive as part of a nationwide network of food banks, statewide food bank associations, food pantries and meal programs. We also invest in innovative solutions to increase equitable access to nutritious food, advocate for legislation that improves food security and work to address factors that impact food security, such as health, cost of living and employment.

We partner with people experiencing food insecurity, policymakers, organizations, and supporters, united with them in a movement to end hunger.

Join the movement to end hunger today.