



**FOOD
BANK**

of Contra Costa & Solano

IMPACT REPORT 2025

**BUILDING
TOMORROW
TOGETHER**

**FOOD
BANK**
of Contra Costa & Solano



of Contra Costa & Solano

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Our Mission

Leading the fight to end hunger, in partnership with our community and in service of our neighbors in need.



@foodbankccs

foodbankccs.org
info@foodbankccs.org

4010 Nelson Ave
Concord, CA 94520
ph: 925-676-7543

2370 N Watney Way
Fairfield, CA 94533
ph: 707-421-9777

Founded in 1975, the Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano strives to serve all people experiencing food insecurity in Contra Costa and Solano Counties and to never turn anyone away.

Through our partnership with Feeding America, a nonprofit network of 200 food banks and the nation's largest domestic hunger-relief organization, we support hunger-fighting organizations in 16 Northern California counties.

The Food Bank is committed to continuously fostering a culture of inclusion among our employees, volunteers, and community that promotes diverse perspectives, lived experiences, and equitable access and opportunities essential to achieving our mission of leading the fight to end hunger.

The Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano is a registered 501(c)(3). Our federal tax ID is 94-2418054.

Explore our Impact Report online
foodbankccs.org/ImpactReport



A Letter From Our CEO



This year, I was once again reminded that our community possesses incredible strength. In a year filled with uncertainty and challenges unlike anything in the Food Bank's 50-year history, caring individuals like you came together to ensure your neighbors could put food on their tables and rely on us in their most challenging moments.

The Food Bank also celebrated an incredible milestone: 50 years of service to our community. This anniversary inspired us to look forward to what must be done to truly end hunger in Contra Costa and Solano Counties — and the result is Strategic Plan 2030, a five-year roadmap to tackle the underlying causes of hunger.

With your support, we will build on our 50-year legacy of trust and partnership to evolve into a full-service

resource hub where neighbors can access nutritious, locally produced food and connect to vital services and resources that can help stabilize their lives.

I'm proud to share that we're doing this work in collaboration with our community — including our neighbors in need — so your support continues to have meaningful impact on the lives of our neighbors today and in the future.

The challenges of last year are not over yet. Historic federal cuts to CalFresh/SNAP passed in July 2025 will take effect this spring and summer, depriving many of our neighbors of critical resources. We anticipate more new faces furrowed with worry, and a greater need from those already relying on us to provide daily sustenance.

