

AGENCY NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2025

SEPT. IS HUNGER ACTION MONTH

Hunger Action Month is a nationwide effort to raise awareness about hunger in America and inspire action.

Every action — big or small — is one step closer to an America where no one is hungry.

This September, we are inviting all our groups to assess their food assistance programs and explore opportunities for further improvements in the fight against hunger within their communities!

Having an event or distribution in September? Share it on social media with the hashtag #HungerActionMonth to help spread the word!

If your organization is interested in receiving specific information to share with the community during Hunger Action Month, contact us to have it sent to you directly!

Looking for more ways your organization could help to raise awareness about hunger and food relief programs in North Alabama? Here are a few suggestions!

SOCIAL MEDIA & WEBSITES

- Highlight a "Did You Know?" fact each week about food insecurity in your community. (Need some facts? Let us know!)
- Post stories, stats, and photos about your organizations impact hunger using the hashtag #HungerActionMonth
 - Create a social media frame or temporary profile photo overlay to show support.
 - Share quotes or videos of why your team is committed to fighting hunger.

EDUCATE & EMPOWER

- Encourage community members to write to local representatives about hunger issues.
- Provide a "Ways to Help" flyer or digital post people can share with friends and family.
- Use posters, banners, or lawn signs outside your facility to bring attention to Hunger Action Month.
- Share ways your supporters can take action: donate food, volunteer, advocate, or fundraise.

GO ORANGE! SEPTEMBER 9

- Encourage staff & volunteers to wear orange and share group photos on social media!
- Decorate your facility with orange lights or decorations.
- Reach out to local businesses and encourage them to join you by "Going Orange" to promote awareness in their offices or storefronts.

GO ORANGE!
FOR HUNGER ACTION DAY
SEPTEMBER 9 2025



We're excited to announce the promotion of Chyna Smith to Director of Strategic Initiatives! Many of you know Chyna from her time spent working with our Farm Food Collaborative and most recently as Special Programs Manager. She's been a familiar face at mobile distributions and Park It Market events, and we're thrilled to see her step into this new leadership role. We can't wait to see how she'll continue to help move our mission forward!

-CLOSED-

The Warehouse and Food Bank will be closed

MONDAY
SEPTEMBER 1ST



Sharing is Caring - But Not When It Comes to Food for Distribution

We know our agencies care deeply about helping others, but when it comes to sharing food obtained from the Food Bank, it's important to follow the rules.

As outlined in the Food Release Form signed during the agency application process:

"...agency partners shall not share food items obtained from the Food Bank with any other organization or entity."

Simply put, once food is picked up from our warehouse or a store partner, it may not be redistributed to any other organization — including for meal preparation — **even if that organization is another FBNA agency partner.**

This isn't about restricting generosity. **It's a matter of food safety and traceability.** In the event of a recall or an outbreak of foodborne illness, the ability to track items is essential for notifying relevant agencies. This enables a timely effort to remove these items from distribution and reduce the potential impact on the community. Additionally, transferring refrigerated or frozen items between organizations poses serious safety risks if proper temperature controls are not maintained — and we cannot ensure the same level of quality when food is shared outside the system.

- If you're consistently receiving more food than you can use, please reach out so we can adjust your pickups accordingly.
- If a group approaches you asking for food support, the best next step is to refer them to our Agency Relations team. We're happy to discuss whether a direct partnership is possible.

Thank you for helping us ensure food safety and compliance across the network — and for all you do to serve our communities.

HUNGER SUMMIT MINI EDITION

The time has come! We are so excited to announce the locked in dates for our Mini Hunger Summits this year!

- ★ Dekalb / Jackson / Marshall - September 26
- ★ Colbert / Franklin / Lauderdale / Lawrence - October 3rd
- ★ Gullman / Limestone / Morgan - October 17
- ★ Madison - October 24

Look for registration links coming to your inbox and on our website.

We can't wait to visit our different regions to discuss what matters most to your neighbors!

DEMOGRAPHICS & DIAPERS

We strive to ensure that the reporting requirements we ask of our agency partners are purposeful and valuable. Recently, we discovered a new way to put this data to work.

When we received our first major diaper donation from Food City to kick off the Great Diaper Drive, we tested a new approach to distribution. Using the demographic data reported for May, we identified agencies serving a high number of children and reached out with an opportunity to reserve diapers for pickup during their next appointment.

This data-driven strategy allowed us to distribute diapers more equitably and in alignment with the needs of our community — directly benefiting the families our partners serve. As a result, we're proud to share that over half of the diapers from Food City's initial donation have already been distributed across our service area.

Moving forward, we'll continue to use your reporting to help guide the allocation of limited or specialty items, ensuring that our resources are deployed as efficiently and impactfully as possible.