



FOOD BANK OF
NORTH ALABAMA

Impact

Together we can solve hunger™

VOLUME 11 | YEAR IN REVIEW | 2019

Donors, Volunteers Have Huge Impact on Community

As we prepare to enjoy the beauty and bounty of the holiday season, we'd like to share with you how you have helped the Food Bank of North Alabama serve the most vulnerable in our communities this year. And 2019 was a successful year in many ways.

You helped the Food Bank grow our ability to distribute to the farthest locations in our coverage area and continue to make our warehouse as efficient as possible.

However, no stat or number looms as large for 2019 as the number of meals we distributed to the people in need: 9.2 million, a record for North Alabama. This means more food getting out to the people who need it. And none of that would be possible without the tireless support from you — our donors, volunteers, and partners.

Your Impact

North Alabama has turned out in 2019 for our neighbors in need.

At Redstone Arsenal, the Feds Feed Family “stuff the truck” food drive ended up stuffing two trucks and a van to provide more than 9,000 meals in one day.

At Merrimack Hall, Rocket Chef continues to be a hit, drawing support from all over the region. And the Letter Carriers' Food Drive provided food for thousands of people.

Community support is vital to everything we do to serve those suffering from hardships.



Your Impact on Our Children

As Carolyn waited in her car to pick up her grandson at Sonnie Hereford Elementary in Huntsville, volunteers and staff from the Food Bank of North Alabama brought her fresh apples and a gallon of milk.

This is part of a program that started in fall 2018 and really took off in 2019. Sonnie Hereford is a Title I school; 97 percent of the students qualify for free or reduced-price lunch.

Each week during school, the Food Bank is able to offer fresh produce and dairy to 200 Sonnie Hereford Elementary families.

“It helps me so much,” Carolyn said, adding that the

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Because of donors like you ... *amazing things are happening!*

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grandson she was picking up lives with her. "I'm retired and on a fixed income, so it helps so much. It was a blessing last year and it's a blessing now."

When children go hungry, it's next to impossible to learn. With our Sonnie Hereford mobile pantry program, you are helping to invest in kids today, and the future of our community.

Summer Meals

When the school year ends for the summer break, more than 50% of kids in North Alabama do not have access to meals. During the school year, they are able to participate in the free or reduced meals program. The Summer Meals program fills the gap by providing healthy and nutritious meals over the summer. Kids have breakfast, lunch, and a snack. Without adequate nutrition, kids can lack confidence, lack interest in studies, and can have trouble concentrating. With donors like you, we are able to support these kids and ensure they have access to the food they need.



Kids Harvest

It has never been easier to help a child develop healthy eating habits. With our Kids Harvest program, we are able to supply kids and their families with fresh produce, along with nutrition demos. How do we do that? Simple. We meet the need where it is by setting

up mobile, free markets in the neighborhoods.

Thanks to donors like you, this year we were able to host 9 Kids Harvests, which is up 5 new sites from last year. We were able to feed well over 450 families! The Kids Harvest success has encouraged the Food Bank to expand it to year round.

Farm Food Collaborative

Kids at 107 schools in 8 school districts as well as 9 daycare programs received fresh, nutritious produce from local farms thanks to the Farm Food Collaborative program. Part of the Collaborative's goal is to ensure kids have access to healthy foods

and are able to grow big and strong. A second goal is to work with farmers to ensure family farms have stable income. The Collaborative facilitated \$571,830 in sales for more than a dozen farmers.

The Collaborative celebrated its five-year anniversary and cumulatively has helped local farmers reach close to \$2 million in sales. One economic multiplier says each local food dollar means between \$1.30 and \$1.90 for the local economy. That means the FFC has generated \$3-4 million dollars in Alabama revenue, mostly in our rural areas that need it most!

The Impact on Our Seniors

Logan is a 70-year-old retiree living at Todd Towers in Huntsville. Like most of his neighbors, Logan lives on a fixed income and has to scrape by every month.

Now, as a participant of the Commodity Subsidy Federal Program (CSFP), the Food Bank is able to bring a box of food, including canned vegetables, rice, milk, juice, and cheese, to Logan and other seniors across North Alabama. The Food Bank began CSFP distributions this year. The goal is to reach 500 monthly distributions to seniors over the age of 60 who meet the income guidelines set by CSFP.



None of these programs and milestones would be possible without you. **Thank you for your support!**