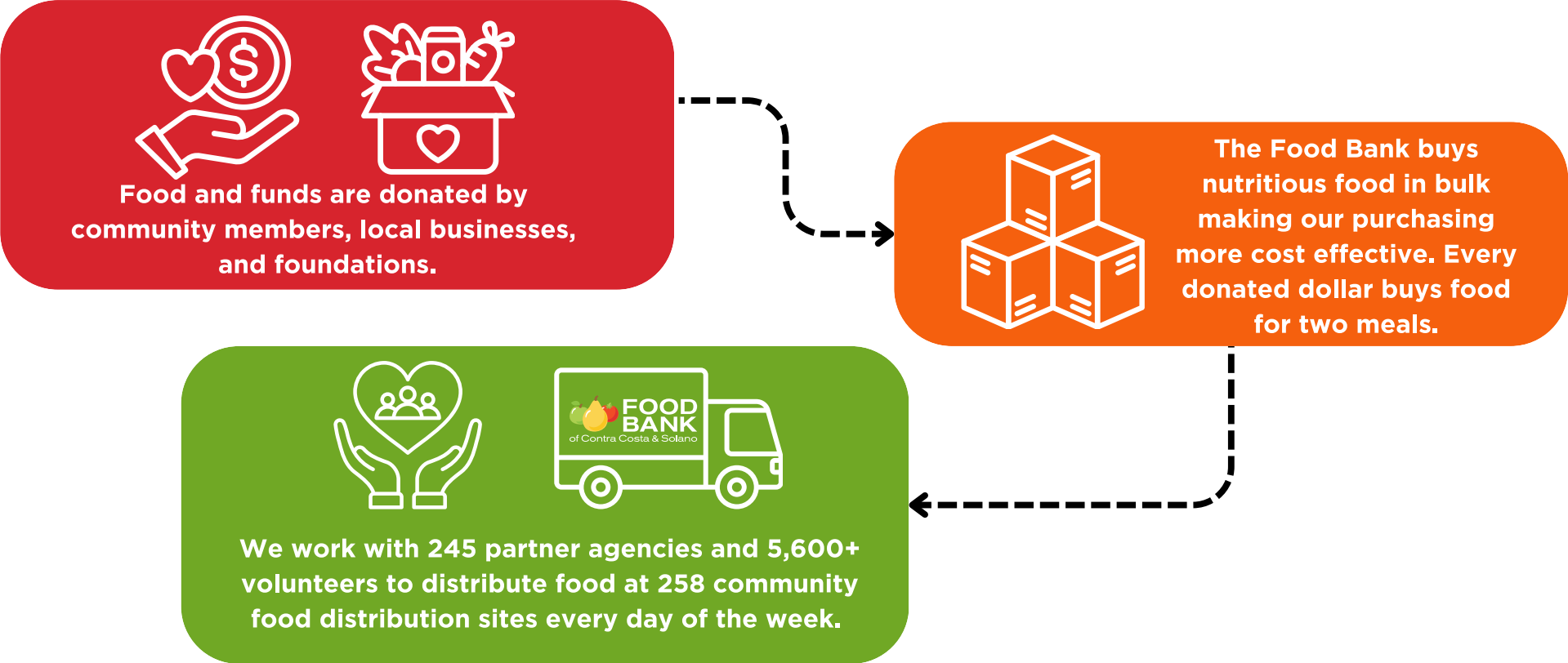
With you by our side, I know we can meet the moment and continue Building Tomorrow Together.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Caitlin Sly".

Caitlin Sly
President and Chief Executive Officer

How the Food Bank Works

Neighbors in need receive free food through a variety of Food Bank and nonprofit partner agency programs and services



Strategic Plan 2030

Strategic priorities



Neighbors First

Our neighbors are why we exist and should be front and center of our work.

- Ensure a dignified and seamless experience for food-insecure communities.
- Increase focus on improving access, neighbor choice, and inclusive communication that emphasizes dignity for communities facing barriers (seniors, vets, unhoused, reentry).



Sustainable Nourishment

Sustainable nourishment will allow us to do what we already do but even better.

- Prioritize community wellbeing by increasing nutritious, culturally inclusive, and sustainable food.
- Innovate food sourcing systems to improve quality and kinds of food (i.e., healthy, culturally relevant), expand storage, and reduce waste and carbon footprint.



More than Meals

Address the root causes of hunger by connecting neighbors with resources beyond food.

- Connect neighbors to partners who provide non-food, essential resources that help address systemic barriers to food security (i.e., unemployment services, other basic needs).

Neighbors First

Ensure a dignified and seamless experience for food-insecure communities

Michael, a Contra Costa County native and former tech worker, is finding stability and rebuilding his life after experiencing homelessness and struggling with addiction. But he sometimes does not have enough funds to cover bills for the month, and shift work can make it difficult to get to food distributions.

In 2025, the Food Bank launched our first refrigerated food locker hosted at Refuge Food Pantry in Concord. Now working people like Michael can order food online and pick it up at the time that works best for them.

Our food lockers help neighbors access the food they need when they need it.

Michael picked up butter from the locker, which helped him bake a birthday cake for one of his housemates in his sober living home.



“You feel a little sense of normalcy, which is a real blessing.”

-Michael, Concord



“The economy’s so expensive right now. You go out to buy groceries, but you don’t bring much home. We got some vegetables and rice, which is really good. That’s going to help us out for the month.”

