

# Impact Report

## Your Investments in Action



Above: Adriana visits Feeding San Diego's Marketplace, an on-site pantry where community members can shop for groceries once a month.

## USDA CUTS IMPACT FOOD BANKS

Rising costs, supply chain disruptions and policy changes are placing immense pressure on hunger-relief efforts. As hunger continues to grow and evolve across our country, the halting of government funding is directly impacting food banks and their ability to provide nourishing food that people need to thrive.

Through all this, we continue to hear from caring donors and partners like you who want to offer support. This spurred the establishment of the [Community Response Fund](#)—announced during the What's

Cooking? webinar on March 25 (see page 8)—designed for supporters who want to take immediate action.

Every community is unique, and their needs continue to change. The current impact is profound and the potential for surging demand is real. Feeding America works closely with the food bank network to ensure resources go where they are needed most—whether through advocacy, education, awareness, capacity building, sourcing more food, or direct support to get meals to neighbors in need.



Above: The Feeding America network rescues fresh, nutritious food from farms, grocery stores and manufacturers to help communities in need.



Above: Volunteers and staff at Feeding Tampa Bay prepare food for neighbors facing hunger.



## NEIGHBOR SPOTLIGHT: POSITIVITY ABOUNDS FOR HERMIE

For Hermie, thriving means staying positive. The single grandmother of four, who lives in a suburb of Phoenix, is committed to doing all she can to provide for her family. In 2007, she adopted her four grandchildren. In 2014, her husband passed away, and not long after, her home burned down. Five years ago, she was diagnosed with breast cancer.

"We did a lot of praying," said Hermie, now in remission. "The struggle has been really hard for all of us, but we stuck together like glue and made it through."

Through her journey, Hermie sought support from [The Singletons](#), which partners with [St. Mary's Food Bank](#) to rescue food from a nearby grocery store.

"They're actually a lifeline," said Hermie, who receives fruit, vegetables, bread and canned food.

Food rescue programs like the one accessed by Hermie are critical avenues to safe, healthy food for neighbors facing hunger.



Above: Babineaux-Fontenot spoke about local food insecurity at the NFL's Inspire Change event Feb. 5, days before the Super Bowl in New Orleans. The event also featured leaders from Second Harvest of New Orleans and Greater Acadiana, the New Orleans Recreation Development Commission and Dr. King Charter School.

## A LETTER FROM OUR CEO

Our country is facing rapid change—change that brings challenges we must meet, as well as many new opportunities to improve food security for everyone. Nearly 50 million people—the same people you meet at the grocery store, in the park, waiting to see the doctor—are experiencing food insecurity at stubbornly high rates. We have the privilege to stand alongside them, with hearts full of hope, taking important actions to end hunger together.

One key area of action is food rescue. The U.S. produces over 90 billion pounds of surplus food each year, so as the nation's largest food rescue organization, we know we can rescue more food! [The Food Rescue Challenge](#) focuses on rescuing more fresh produce and protein to support neighbors who have told us that [health is among their top priorities](#). By connecting farmers, producers and retailers to community members on a national scale, we are helping to ensure all people have the food they need to thrive through the nationwide Feeding America network.

The network is fueled by crucial support at all levels from funding, partnerships and volunteers. Each year, more than two million volunteers share their time to help their beloved communities. April is National Volunteer Month, and there is a special place in my heart for each volunteer who chooses to use their time and energy to stand alongside people facing hunger and help build a more food secure future. *Thank you!*

Your partner in a food secure future,

**Claire Babineaux-Fontenot**  
CEO, Feeding America

# DISASTER RESPONSE BY THE NUMBERS

Taking action to help people is something the Feeding America network of partner food banks and agency partners does every day, including before, during and after times of a disaster. The expanse of the network means we are deeply rooted in, and able to serve, every community across the country—drawing upon resources and past experience to swiftly respond and provide food, water and supplies to local communities as they work to recover. Here's a snapshot of the collective impact you helped the food bank network achieve as we worked together to respond to disasters, including Hurricanes Helene (September 2024) and Milton (October 2024), the California wildfires (January 2025) and the Kentucky and West Virginia flooding (February 2025):



### 287 trailer loads of supplies,

including disaster boxes, food and water deployed to 28 members.



