

**Second Harvest Food Bank
of Orange County
2018
Press Kit**



FeedOC.org



Second Harvest Food Bank of Orange County

Mission

To end hunger in Orange County

Year Established

1983

Individuals At-Risk of Hunger Each Month

More than 315,000 in OC are at-risk of hunger

1 in 6 children in OC are at-risk

Average Monthly Distribution

Enough food for 1.8 million meals

More than 250,000 people served

Food Distribution

Hundreds of community partners distributing food
throughout Orange County

Volunteer Hours Annually

109,000 hours

Volunteers Annually

24,000 volunteers

Efficiency Rate

More than 90 cents of every dollar we spend goes directly to our hunger relief
programs and services.

(All statistics apply to the Orange County area)

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Frequently Asked Questions

Q: When did Second Harvest Food Bank of Orange County begin providing food assistance to the community?

A: In 1983. 2018 marks our 35th year of providing food and hope to end hunger for individuals and families in Orange County.

Q: What is the number of people who are at risk of hunger each month in Orange County?

A: 10.1% of Orange County residents¹, or 315,170 people, are at-risk of hunger each month. 17.9% of children (129,670) in Orange County, or about one in six, are at-risk of hunger each month².

Q: How does Second Harvest Food Bank feed the hungry?

A: Second Harvest solicits donations of food and funds from the community. We distribute enough food for more than 1.8 million meals each month through hundreds of community partners who distribute food throughout the county.

Q: Where do food donations come from?

A: We collect from grocery stores, food manufacturers, distributors, farmers, community food drives, restaurants and fresh produce gleaned from local farms.

Q: What is Second Harvest's efficiency rate?

A: More than 90 cents of every dollar we spend goes directly to programs and services.

Q: What can I do to help?

- *Donate Money* – Make a tax-deductible donation. Every dollar provides enough food for 3 meals.
- *Host a Virtual Food Drive or Food Drive*– Sponsor a food drive or Virtual Food Drive at your church, school, company or service club. Our Resource Development department will support your food collection campaign.
- *Learn More about Second Harvest* – Come to our Food Bank 101 Tours. Visit FeedOC.org for more information.
- *Volunteer* – Sort food, help out at special events, or share your special or professional skill with us.
- *Leave a Lasting Legacy* – Help ensure that Second Harvest Food Bank of Orange County is able to provide meals for the hungry for years to come with a Legacy gift.

¹ Feeding America, [Map the Meal Gap](#)

² Ibid



About Second Harvest Food Bank of Orange County

MISSION

To end hunger in Orange County.

VISION

Together we are creating a future in which no one goes hungry. Ever.

STRATEGY STATEMENT

To lead partners to innovative and sustainable solutions to bridge the meal gap.

HISTORY

Founded 35 years ago in 1983 by the Council of Orange, Society of St. Vincent de Paul, Second Harvest Food Bank launched operations in a former packing house in Orange under the leadership of founders Dan Harney and Tom Fuentes. In 2007, Second Harvest moved to a renovated facility at the former El Toro Marine Base, more than doubling its capacity to meet the needs of Orange County's hungry. In 2012, Second Harvest Food Bank of Orange County became an independent 501(c) 3 non-profit corporation.

Community Partners

Second Harvest Food Bank serves 190 community partners that feed the hungry at more than 300 locations throughout Orange County, including church pantries, senior centers, children's after school centers, shelters for abused women and children, and other emergency assistance organizations.

CLIENTS

In partnership with member charities, Second Harvest Food Bank helps feed 250,000 individuals each month. Those served include the working poor, children, seniors on fixed incomes, single parents, veterans, the disabled, the homeless, and individuals experiencing medical emergencies or recent job layoffs.

FOOD SOURCES

The primary work of Second Harvest Food Bank is acquiring and distributing donated and surplus food. Food sources include local grocery stores and supermarket chains, food manufacturers and distributors, the government, restaurants, trade shows, gleaning efforts, bulk food purchases, food drives, and private individuals.