– Yaqui, Richmond

79,000 Households

served per month



* Each icon represents 1,000 households.

Sustainable Nutrition

Increase nutritious, culturally inclusive, and sustainable food to prioritize community wellbeing

When federal funding for local produce was suddenly cut last year, your support made it possible for more than 4,890 families at schools like Bayview Elementary in San Pablo to continue participating in our Farm 2 Kids program.

As Bayview after-school coordinator Kathy Saetern put it, “Some of the parents are struggling; they’re looking for a home, some of them are in shelters. So these vegetables and fruits go a long way for them.”



We distributed enough food to provide

**2.7 million
meals each
month**



“I like the carrots, the cilantro, and the cabbage. My mom made a soup with it, and it was good.”

- Victor, 9, Bayview Elementary

**Scan to see recipes
made with produce
available at food
distributions.**



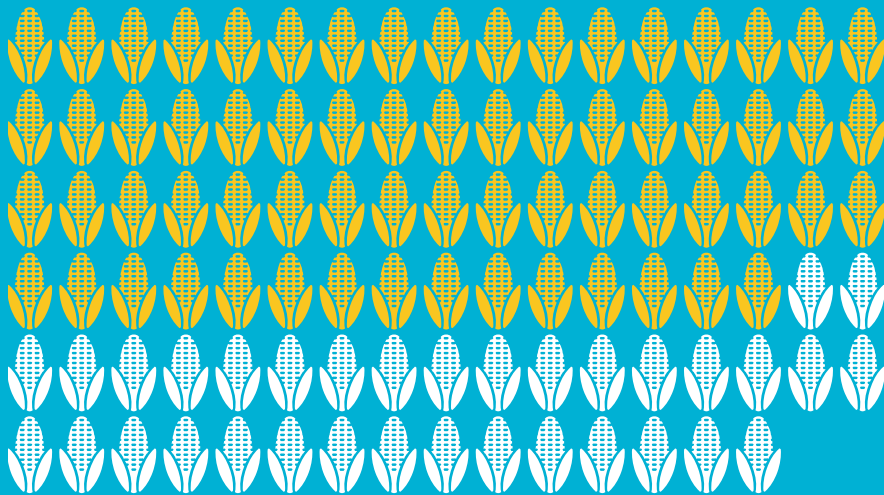


Growing up on a farm, Bonnie’s diet was always filled with fresh vegetables. But in her senior years, her fixed income isn’t enough to afford healthy extras.

For years she relied on low-cost processed foods like hot dogs and instant ramen — until she found the Food Bank. Now, with your support, Bonnie is taking control of her health and feeling better.

“Now that I’m getting these vegetables again, the weight is finally starting to drop down.”

-Bonnie, Concord



* Each icon represents one percentage point.

66%

of the food we distribute is **fresh produce, protein, and dairy**

From Surplus to Sustenance

Good food shouldn't go to waste

Each year, 92 billion pounds of surplus food are produced in the United States — more than enough to feed everyone facing hunger in our country. Much of it never reaches the people who need it most.

The Food Bank and our 245 agency partners work with a network of local grocery stores, food producers, and growers to rescue food that is safe to eat, but cannot be sold. This rescue network keeps edible food out of landfills and provides our neighbors with a greater variety of items to feed their families.

“Through these donations we keep good food in our community, where it belongs, instead of letting it go to waste.”

- Carol Barsotti, Raley's

Recovered and distributed to our community



**9+ million
pounds of
edible food**



More than Meals

Address the root causes of hunger by connecting neighbors with additional resources beyond food

Ending hunger for good means tackling its root causes: housing instability, underemployment, and limited access to education and affordable healthcare. Many of these resources already exist in our community, but navigating them can be difficult.

Food has always had the power to bring people together, and over the next five years, we will work to become a true community hub — connecting neighbors not only with healthy, nutritious food, but with the partners and resources they need to stabilize their lives for the long term.



