





HOLIDAY



As we move into the holiday season, we'd like to spend a bit of time thanking our wonderful supporters and being grateful for the full year we've had helping those in need. In many ways, this has been a record-breaking year for the Food Bank, and we wanted to share some highlights that you made possible:

Our Summer Meals program served 31,744 meals to children at 37 sites across North **Alabama.** The goal is to go where kids who typically receive free or reduced price meals during the school year are spending their summer. These sites included parks, libraries, camps, and splash pads. We also completed 8 Kids Harvest deliveries, where the kids and their families could pick out fresh produce to take home.

**Our Store Donation Program sourced more** than 5 million pounds of food from our retail donation partners. This equals 4.25 million meals going out to neighbors in need. This food is perfectly good, often perishable food, that would normally go to waste in landfills due to damaged packaging or close expiration dates. We are able to share this perfectly edible food with our neighbors in need. Reducing waste and serving our community counts as a win-win!

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## A Record-Breaking Year You Made Possible

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We completed 19 Senior Mobile Pantry distributions to low-income senior housing facilities across the region. We took both produce and pantry staples, such as canned chicken beans, and diced tomatoes to each location. The senior housing facilities each are home to 100-130 residents. Many of these residents no longer drive and live on fixed incomes, so bringing the food right to their doorstep helped ensure nutritious foods made it to those of all ages in our community.

Our Farm Food Collaborative program forged new partnerships between Alabama farmers and both Kroger and Piggly Wiggly stores. The Collaborative worked with 8 Kroger stores to sell peaches, sweet potatoes, honey, pumpkins, and apples, all grown by local farmers. They also delivered a wider variety of product including strawberries, hydroponically grown lettuce, sweet potatoes, blueberries, squash, zucchini, eggplant, tomatoes, cucumbers, bell peppers, banana peppers, and okra to 13 Piggly Wiggly stores.

In March, we hosted a Child Hunger Summit in Florence that was attended by 160 guests. There, we helped educate our community and our partners on the realities of child hunger and the many strategies to combat the issue. We look forward to another Hunger Summit in Huntsville in 2019.

It was a busy year, and we couldn't have helped that many people without the very generous contributions from partners like you. Thank you for your support! We wish you and yours a happy holiday season.

Best,

Shirley Schofield
Executive Director

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FOOD BANK OF NORTH ALABAMA





Together we can ensure that no child, no parent, no senior goes hungry in our community. Thank you for your support!

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