Food & Hunger Facts

HUNGER IN ORANGE COUNTY

The Great Recession has had a lasting impact on Orange County's working poor. Jobs that pay well are scarce for those in the unskilled labor force and rents are starting to climb which leaves less money for food. This has left many families facing the difficult decision of buying groceries or paying for other basic needs, mortgages, or medical bills. Second Harvest Food Bank's community partners reported approximately 42% increase in demand for food assistance since 2008. While the numbers have declined slightly, many are still struggling. According to Feeding America, 10.1 % of Orange County residents³, over 315,000 people, are at-risk of hunger. The majority of people at risk of going hungry each month are children, single parents, seniors and other men and women confronted by financial difficulty, or who are physically unable to earn a living.

CHILDREN

17.9% of children (or about 1 in 6) in Orange County are at risk of hunger every month, and 50% of public school children⁴ in Orange County rely on the government's Free and Reduced Lunch Program as a steady source of nutrition. Research indicates that even mild malnutrition experienced by young children during critical periods of growth impacts the behavior of children, their school performance, and their overall cognitive development.

SENIORS

According to the Elder Economic Security Index (Elder Index), which figures in housing, food, transportation and health care, more than 45% of Orange County seniors age 65+ don't have enough money to meet their basic needs. Even with incomes above the Federal Poverty Level (\$12,060 for a single person, \$16,240 for a couple), many seniors coping with high housing costs and rising medical costs simply can't afford nutritious food, which can affect health and independence.⁵

³ Feeding America, [Map the Meal Gap](#)

⁴ [Report on the Conditions of Children in Orange County, 2013](#), 76.

⁵ Ibid. 79.



Food Sources & Programs

GROCERY RESCUE AND FOOD RESCUE

The Food Rescue and Grocery Rescue programs provide a vital bridge between donors of perishable food items and those in need. We partner with local grocers to collect their prepared and perishable food for same day distribution to agencies serving those in need.

CHILD HUNGER STRATEGY

The goal of the Child Hunger Strategy is to increase the food security of children living in poverty in Orange County. The Kids Cafe, Mobile School Pantry, and Permanent School Pantry programs are designed to curb the effects of malnutrition experienced by children living in poverty. Our Permanent School Pantries at Lincoln Elementary School, El Sol Academy and La Colonia are designed to provide nutritious food to parents and others in the community.

Senior Grocery Program

The Senior Grocery Program is designed to address and help alleviate the hunger and malnutrition among the elderly of Orange County. We serve low-and fixed-income seniors with nutritious groceries, including fresh produce, twice a month at local senior and community centers.

MOBILE PANTRY

Each Mobile Pantry transports at least 5,000 pounds of fresh fruit, vegetables and dry goods directly to needy families and individuals in underserved areas of Orange County. We average 40 stops each month.

INCREDIBLE EDIBLE FARM

Due to planned construction at the Great Park the Farm closed on September 30, 2017. Once a new location has been selected and prepared the Farm will reopen, most likely in late 2018 or early 2019.

GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS

Second Harvest participates in the Emergency Food Assistance Program (EFAP) distributing USDA commodities and other food products under administrative contracts with state and federal authorities. Second Harvest also participates in the Emergency Food and Shelter Program (EFSP) in Orange County.



How to Help

DONATE FUNDS

- **Make a tax-deductible donation** - more than 90 cents of every dollar we spend goes directly to programs and services.
- **Go to [FeedOC.org](https://www.feedoc.org)** to make your secure online donation, or visit <https://www.feedoc.org/give-now/> for more information on other ways to give.

DANIEL J. HARNEY LEGACY SOCIETY

- **Legacy Giving** - We encourage donors to include Second Harvest Food Bank of Orange County in their estate planning through a variety of charitable arrangements. For more information contact us at Give@FeedOC.org or call 949.653.2900.