### >40 product donors

contributed items such as water, electrolyte beverages, shelf-stable milk, disaster boxes, protein, shelf-stable meals, fruit, cereal, hand-held snacks, breakfast bars, laundry detergent, cleaning supplies, paper products, pet food, baby care items and more.



### 2 mutual-aid agreements

with partner food banks and local and national donations to support relief efforts.

We are grateful to our [disaster-relief partners](#) and supporters who step up when a crisis occurs, providing food, funds and disaster supplies to help neighbors in impacted communities.



# TURN EXCESS INTO ACCESS

The Feeding America network is resilient in countless ways, notably our collective efforts to rescue safe, nutritious, surplus food to help nourish neighbors experiencing food insecurity. Through the [Food Rescue Challenge](#), we can transform 1 billion more pounds of food into meals for millions of people facing hunger annually.

## FISCAL YEAR 2025 IMPACT

To help catalyze the Food Rescue Challenge, Feeding America established the Food Rescue Fund, with a goal to raise \$50 million annually to scale and establish new and deeper partnerships between food manufacturers, retailers, farmers, other strategic partners and network members. We've raised \$18.1 million, to date, through the Food Rescue Fund, and network members have already rescued 2.13 billion pounds of food this fiscal year.

## “BIG GAME” DIGITAL CAMPAIGN RESULTS

Feeding America launched a Big Game digital campaign from Jan. 27 to Feb. 11, integrating a fundraising drive with a social media campaign to leverage the cultural momentum of the Super Bowl and drive engagement, awareness and donations for the Food Rescue Challenge, while amplifying local food rescue efforts led by [Second Harvest Food Bank of Greater New Orleans and Acadiana](#). Supported by a generous challenge match from Sheryl Sandberg and Tom Bernthal, every \$1 donated provided 20 meals. The campaign raised \$260,000, reached 21 million people, and generated 98% positive sentiment across Feeding America's social platforms. Celebrity hunger-relief advocates, including Andy Cohen, Julie Bowen, Bridget Moynahan and more, helped maximize engagement, reinforcing Feeding America's commitment to food rescue and hunger relief at both the local and national levels.

## COMING MAY 13

We look forward to hosting the second Food Rescue Partner Convening on May 13. The inaugural partner convening was held Dec. 1, 2023, and was attended by executives representing nearly 40 major retailers, food manufacturers, foodservice and agriculture companies. The first convening gave thought leaders the opportunity to exchange ideas and insights. A key outcome was the establishment of the Food Rescue Challenge goal: [Rescue 1 billion more pounds](#) of donated food.

# ANTI-HUNGER EFFORTS RECEIVE HIGH HONORS

Powerful partnerships. Innovative technology. Visionary leadership. In recent weeks, Feeding America was honored to receive the following prestigious awards and recognition:

## SXSW INNOVATION AWARDS

[Share@MealConnect](#), Feeding America's AI-driven tool designed to transform food donation, won a [SXSW Innovation Award](#), taking home the top honor in the Community Empowerment category at the 26th annual SXSW Innovation Awards



Ceremony. Each year through the Innovation Awards, SXSW recognizes individuals and organizations from around the globe who are leading innovative, creative and inspirational work in their fields.

Launched in October 2024, Share@MealConnect makes donating food as simple as sending a text to a friend, reducing barriers to charitable food donations and helping neighbors facing hunger access food with dignity and ease.



This Big Game social graphic resulted in 16,000 engagements on Facebook and LinkedIn combined, outperforming our other monthly content.



Photo Credit Getty Images. Babineaux-Fontenot accepted her honor at the annual TIME Women of the Year Gala on Feb. 25 in Los Angeles.

## TIME WOMEN OF THE YEAR

Claire Babineaux-Fontenot, CEO of Feeding America, was named to [TIME's annual Women of the Year list](#), recognizing extraordinary leaders fighting for a more equal world. Claire is among 13 honorees, including Nicole Kidman, A'ja Wilson, Jordan Chiles, Anna Sawai and Olivia Munn.

