

Second Harvest Food Bank



of East Tennessee

ANNUAL REPORT



2025
Fiscal Year

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Created July 2025

DEAR FRIENDS,

This past year, your food bank distributed a landmark 27 million pounds of food. It's a milestone that reflects not just the scale of food insecurity in our 18-county service area, but the power of collective action when communities come together with urgency and care.

That spirit was especially visible in the wake of Hurricane Helene. While floodwaters damaged homes and displaced families, your support surged in. Volunteers, local businesses, nonprofit partners, and donors mobilized quickly to help us deliver food, water, and essentials across hard-hit areas. We were proud to be a trusted hand in that response, but we know that recovery is a marathon, not a sprint. We remain committed to serving the region in the coming months and years as well.



We also made key progress in strengthening our local food supply for the long-term. Our Farm Advisory Council, made up of growers, food system advocates, and agricultural partners, has already helped expand local sourcing and reduced food waste, especially during peak harvest months.

But as we look ahead, the landscape remains uncertain. The changes in federal programs that provided support are being restructured, and we are anticipating an increase in requests for food. While we continue to innovate, boost efficiencies, and stretch resources, the truth is: there will be hungry people that need to be fed.

With your support, we will keep pushing forward with urgency, transparency, and hope. And we will continue advocating for action that matches the tremendous generosity we witness every day from our East Tennessee community.

Thank you for standing with us in this work. Every meal, every pound, every life touched begins with you.

With a grateful heart,

Elaine Streno

ELAINE STRENO
Chief Executive Officer

Serving Neighbors Since 1982

Our Mission

Second Harvest Food Bank of East Tennessee is leading the community in the fight to end hunger.

213,970 East Tennesseans are at risk of hunger, uncertain where their next meal will come from. At Second Harvest Food Bank, we are working to change that statistic in 18 East Tennessee counties.

Our Vision

Second Harvest Food Bank of East Tennessee envisions adequate nutrition for a healthy life for adults, seniors, and children in our service area.

SERVICE AREA

18 Counties
of East Tennessee



*For more information,
click on our friends below.*



VALUES

Integrity
Community
Collaboration
Accountability
Respect

A year in pounds...



+ a year in hours + a year in miles



The equivalent of more than **15 additional full-time employees.**

Our **18-county service area** covers approx. **8,000 sq. miles.**

= 22,792,518 meals

WHY WE DO IT

1. **213,970 East Tennesseans**, including **1 in 6 children (50,460)**, are **experiencing food insecurity**.*
2. **50%** of those, on average, **are above the SNAP threshold**, meaning they **do not** qualify for governmental assistance.*
3. **East TN loses 10 acres of farmland per hour**, negatively affecting food systems and availability of locally sourced foods.**

HOW WE DO IT.. together



employees on staff



vehicles in fleet

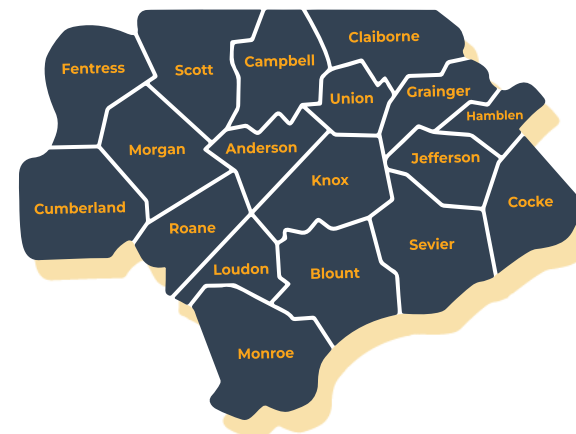


community partners



square foot facility

WHO WE DO IT FOR



Fact: **100%** of counties in the U.S. have residents experiencing food insecurity.*

We serve 18 of those counties.

This year, SHFB - ETN served a total of **2,343,048 people** through our hunger relief programs.

