united

to fight

hunger
our vision

A stronger community where hunger needs are met with sufficient access to nutritious food.
how we work
DONATIONS ARE MADE: The Arkansas Foodbank secures donations from the food and grocery industries, government agencies, individuals and other organizations.

FOOD IS STORED: The food that is donated or purchased is then stored in our 100,000 square foot warehouse.

FOOD IS DISTRIBUTED: The Arkansas Foodbank arranges pick-ups and deliveries to its 450 partner agencies and schools.

FOOD REACHES THOSE IN NEED: Donations are provided to people in need at food pantries, soup kitchens, youth programs, senior centers, schools, colleges and emergency shelters.
why we work
the face of hunger

1 in 5 Arkansans struggle with finding sufficient access to nutritious food.
Each year, the Foodbank serves around **280,000** individuals across our 33-county territory. Over 2 million visits are made to our member agencies each year.

- 320 partner agencies
- 87 schools
- Branch in Warren
- Branch in Lexa

**2019 DISTRIBUTION BY MEALS**

- 100,000 - 199,999
- 200,000 - 399,999
- 400,000 - 749,999
- 750,000 and above
who we serve:

80K (33%) children
27K (11%) seniors
87K households
our programs

Food for Seniors

Food for Families

Food for Kids
Barriers to Food Access
- Fixed income
- Lack of transportation
- Choosing utilities or medicine over food
- Caring for grandchildren

Our Strategies
- Senior box program
- Capacity building for pantries to better serve seniors
- Senior friendly foods
Food for Families
Arkansas ranks 2nd in the nation for food insecurity.

Barriers to Food Access
• Job loss/unexpected expenses
• Food Deserts in rural communities

Working families with children are now the fastest growing group visiting food pantries.

Our Strategies
• Partner with 320 partner agencies
• College Pantries
our programs

Food for Kids

1 in 4 Children Face Hunger in Arkansas

Implications of Childhood Hunger
• Poor performance in school
• Delayed emotional and physical development

Our Strategies
• Backpack Program
• Summer Feeding
• School Pantries
Strategic Goal:
Increase nutritious foods as percentage of total pounds distributed.

Arkansas Foodbank distributed over 8 million pounds of fresh produce in 2020.
COVID-19 RESPONSE 2020
Before the pandemic, thousands of Arkansans were already a paycheck away from experiencing hunger. After the coronavirus crisis hit communities across our state in March of 2020, those challenges were only intensified. People facing job loss, kids suddenly stuck at home without free and reduced school meals and home-bound seniors without access to meals – families who never needed our help before were lining up to receive a box of food.
quickly adapting

- Partner Agency Closings
- Switching to production model focusing on emergency food boxes
- Increased Mobile Distributions
- Closing of Volunteer Program
2020 IMPACT REPORT

impact & RESPONSE
2020

i need food

In 2020, Arkansas Foodbank hosted 602 mobile food distributions across central and southern Arkansas, compared to 51 in 2019.

We had 206,776 views on our website which is more than double what we experienced during 2019. Over 63,000 views were searching where to find food.

146,087 emergency food boxes distributed through our partner schools, agencies and mobile distributions.

1,908 texts to find food through our new text messaging service.
In 2020, Arkansas Foodbank distributed 40.4 million pounds of food, a 37% increase from 2019.
The crisis is far from over – it's going to take a while for families and individuals to get back on their feet. To make sure we’re ready to respond, the Foodbank is scaling its operations to include more mobile distributions, updating our equipment to become more efficient with food deliveries and expanding our storage capacity so that we can accept and distribute more food.
Higher Food-Insecurity Rate
17% of Arkansans were considered food-insecure prior to the pandemic. Now, Feeding America projects that number could rise to 22%, meaning an additional 75,000 Arkansans could need help finding food in the days and months ahead.

Availability of Food
Food banks across the country are facing a food cliff as manufacturers and retailers scale back donations, food supply shortages and a reduction of federal aid.

Long Term Funding
To meet the increased need, it’s going to cost the Foodbank millions of dollars to make up the difference in food supply and distribution, even after the impressive generosity we experienced in 2020.
How can you help?

volunteer

One of the most meaningful ways to join the fight against hunger is to spend some time as a volunteer at Arkansas Foodbank. There’s no way we can feed the hundreds of thousands of Arkansans without the help of our volunteers. We offer several volunteer opportunities:

Warehouse Shifts
Monday–Friday
9:00 AM - 12:00 PM & 1:00 pm - 4:00 PM

Saturday Workday (every other Saturday)
9:00 AM - NOON

Family Night | 3rd Tues of the month
6-8 PM

Mobile Distributions
Throughout the year, listed at arkansasfoodbank.org
$1 equals food for 5 meals
Thank you!

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