Claire shared with TIME: “There will be nothing I’m asked to do in this work that will ever be anywhere near as difficult as what tens of millions of people in this country are asked to do every day. And I’m privileged that I get the chance to be their partner in this.”

# PARTNERING IN THE MOVEMENT TO END HUNGER



When disaster strikes, people who have never experienced hunger can find themselves in need. Responding to the Los Angeles-area wildfires in January 2025, **Fast Retailing**, the parent company of UNIQLO and Theory, provided over 600,000 meals through an in-store register and online campaign to support the [Los Angeles Regional Food Bank](#) through Feeding America.

During its latest holiday campaign, and with the support of its generous customers, TJX's stores helped provide 15 million meals to communities through the Feeding America network. Since 2018, the **TJX Foundation and TJX's stores** have helped provide 238 million meals to people facing hunger nationwide across all network members.



National partners, like **Crate & Barrel Holdings**, support neighbors facing hunger throughout the year, including during the holidays. The retailer helped provide over 13 million meals through customer and associate engagement, holiday product sales across all brands, and a company match.



Partners like **Cox Farms**, a Cox Enterprises company, help provide fresh produce for families facing hunger. Cox Farms will donate 3 million pounds of produce annually from BrightFarms and Mucci Farms greenhouses, helping to advance its enterprise goal to empower 34 million people by 2034.

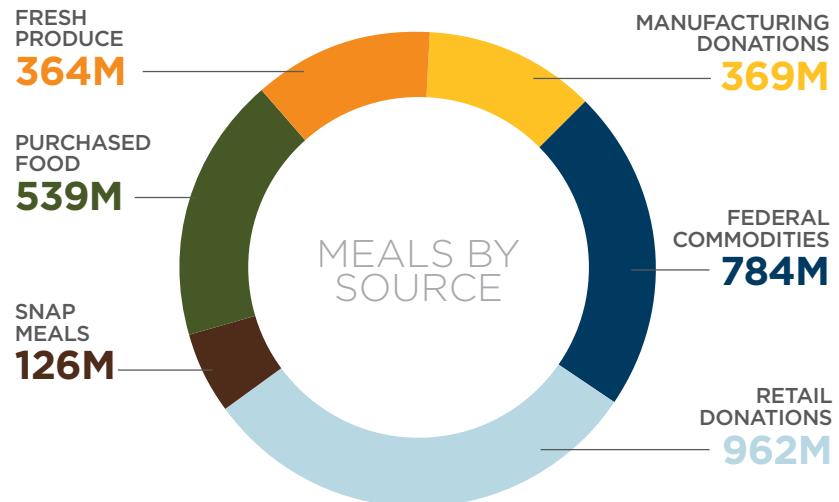
Nationwide, Feeding America works with farmers, as well as retailers and food manufacturers, to rescue food. Partners like **Corteva Agriscience**, a Supporting Partner of the Food Rescue Fund, help ensure the rescue of, and access to, safe, wholesome food for neighbors.

Visit the [Why I Partner](#) page to learn how our national partners are taking action in the movement to end hunger.

# NEIGHBORS FACING HUNGER GAINED ACCESS TO 3 BILLION MEALS,\* SUPPORTED BY THE FEEDING AMERICA NETWORK JULY THROUGH DECEMBER 2024

The chart conveys the meals received by the network.

\*A meal from Feeding America is 1.2 pounds of product, based on USDA guidelines. The quarterly estimate includes SNAP meals Feeding America enabled through our SNAP application assistance programs. If you have any questions, please contact your Feeding America relationship manager or [productsourcing@feedingamerica.org](mailto:productsourcing@feedingamerica.org).



Feeding America—the nation's largest food rescue organization—rescues **more than 4 billion pounds of food annually** to distribute to neighbors so they have the food needed to thrive.

## PARTNER SPOTLIGHT

### HY-VEE ACHIEVES 100 MILLION MEALS MILESTONE

Hunger-relief champions like Hy-Vee, a Feeding America Visionary Partner, are vital to the movement to end hunger, and we celebrate Hy-Vee's tremendous milestone: surpassing the ambitious goal of providing 100 million meals to people facing hunger in local communities.