*Feeding America's Map the Meal Gap Survey

**Via UT Agriculture Extension circa 2025

Food Bank Model

Food Sourcing & FAQ

Food and funds are donated by corporate sponsors, individual donors, food partners, and the general public.



Four-star rating (highest possible) with **Charity Navigator**.

Did you know that **we purchase a majority of our food?**



Food is purchased in bulk by Second Harvest and stored in our **1,945,878 cubic feet warehouse**.

Volunteers sort and evaluate donated product and pack purchased bulk goods. **Staff** pulls orders for our agencies.



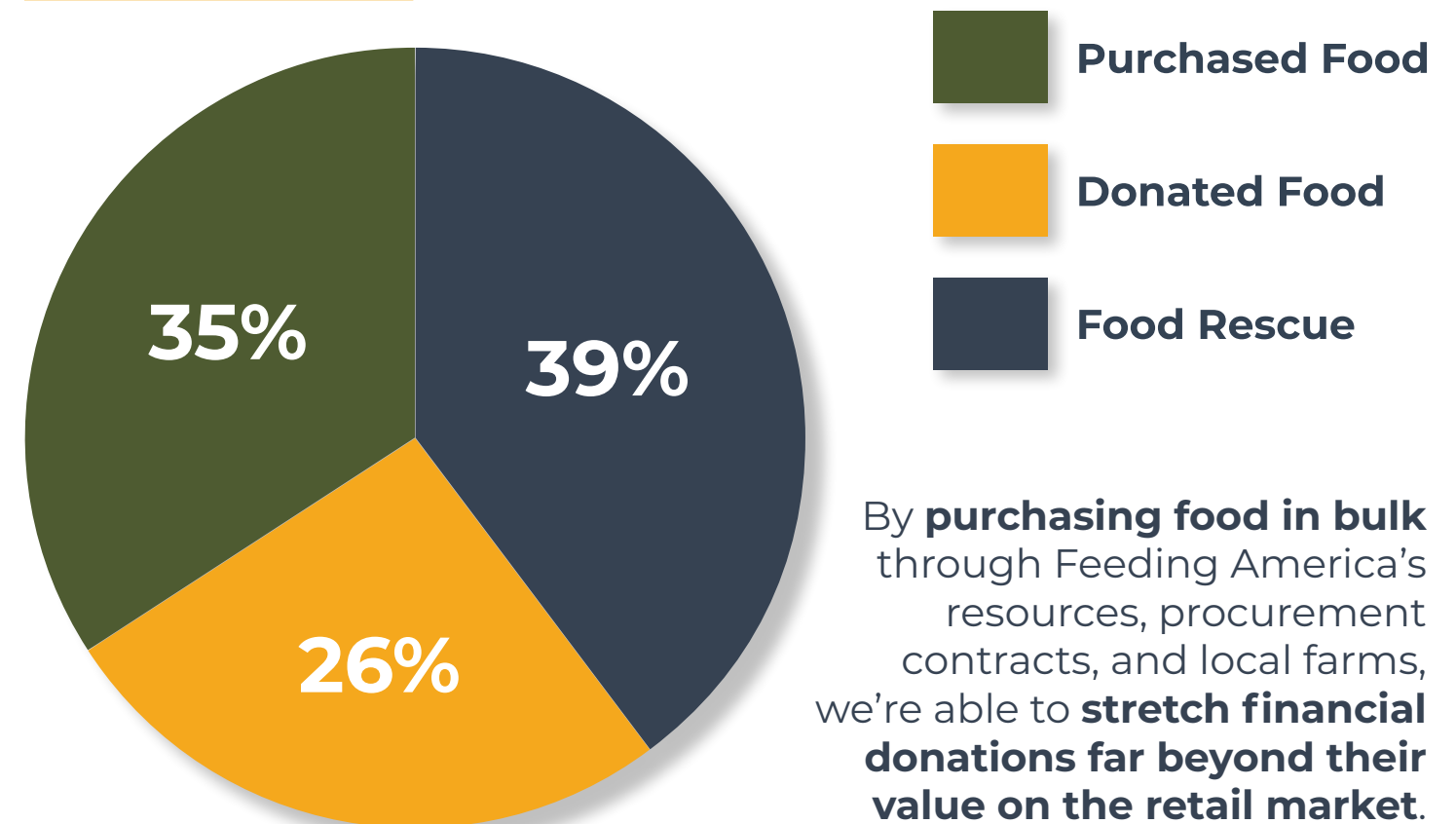
This year, our volunteers packed **1.3 million meals!**

Partner agencies are often referred to as **food pantries**.