245
partner
agencies



work with us to ensure we make maximum
impact in the areas we serve

Scan to watch the
2025 Agency Summit
video featuring three of
our partner agencies.



Food Security Collaborative of Contra Costa County

Ending hunger takes a community-wide effort, which is why we're building partnerships like the Food Security Collaborative.

Together with Loaves and Fishes of Contra Costa, Meals on Wheels Diablo Region, St. Vincent de Paul of Contra Costa County, and White Pony Express, we're identifying gaps in service and opportunities to provide our neighbors with foods that meet their cultural and health needs.



By using our collective resources, we can break through barriers like transportation issues, language differences, and lack of available information that prevent our neighbors from accessing nutritious food. Together, we will maximize our ability to fight hunger in our community!

For our partners at the Boys and Girls Empowerment Group in Vallejo, providing the community with healthy food is the first step to empowerment — but it doesn't stop there.

In addition to two weekly food distributions using food from the Food Bank, the group hosts after-school programs and summer camps connecting kids and families with fun and educational activities outside of school. They also host resource fairs to improve access to healthcare and other basic needs.

With your support, we're strengthening our partnerships with fellow hunger-fighting nonprofits, like Boys and Girls Empowerment Group, to make it easier for our neighbors to access resources beyond food that can help them stabilize their lives.



“To empower is full body. It’s mind, spirit, health. It’s all of that.”

- Sarah Anders, who volunteers with the group’s food pantry, and teaches acting workshops for the group’s young members

Advocacy

By harnessing the voices of community members like you, together we spoke up for our neighbors in need to improve food access for all.

California Food Bank Funding

In May 2025, the California state budget proposed to cut more than \$50 million from CalFood, a program relied on by food banks across the state to purchase food grown and produced in California.

Together, we...

Rallied with **the California Association of Food Banks**, our community advocacy partners, and hunger-fighters like you to push back and save CalFood — which was fully funded at \$60 million in 2025.



Historic Safety Net Cut

In July 2025, Congress passed a \$200 billion cut to SNAP (or “CalFresh” in CA) — the largest in our nation’s history — as part of the H.R. 1 budget bill.

Together, we...

Joined with **Feeding America**, food banks across the country, and millions of hunger fighters like you to activate one of the largest anti-hunger advocacy efforts in our network’s history! And we continue to work with our partners and advocates like you to oppose and roll back these harmful cuts.

SNAP Benefits Disrupted

The October 2025 government shutdown left households across our two counties without essential funds to buy groceries in November.

Together, we...

Advocated and the Contra Costa Board of Supervisors allocated \$21 million in emergency funding to support residents affected by the lapse in CalFresh/SNAP benefits. In an emergency response, we prepared and distributed 10,000 boxes of shelf-stable groceries in record time to our neighbors in need.



Together, we...

Hosted our first-ever Food Security Briefing on September 22 in honor of Hunger Action Month.

The panel, including Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano CEO Caitlin Sly; Congressman Mark DeSaulnier (CA-10); Jacob Weiss, General Manager at Spork Food Hub; and Carol Barsotti, President and CEO of fieldTRUE, focused on the harmful impacts of H.R. 1, not just for those who receive SNAP benefits, but our entire food system.

Community in Crisis

Support for neighbors in need

When CalFresh/SNAP benefits were disrupted during the October 2025 government shutdown, more than 98,000 local households found themselves without much-needed grocery money they had come to depend on.



During the crisis, visits to our online Find Food map increased by 400%, and calls poured in from neighbors whose safety net vanished overnight.

But people like you answered the call for help! Thanks to your generous support, the Food Bank:

- **Monitored and adjusted food distributions** to ensure that increased lines were met with trucks stocked with enough food to meet everyone's needs.
- **Opened five new SNAP Relief Distributions** to help families access fresh produce.
- **Provided emergency grants to our agency partners** including food pantries, soup kitchens, and other hunger-fighting organizations that help us meet critical community needs.