Throughout the 20-month campaign, Hy-Vee customers played a crucial role by rounding up their purchases during checkout—all funds supported 19 partner food banks in Hy-Vee's nine-state Midwest region. Additionally, generous corporate donations from Hy-Vee and its suppliers, including General Mills, Hormel Foods and Smithfield Foods, Inc., significantly contributed to this success. Hy-Vee locations also donated nearly 17 million pounds of food through their food rescue program.

National partners like Hy-Vee demonstrate the extraordinary impact that comes when we work together to ensure every person has the food they need to thrive.



Shifting its focus to child hunger, Hy-Vee partnered in March with the Caitlin Clark Foundation to support childhood nutrition by raising funds for local food banks across the Midwest.

# ADVOCATING FOR A HUNGER-FREE AMERICA

Cuts to federal programs would make it even more challenging for food banks to meet the rising demand for assistance. The rate of food insecurity is higher than it's been in a decade, and reduced funding would harm our neighbors facing hunger in every county across the country.

## 2 FAST WAYS TO ACT NOW

Send a prepared message by clicking the links below. Simply fill out the short form with your contact information and your letter will be automatically delivered to your lawmakers in the U.S. Congress.

**1. [Tell Congress: Strengthen SNAP in the next farm bill so kids can focus on learning, not hunger.](#)**

**2. [Tell Congress: Strengthen TEFAP to help food banks be ready to serve in times of crisis.](#)**

## 2025 D.C. FLY-IN RECAP

In March, Feeding America hosted its largest fly-in event ever in Washington, D.C., uniting more than 200 anti-hunger advocates to meet with lawmakers. It's notable that this year marked the first time that we brought neighbors and community partners to the event to help us champion a strong farm bill that strengthens TEFAP, protects SNAP and prioritizes the needs of the communities we serve. These programs are a lifeline, helping millions of people facing hard times access the nutritious food we all need to thrive.

### FLY-IN BY THE NUMBERS

**229**

confirmed participants (food bank staff, neighbors, and community partners)

About 30 people represented neighbors with lived or living experience of food insecurity, including at least a dozen alumni from our Elevating Voices: Power Summit.

**110**

food banks and partner state associations represented

**Nearly 300**

meetings with Congressional members

**>41,000**

letters sent to Congress by Feeding America supporters as part of our digital advocacy efforts

**62**

scheduled meetings pre-fly in



Above: Staff leaders from the Community Food Bank of Arizona met with U.S. Sen. Mark Kelly (AZ).



Above: Food Bank Council of Michigan staff members prepare to advocate on Capitol Hill.

## ELEVATING NEIGHBOR VOICES TO INFORM CHANGE

In October 2024, USDA's Food and Nutrition Service announced rule changes to increase access to and parity within multiple food distribution programs, including The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP), the Commodity Supplemental Food Program and the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations. The final rule, "[Food Distribution Programs: Improving Access and Parity](#)," incorporates feedback submitted by Feeding America; informed by network members and neighbors facing hunger. Our [comment](#) supported many of the proposed changes and encouraged USDA to continue to strengthen programs like TEFAP to more efficiently, effectively and fairly serve people experiencing food insecurity.

To help advocates enhance program access and eligibility for neighbors as the rule's changes take effect, our Government Relations team released a new guide for state advocates on the implementation of USDA's final rule. In addition, to explain important changes and how to implement them, Feeding America and USDA hosted a webinar for network members in December.

# ADVANCING FOOD-AS-MEDICINE SOLUTIONS FOR HEALTHIER COMMUNITIES

At Feeding America, we know that access to nutritious food is foundational to well-being, and we're working to integrate food access into healthcare systems nationwide. In March, food bank leaders gathered at [Houston Food Bank](#) for the Food As Medicine 3.0 (FAM3) grantee convening. FAM3 strengthens connections between food banks and healthcare providers to address food insecurity and improve health outcomes.