Food is distributed to our **789 partner agencies** to ensure it reaches our East Tennessee neighbors!

Where does our food come from?



How do we produce our efficiency rate?

\$0.95 of every dollar donated goes towards our hunger relief programs. Determined by Functional Expenses—divide the expenses of our programs by the total expenses to get our efficiency index: **95.3%**.

How do we determine how many meals we provided?

of pounds of food / 1.2 = meals provided

Highlights from Programs

providing 1.89M meals per month

Empowerment Services

151,331
meals provided FY'25

Empowerment Services provides support beyond food access, including **food education**. **Path of Hope** leverages resources and trainings to help those experiencing food insecurity exit the cycle of poverty, while **Food as Medicine** provides take-home food boxes for our neighbors to prioritize healing.

Food for Kids is a “backpack program” currently in **301 schools** that continues through summer break.

This is our **most expensive program** due to packaging, nutritional content, and the nature of accessibility by small hands.

Food for Kids

15,458
students served/week

Food Rescue **prevents waste** by rescuing produce, meats, dairy, and other donated goods, such as household products that would otherwise be thrown out.

Our team partners with **food producers, grocery stores, restaurants, and farmers**, who donate these goods.

Food Rescue

958,841
pounds rescued/month

Partner Agencies

1,498,125
neighbors served FY'25

Senior Outreach provides emergency and supplemental food to shut-in seniors.

In collaboration with **19 partner sites**, this program serves homebound seniors, with **478,568 pounds of food distributed in FY'25**.

Mobile Pantry

143,105
neighbors served FY'25

Mobile Pantry increases **access to Food Bank services** by bringing them directly to the communities we serve. Utilizing a drive-thru format, **2.3 million pounds of food were distributed in FY'25**.

Partner Agencies work with us to **distribute food** within our 18-county service area. **23.08 million pounds were dispersed through agency partners in FY'25**.

Senior Outreach

1,030+
seniors served/month

“Knowing that somebody’s there and somebody does care, especially in your lowest moments and your darkest moments is really powerful. **They do give people hope.**”







— Misti, a graduate of our Path of Hope program

“I want people to know that there’s no judgement here. I am just like you, and you are just like me, and **we all need food.**”

— Jessica, founder of Forward Market, a Partner Agency in Knox County

Funding Sources Fiscal Year '25

Leadership & Board of Directors

-  Value of Donated Product—\$35,604,758*
-  Public Support—\$6,683,872*
-  Program Revenue—\$5,172,997*
-  Grants + Government Funding—\$2,808,785*
-  Events—\$2,905,167*
-  Other—\$471,140*



\$53,834,832*
Total Revenue

**Unaudited as of August 12, 2025*

Chief Executive Officer



Elaine Streno

"It has been an honor to serve Second Harvest for the past 30[+] years alongside this wonderful East Tennessee community. There is still so much work to do to ensure our neighbors are fed, but I am proud to work with such an amazing team who keep the mission of our Food Bank at the forefront of our organization."

Leadership Team

Julie Black, *Chief Financial Officer*

Rachael Ellis, *Chief Operating Officer*

Joyce Zirkle, *Executive Consultant*



David Owens,
President

David Keim,
Vice President

David Reynolds,
Secretary/Treasurer

Drew Everett

Tim McLemore

Lori Hickok

Bob Haralson

Jennifer Oswalt

Dean John Ross

Patrick J. Birmingham

Jacob Ogle

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

FIGHT HUNGER. FEED HOPE.



For more information,
please visit
SecondHarvestETN.org

Thank you
for your support!

