



HUNGRY FOR THE FACTS

Our vision is to inspire hope by leading the effort for a hunger-free and properly nourished community.

- The Foodbank provided close to 9.1 million meals in FY2023.
- Close to 61,000 (11%) individuals experience food insecurity (State Avg. is 11.1%); close to 24,000 are children
- Over 300,000 annual visits made to the Foodbank, our programs, mobile food pantry distributions, and partner agencies
- The need for food assistance has increased 35% in the last year
- Food banks play a major role in disaster relief



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OUR PROGRAMS

Food Distribution Program The Foodbank works with partner agencies (faith-based organizations, pantries, shelters) in our service area to provide our neighbors in need with food assistance.

Food For Kids Backpack Program provides children in low-income communities with nutritious foods to take home over the weekends and extended holidays throughout the year.

Kids Cafe Program provides hot, nutritionally-balanced meals to children attending after-school programs in our local community.

The Mobile Food Pantry Program delivers fresh produce, perishables, and other emergency food assistance every month to senior living centers, low-income housing neighborhoods, and the VA Medical Center.

Summer Food Service Program is designed to fill a gap when school is out and to make sure children can get nutritious meals they need.

The Culinary Training Program trains economically disadvantaged adults in culinary and personal development skills that will lead them to jobs and self-reliance. The students prepare hot meals for our childhood nutrition programs.

School Produce Market The School Market provides fresh fruits and vegetables that promote good nutrition and healthy eating.

The Emergency Food Assistance Program & Commodities Supplemental Food Program are Federal programs that supplement the diets of low-income Americans, including seniors, by providing them with emergency food and nutrition assistance monthly.

Community members are the heart of our mission and help provide the funding and food necessary to sustain, expand and strengthen our programs and services.

Volunteers are essential to our work. Last year volunteers provided over 23,000 hours of their time and talent.

Get Involved
HRFoodbank.org



The Rising Cost of Food is Worsening Hunger

- Skyrocketing food prices have made it more difficult for families experiencing hunger to access enough to eat and have strained food banks' ability to continue supporting our neighbors in need.
- Too many of our neighbors are forced to make impossible decisions between paying for groceries and other necessities like rent and medication. Households that are low-income spend nearly one-third of their budget on food.
- Every aspect of food bank operations is seeing significant cost spikes, from purchasing food to transporting food.
- Virginia Peninsula Foodbank is purchasing more than \$2 million in fresh produce and other nutritious foods each year to keep up with demand and to make up for fewer food donations.
- The cost of providing one portable bag of nutritious weekend meals to a child participating in our Food For Kids Backpack Program has increased from \$5 per bag before the pandemic to \$9 per bag during the previous fiscal year.
- Families and food banks are facing a perfect storm of challenges, and lawmakers can help by supporting federal food assistance programs and child nutrition initiatives.

Every person receiving food has a story...



“I was reluctant to come to the food pantry – I am so used to doing things on my own. It didn’t feel right to be asking for help. But it is a huge blessing. The food pantry has good, nutritious food, and they make me feel welcome here. It is such a relief to know that I will have something to eat.”



“I was working part-time, and my husband got injured on the job. While we waited for disability payments to kick in, we had to use up our savings to pay bills. I heard about the Foodbank, and I went to one of your mobile pantries for a few months to get groceries for my family. I am grateful the Foodbank could help my family until we got back to better times.”



“I really appreciate the mobile pantry every month. The fruits and vegetables especially help me a lot because I have to be on a special diet for my diabetes. I actually make salads and add vegetables to my sandwiches, and I would never be able to do that unless I got them here.”