

COVID-19 Response Programs

The Jacobs & Cushman San Diego Food Bank and our North County Food Bank chapter have been on the front lines of the coronavirus crisis since the pandemic reached San Diego County in mid-March last year. Our staff, army of volunteers and network of 500 nonprofit partners are working around the clock to provide emergency food assistance to individuals and families impacted by the pandemic.

Thanks to you, our generous donors, we have been able to meet the exponential increase in demand for food assistance from the tens of thousands of families affected by furloughs and job loss. Your support is ensuring that vulnerable children, families and seniors do not face hunger in our community.

Before the COVID-19 pandemic impacted our community, the Food Bank provided food assistance to 350,000 people per month – about 11% of the county's population. Since March 2020, when the county declared a state of emergency, the Food Bank is now feeding an estimated 600,000 people per month due to COVID-19's devastating impact on our local economy.

From mid-March 2020 to the end of May 2021, the San Diego Food Bank and our North County Food Bank chapter have distributed more than 71 million pounds of food to individuals, families and seniors affected by the pandemic. The Food Bank is now distributing over 1 million pounds per week through our network of nonprofit partners.

Thousands of local schoolchildren living in poverty rely on free school meals as their primary source of nutrition because there is little or no food at home. In order to provide food to students in need, the Food Bank is partnering with 14 school districts to provide emergency groceries at "drive-thru" food distributions targeting families with children who receive free school meals. From mid-March 2020 to the end of May 2021, we have provided 3.5 million pounds of food to families in need at these food distributions.

The Food Bank provides a monthly 36-pound box of food often with a frozen protein and a 2-pound block of cheese to 14,863 seniors living in poverty on our Senior Food Program. Many seniors have access to a car or send a proxy to pick up their monthly food box. For homebound seniors on the program, we partnered with Team Rubicon and delivered 2,161 food boxes in a seven-week period to seniors in need across the county.

Feeding **600,000 people** per month

Distributed **71 million pounds** of food since March 2020



Feeding children at 67 elementary schools across 14 school districts



Delivered 36-pound food boxes to **2,161** homebound seniors in lockdown



SanDiegoFoodBank.org

In order to keep up with the exponential increase in demand for food assistance, the Food Bank has purchased more than \$11 million worth of food on the wholesale food market. We have distributed 54% more food than in the same period last year. Thanks to your donations, we were able to purchase frozen chicken, canned meats, canned vegetables, canned fruit, canned soup, pasta sauce, pasta, peanut butter, dry beans, cereal, oatmeal, juice, bottled water, toilet paper and hand sanitizer to distribute to those impacted by the pandemic.

Volunteers are the backbone of the Food Bank's operations. Without our volunteers, we cannot carry out our important work. At the start of the COVID-19 crisis, over 1,500 volunteers and dozens of businesses canceled their volunteer shifts. After a public call for help, the San Diego community stepped up, and thousands of volunteers answered our call. Since then, all of our volunteer shifts have been booked through the summer, fall and winter.

Our Diaper Bank Program provides emergency diapers to workingpoor parents struggling to make ends meet. Prior to the pandemic, the program helped remove a barrier to work because day care centers require a day's supply of diapers or the child is turned away. By supplying emergency diapers, the Food Bank has helped parents stay in work. However, since the pandemic reached our region, demand for diaper assistance has reached an all-time high due to skyrocketing unemployment among low-income parents from hard hit industries such as retail and hospitality. From mid-March 2020 to end of May 2021, the Food Bank has distributed more than 10 million diapers to families financially impacted by the pandemic.

In order to meet the increased demand for food assistance and to serve Food Bank clients more guickly, safely and efficiently, the Food Bank launched our new Super Pantry Program in July 2020. Currently, 35 Super Pantries, strategically located throughout San Diego County, are operating as high-volume distribution hubs, open a minimum of 3 days per week. These 35 Super Pantries are collectively serving more than 100,000 people facing food insecurity every month and have distributed more than 14 million pounds of food since July 2020.

Purchased **\$11** million

worth of food on the wholesale food market



to our warehouses since the start of the crisis



Distributed 10 million diapers to struggling, lowincome families with infants and toddlers impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic

35 Super Pantries

launched July 1 are serving Food Bank clients quickly, safely and with dignity



On behalf of the Food Bank's Board of Directors, staff and family of volunteers we humbly and wholeheartedly thank our donors for supporting our vital mission in the community during this unprecedented crisis. Thanks to your support, we are able to provide emergency food assistance to families, children, individuals and seniors in need throughout San Diego County.

