



2022 Fact Sheet

MISSION: To lead the fight against hunger throughout the 10 coastal counties of South Carolina

GUIDING PRINCIPLES: Feed. Advocate. Empower.

The Lowcountry Food Bank serves the 10 coastal counties of South Carolina and distributed more than 39 million pounds of food, water and essential products in 2022. The Lowcountry Food Bank helps fight hunger by distributing food to more than 230 partner agencies including on-site meal programs, homeless shelters and emergency food pantries. The Lowcountry Food Bank advocates on behalf of those who experience hunger and helps empower people to make healthy and nutritious food choices.

For more information go to lowcountryfoodbank.org and connect with us on **Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and LinkedIn.**

OVERVIEW

- **39.7 million** pounds of food and personal products distributed in ten coastal counties of South Carolina (39,707,880 pounds)
- Distributed **16.6 million lbs.** of fresh produce - 42% of all food distributed was fresh produce (16,649,949 pounds)
 - 193,143 lbs. of produce received from local farmers through our Growing Food Locally initiative
- **33,089,900** meals provided
 - 227,986 meals prepared by the Lowcountry Food Bank, including those prepared in the LCFB Zucker Family Production Kitchen and by Kids Café community school partners.
 - Rescued and distributed 14.1 million pounds of edible food from retailers that would otherwise go to waste
 - Distributed 205 meals per person in need in coastal SC (MPIN)
 - Covers 9,000 square miles on the coast of South Carolina
 - More than 200,000 individuals served
 - 1 in 5 children is food insecure
 - Nearly 50% of the people served by LCFB are children and seniors
 - 96% of our charitable dollars are spent on direct programs and services
 - 4-star rating from Charity Navigator based on financial health, efficiency and capacity
 - \$1 can help provide 6 meals
 - The Lowcountry Food Bank was founded in 1983

TRANSPORTATION

- **16** drivers on staff
- The Lowcountry Food bank fleet includes **14** refrigerated box trucks, **two** 53' refrigerated trailers, **one** 38' refrigerated trailer, three tractors, four cargo vans, one passenger van, one company car
- The Lowcountry Food Bank's drivers travelled **325,004** miles in 2022
- Drivers pick up food from an average of 57 retail partners three-four times every week



ZUCKER FAMILY PRODUCTION KITCHEN

- Prepared 227,986 meals in the Zucker Family Production Kitchen
- Produce about **4,150** meals every week with the support of **45** volunteers

PARTNER AGENCIES

- More than **230** agencies distribute food to those experiencing hunger and range from faith-based food pantries to on-site feeding programs (on-site meal programs and residential facilities) to direct-service, non-profit organizations
- Agencies are responsible for **88.46%** of total pounds distributed by Lowcountry Food Bank in 2022 (35,129,940 lbs.)
 - 14,942,044 lbs. of produce distributed by partner agencies

PROGRAMS AND INITIATIVES

SENIOR AND ADULT PROGRAMS

- **Senior and Adult Meals** – We partnered with organizations that serve homebound seniors and adults: East Cooper Meals on Wheels, Summerville Meals on Wheels, First Scots Presbyterian Church, Help of Beaufort, and Love House Ministries
 - 141,506 Senior and Adult Meals distributed
- **Senior Box Program (CSFP)** – USDA program that provides boxes of staple goods and produce to food insecure or homebound seniors and adults once a month
 - 32,944 boxes distributed to nearly 5,000 seniors monthly

RETAIL

- Partner with about **204** retail and wholesale grocers across the 10 counties we serve
- We scheduled **51,168** food donation pickups from our retail partners

VETERAN MEALS

- Through our partnerships with Patriot Villas, Lowcountry Veteran's Home, and the Ralph H. Johnson VA Medical Center, we prepared and served **4,690** meals to veterans and distributed over **7,629** pounds of produce to these same families.