Community in Crisis

Support for neighbors in need

When CalFresh/SNAP benefits were disrupted in October 2025, the Food Bank was called on to prepare emergency relief for Contra Costa County neighbors in need.

The Food Bank put out requests for emergency volunteer support via posts on social media and email alerts, unsure if our regularly scheduled volunteers could make time.

But in an astonishing rapid response, volunteers at our Concord and Fairfield volunteer centers showed up and provided crucial support to pack over 10,000 boxes in record time.

Hunger fighters rallied their friends and family by starting over 100 Virtual Food Drives in one month — with inspiring names like “Give a little, Feed a lot,” “Stand up for Hunger,” and “Share the Table,” to provide food for more than 280,000 meals for neighbors!

Community members rushed to drop off groceries and ordered food deliveries to our warehouses in Concord and Fairfield. These efforts provided more than 224,000 pounds of food in November and December.





Christina first visited our partner in Fairfield — St. Mark’s Food Pantry — for groceries to help stretch her fixed income. Now, she volunteers at the pantry to pass on the help she received to others.

When her CalFresh/SNAP benefits stopped during the 2025 government shutdown, she once again had to look to the pantry to make ends meet — as did many neighbors who turned to our network for support for the first time. Thanks to you, we were able to provide partners like St. Mark’s with emergency funds to help them meet the urgent need for food.



“I wanted to help out and give back.”

-Christina, Fairfield

Volunteers

When Food Bank volunteers Barbara, Oscar, and Paula decided to engage in a little friendly competition, it became a win for our community. The trio began volunteering at the Food Bank only in the past year, but quickly developed a love for fighting hunger that inspired them to make a significant commitment.

As the trio saw each other week after week, they set a goal to see who could be the first to serve 500 hours. By the end of the year all three had surpassed their goal, serving more than 2,300 hours collectively.



Scan to watch “Friendly Competition” – the story of how Oscar, Paula, and Barbara became volunteer all-stars.



Barbara
650+ hours served in 2025



Oscar
650+ hours served in 2025



Paula
650+ hours served in 2025



“Volunteering is one of the best things you can do, and it would be really beneficial to everybody if we all chipped in.”

- Barbara



As hunger deepens in our community, we're grateful to the incredible volunteers who gave their time to ensure food is sorted, packed, and distributed to everyone who needs it. This year, many of our volunteers dug deep and provided even more hours of their time, deepening their commitment to fighting hunger.

- 5,600+ volunteers last year
- 110,000 hours served per year
- 51 full-time staff equivalent
- \$4.2 million — annual value of donated time
- 5,300+ volunteer shifts per year



Here's to the Next Milestone...



In 1975, the Food Bank started with a pickup truck, a single full-time employee, and donations of day-old bread and canned goods. Fifty years later, our fleet of vehicles ensure fresh produce,

dairy products, protein, and other healthy options are available across Contra Costa and Solano Counties — all thanks to supporters like you.

Thank you for helping us reach this incredible milestone. With your support, we're ready to continue **Building Tomorrow Together.**





Larry Sly
Food Bank Executive Director
1976-2018
why we started the Food Bank

WATCH: 50 years of fighting hunger together!

Financials

Fiscal year 2024-2025

SUPPORT AND REVENUE*

Individuals	\$ 13,080,659
Corporations	\$ 2,170,754
Foundation Grants	\$ 3,633,180
Government Grants	\$ 4,775,306
Organizational Support	\$ 282,231
Other Grants	\$ 445,470
Value Of Donated Food Received	\$ 128,875,645
Investments	\$ 667,238
Other Revenue	\$ 202,039
Fees and Service Charges	\$ 2,759,625