DONATE FOOD

- **Donate** now through our [Virtual Food Drive](#).
- **Become a food donor** – Second Harvest strives to provide nutritious food to those who need it most. Our most needed items include: peanut or other seed butter, canned vegetables, rice (brown), canned fruit or applesauce, dried or canned beans, whole grain cereal, canned or boxed soup, whole grain pasta, canned meats and fish, and healthy snacks such as granola bars or dried fruits. We also accept personal care products, paper products, and diapers.
- **Sponsor a food drive at your church, school, company or service club** - Second Harvest encourages partnerships with local organizations to collect canned and dry food products throughout the year. Visit <https://www.feedoc.org/get-involved/start-a-food-drive/> for more information.

VOLUNTEER

- **Food Sorting** – Volunteers help sort donated food in our food distribution center.
- **Ambassador Group** – Represent Second Harvest Food Bank in the community by attending community events, speaking at schools and civic organizations, or helping in our food distribution center.
- **Direct Food Distribution** – Be trained to volunteer at some of our direct food distribution sites and see our mission in action.
- **Office and Administrative Help** – Volunteers can help by offering their special talents and skills.
- **Izzy's Corner** – A special volunteer opportunity for children 7-13 years old.

EDUCATE

- **Take a tour to learn more** – join us for a Food Bank 101 Tour and see how we work to end hunger in Orange County. Visit [FeedOC.org](https://www.feedoc.org) for more information.



2018 Special Events & Food Drives

- May 12** **Stamp Out Hunger – National Association of Letter Carriers Food Drive**
The largest food drive in the nation helps the food bank stay stocked during the summer months when donations of food are usually at their lowest. Mail carriers around the county participate by picking up non-perishable food that residents leave by their mailboxes.
- May 17** **Serving Hope Breakfast**
A complimentary fundraising breakfast where you will learn more about our mission, the great work we are doing in our community, and how you can partner with us to make a difference in the lives of Orange County families.
- June** **ABC 7/ Vons Feed SoCal “Stuff A Truck” Food Drive**
During the month of June, ABC 7 will be promoting the Feed SoCal Food Drive to benefit Southern California Food Banks including Second Harvest Food Bank of Orange County. Food will be collected at local Vons and Albertsons grocery stores. Also, in June Vons will host, and ABC 7 will broadcast the day-long “Stuff a Truck” food drive at a location to be announced.
- July 25** **Orange County Fair Food Drive**
Second Harvest Food Bank receives food donations made in exchange for free admission at one OC Fair “We Care Wednesday”.
- September** **Hunger Action Month**
Every September Second Harvest teams up with Feeding America and other food banks around the nation to raise awareness and promote advocacy around the issue of hunger in America.
- October 3** **Harvesters Luncheon & Fashion Show**
The Harvesters Luncheon and Fashion Show is a premier event produced by the Harvesters, an elite group of philanthropists dedicated to ending hunger in Orange County. More than 400 Orange County sophisticates enjoy a Champagne reception, silent auction, exclusive fashion show, and gourmet luncheon in support of ending hunger in our community.



2018 Special Events & Food Drives

October 13 & 14 Spooktacular Weekend

The OC Great Park's Spooktacular weekend is fun for the whole family.

November 3 Scouting for Food Drive

Boy Scouts & Girl Scouts will collect non-perishable food from homes around the county and deliver it to Second Harvest.

November Angels Groundskeepers Thanksgiving Holiday Food Drive

The Angels' Groundskeepers host their Annual Thanksgiving Holiday Canned Food Drive at Angel Stadium of Anaheim. All proceeds benefit Second Harvest Food Bank of Orange County in the fight against hunger during the holiday season.

November 20 "No Lunch" Lunch

We invite members of the community to this annual event for a soup kitchen-style meal to remember those in need, bringing to mind the experience of many of the hungry in our community.

November/ December Holiday Campaigns

Look in your local grocery store for opportunities to help Second Harvest and its community partners feed the hungry in Orange County. Our Holiday Campaigns include: Stater Bros "Harvesting Hope in our Community", Vons "Help Us End Hunger", and Sprouts "Grab n' Give" food drives.

For more information and a full list of upcoming promotions, visit <https://www.feedoc.org/get-involved/events-fundraisers/> or email SpecialEvents@FeedOC.org.