FOOD FOR HEALTH

- Second year of new Food for Health initiative, which focuses on improving systems between healthcare partners and food access for our neighbors
- We worked with six Federally Qualified Health Clinic partners to distribute 418 emergency food assistance boxes for patients in low food access areas who screened positive for food insecurity.
- In conjunction with MUSC, distributed more than 1,300 bags of nutritious food
- Screened more than 1,600 patients; those who screened positive received emergency food assistance and a referral to a local partner



CHILDHOOD HUNGER PROGRAMS

- **Kids Café (CACFP)** – Prepared **115,926** Kids Café meals to 25 after-school sites during the school year.
- **Fresh for Kids** - Distributed **79,710** pounds of fresh produce to children and their families through two models: at our after-school Kids Café site to enrolled children and through our new Pop-Up Produce distribution model. Provided 10-15 pound bags of produce to students and their families during school dismissal time through the car and bus-rider lanes, holding 72 distributions in 2022 at 34 school and library locations.
- **Summer Meals**
 - Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) – Provides free nutritious meals to children and teens in eligible communities throughout the summer.
 - **20,403** meals prepared for 18 summer camps and library programs across five counties.
 - Through our Boeing partnership, we provided **260** children in Williamsburg County with breakfast and lunch through the Summer Eats Program, **10,400** meals in the month of July.
 - Over **3,000** pounds of produce and 260 boxes of shelf-stable pantry food during summer 2022 to migrant families through partnerships with East Coast Migrant Head Start in Colleton County, Beaufort Jasper YMCA, and Charleston County School District's ESOL Program thanks to funding from No Kid Hungry.
- **BackPack Buddies** – Provides children with nutritious, easy-to-prepare food to take home on weekends and school vacations to fill the weekend hunger gap.
 - Distributed **105,834** BackPack Buddies to more than 60 school partners in the 10 counties we serve, serving about 3,000 children per week during the school year.
- **School Pantry** – Provides students and their families with a 25-pound box of staple food items to help stretch their monthly food budget
 - In partnership with 23 schools across five counties, distributed **5,280** 25-pound shelf-stable School Pantry boxes to students and their families during the school year.
- **School Market** – A permanent pantry located in the school to provide students and families the opportunity to discretely select food items to take home. All School Markets transitioned to back to client choice in 2022
 - Opened **four** new School Markets in 2022
 - Provided **1,200** frozen meals and **100,569** pounds of food and essential products to School Markets
 - **Eight** of our School Markets are equipped with produce coolers, enabling them to distribute fresh fruits and vegetables, dairy, and additional perishables to their students and families.
- **Fresh For Kids** - kid-friendly mini farmers' markets
 - Distributed **79,710** pounds of fresh produce to children at 34 locations



NUTRITION INITIATIVES

- Lowcountry Food Bank is a SNAP Education Implementing Agency that provides partners with training, materials, and guidance to empower our community to make the best food choices within their budget.
- The SNAP Ed grants covers salaries for multiple staff members, overhead expenses of the Food Bank, and all our nutrition education and promotional materials.
- In 2022, we had **295,027** SNAP Ed contacts.
- Our nutrition education team implements Cooking Matters six-week culinary nutrition courses and store tours with partners and targeted SNAP-eligible neighbors
 - 26 Cooking Matters courses (269 total participants)
 - 37 Cooking Matters at the Store tours (357 total participants)
 - 48 Cooking Matters single sessions (293 total participants)
- Reached **29,374,011** impressions with healthy eating social marketing (billboards, social media)
- Conducted safe sampling at **104** mobile food distributions, Fresh for Alls, or Fresh Expresses and distributed more than **166,000** nutrition education materials through all LCFB programs and agency partners.

VOLUNTEERS

- More than **27,000** volunteer hours (27,983)
- More than **85,000** food boxes packed in the LCFB volunteer center
- Sorted more than **619,000** pounds of donated food in the Hendrick Automotive Group Reclamation Room (619,539)

DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

- **48,169** gifts processed. Average gift size: **\$262**
- More than **12,100** Facebook followers, **4,407** Twitter followers, **3,283** Instagram followers, **832** LinkedIn followers, **234** YouTube subscribers
- **20,000+** active emails