TOTAL SUPPORT AND REVENUE \$ 156,892,147

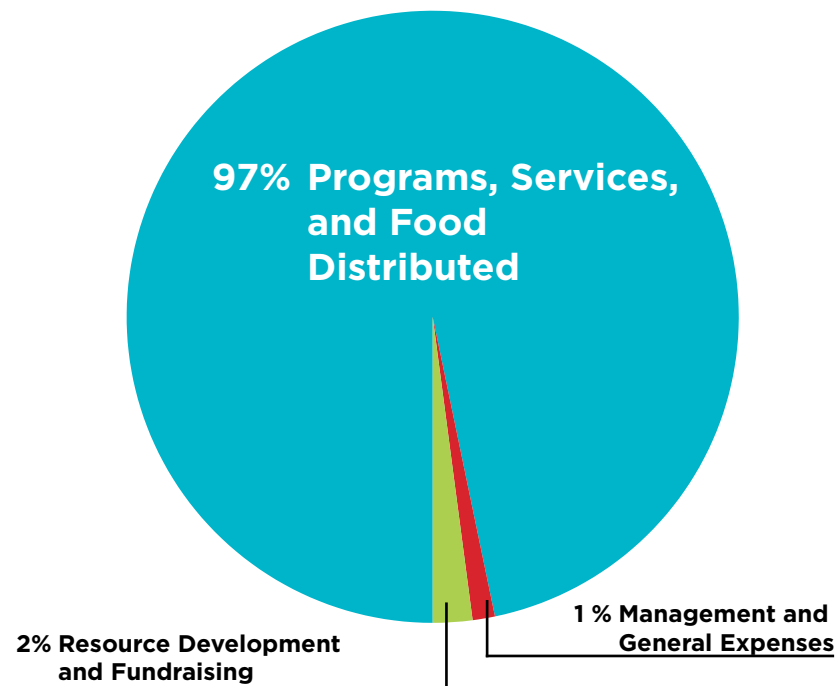
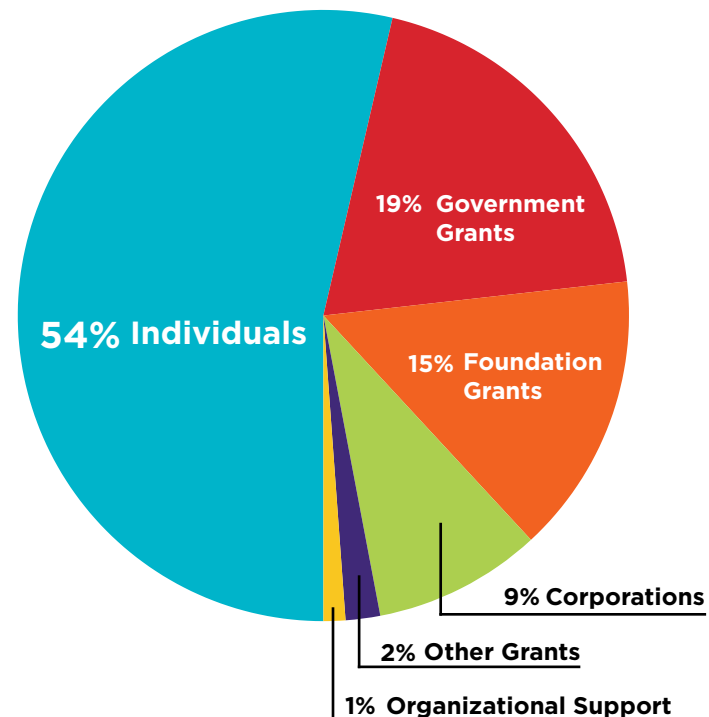
EXPENSES

Programs, Services, and Food Distributed	\$ 152,729,076
Resource Development and Fundraising	\$ 3,210,371
Management and General Expenses	\$ 1,449,853

TOTAL EXPENSES \$ 157,389,300



*Support and Revenue pie chart does not include Value of Donated Food Received, Investments, Other Revenue, and Fees and Service Charges.



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