

# Turning Donor Support into Healthier Communities Across the Lowcountry



Thanks to strategic investment, Lowcountry Food Bank's (LCFB) Nutrition Team utilizes its feeding programs in conjunction with its partner agencies to create healthy, welcoming pantry environments that help neighbors make nourishing food choices and thrive.

## Why This Work Matters



A pantry's environment plays a powerful role in shaping food choices and long-term health. By applying evidence-based Policies, Systems, and Environmental (PSE) strategies, LCFB helps partners create spaces that make the healthy choice the easy choice—maximizing the impact of every donated dollar.

## Through this approach, the Nutrition Team:



Supports Choice Pantry models that restore dignity by allowing neighbors to select foods that meet their families' needs



Improves pantry flow and layout to increase efficiency and highlight nourishing foods



Uses signage, displays, handouts, and recipe sampling to encourage healthier choices



Develops tools for stocking nutritionally-balanced pantries



Provides free Learning Center training for pantry staff and volunteers



Creates picture-based recipes to overcome literacy barriers





## Impact in Action

With support from LCFB's Nutrition Team, Murrells Inlet Church of God transitioned to a choice pantry in February 2025—expanding dignity, efficiency, and neighbor satisfaction. The redesigned pantry flow prioritizes whole food groups, improves movement through the space, and uses signage to promote fruits and vegetables.



*“We are much more efficient post-makeover and post-choice. Neighbors prefer the new choice model,” said Mary Shaw, pantry director. She also noted that LCFB’s online Learning Center course helped staff and volunteers successfully implement the new model.*



## A Smart, Sustainable Investment

LCFB's Nutrition Team takes a customized, multipronged approach—ensuring each pantry design reflects the needs of the community it serves. These improvements create welcoming spaces during stressful moments while supporting healthier behaviors long after neighbors leave the pantry. This is a lasting investment in the health of coastal South Carolina.

## Your Impact

Donor support makes this work possible — transforming pantries into spaces that nourish health, dignity, and community. By investing in systems-level change, donors help ensure lasting impact for neighbors today and for years to come.



**Scan to support LCFB pantries**