During the two-day program, participants shared best practices, fostered connections and explored effective interventions. Workshops provided practical tools for program evaluation, partnership cultivation, nutrition sourcing and healthcare contracting. National food-as-medicine experts helped food banks navigate the emerging opportunities in the sector.

Since 2019, our Food As Medicine program has helped healthcare providers screen for food insecurity and connect patients with food assistance resources across hospitals, clinics and more—leading to the creation of food pantries, prepackaged food boxes, produce prescription programs, nutrition courses and home delivery services at healthcare facilities.

*Special thanks to Elevance Health Foundation for supporting this work.*



Above: The Food As Medicine 3.0 grantee convening was attended by leaders from 21 partner food banks.



## LEAVING A LEGACY: MARVIN LEVY

Feeding America is deeply saddened by the passing of Marvin Levy, a distinguished publicist and longtime hunger-relief supporter. Marvin, a New York native, lived a long, full life before passing away on April 7 at the age of 96.

Marvin—renowned for his long-time collaboration with director Steven Spielberg—is the only publicist ever to receive an Oscar. He retired in July 2024 at the age of 95.

Throughout his life, Marvin was a dedicated philanthropist, avidly supporting the USC Shoah Foundation and Starlight Children's Foundation, among other organizations—including Feeding America. Married 73 years to his wife, Carol, the couple made their first gift to Feeding America in 1990, launching an extraordinary 35-year span of generosity and support to help people facing hunger receive the nourishing food they need.

Feeding America is humbly honored the Levy family has chosen our organization and mission as a beneficiary in Marvin's memory.

Along with Carol, Marvin is survived by their sons, Doug and Don, Don's wife, Sue, and grandsons Brian and Daniel.

*Click [here](#) to visit our **Why I Give** page to read more about our hunger-relief supporters.*

### DID YOU KNOW?

In 1979, John van Hengel started the nation's first food bank when he helped bring safe food, that otherwise would have gone to waste, to people facing hunger.

**The van Hengel Society** is named for John van Hengel, the founder of the modern food bank movement, and honors individuals who make legacy gifts, including bequests and charitable gift annuities, in support of Feeding America. To learn more about making a planned gift, joining the van Hengel Society, or [if you've already included Feeding America in your estate plans](#), please contact Jessica Noe, Director of Development and Planned Giving, at 312-641-5593 or [plannedgiving@feedingamerica.org](mailto:plannedgiving@feedingamerica.org).

## DID YOU KNOW?

More than 50 million people turned to the charitable food system in 2023, according to our research on the latest [Charitable Food Assistance Participation Estimate](#). The estimate, released in late Fall 2024, reflects the number of individuals who received food one or more times during 2023 from any charitable food distribution, including distributions outside the Feeding America network. The nation's charitable food sector is key to helping neighbors receive the meals they need. With caring generosity from donors like you, the Feeding America network distributed over 5 billion meals in both 2022 and 2023. Thank you for your support.

## WAYS TO ENGAGE

### ► **VIDEO: Capitol Hill Outlook:**

During the What's Cooking? webinar, Capitol Hill Outlook, on March 25, more than 110 attendees heard from Monica Gonzalez, Director of Congressional Relations for Feeding America, as well as other national organization leaders, about the profound impact policy changes are having on the food bank network's ability to meet the demand for food in their communities.

[Full webinar recording](#) | [Short highlight video](#)

### ► **Coming in May:**

Feeding America's 2025 *Map the Meal Gap*, our annual study of local food insecurity and food cost across the country, will be released in May. In addition, our Research Team will release new data and findings on food insecurity for seniors and older adults. These will be integrated into *Map the Meal Gap* resources, including the interactive map and report.

### ► **Support the New Community Response Fund:**

To learn more, please reach out to your Feeding America Relationship Manager or Account Manager.



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Feeding America® is the largest hunger-relief organization in the United States. As part of a network of more than 200 food banks, 21 statewide food bank associations, and over 60,000 agency partners, food pantries and meal programs, we helped provide 5.9 billion meals to tens of millions of people in need last year.

**Join the movement to end hunger.**  
Donate. Volunteer.  
Advocate. Educate.

