

Your Local Food Bank

**FEEDING**  
**AMERICA**  
RIVERSIDE | SAN BERNARDINO

PARTNER  
FOOD BANK OF  
**FEEDING**  
**AMERICA**



# **KNOW HUNGER**

Our Mission is to Alleviate Hunger in the Inland Empire

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## CEO Corner



**Carolyn (Solar)  
Fajardo, MBA**  
Chief Executive  
Officer

Dear Hunger Heroes,

The past few months have been eventful. From wildfires in our backyard to hurricanes on the southeast coast, we been hard at work supporting those in need, both locally and beyond.

In Riverside County, we partnered with the Riverside Emergency Operations Center to deliver 400 food boxes and water to families affected by the fires. In San Bernardino, local efforts were already in place, but we stood ready to assist. Meanwhile, in collaboration with Feeding America National, we sent over 22,000 pounds of disaster relief to Georgia for families impacted by Hurricane Helene. This was made possible by ALDI volunteers, who assembled 800 disaster boxes, preparing us for crises near and far.

As the holiday season approaches, we're shifting focus back to our local communities. Thanks to Albertsons Companies, 3,000 turkeys will help families across Riverside and San Bernardino Counties. While FARSB will distribute some, most will go to our amazing community partners, who will ensure families receive holiday staples.

Your support makes this possible. Through donations of food, funds, or time, you bring hope to families in need. Together, we're making a lasting impact. Thank you for your generosity!

## A Donation When It Matters Most

### THANK YOU DART FOUNDATION

Hunger is a big strain on children in the Inland Empire, especially during the summer when they do not have access to school meals. Thanks to supporters like the Dart Foundation, we are able to combat childhood through programs like Grab n' Go.

Our Grab n' Go program partners with seven school districts throughout the Inland Empire to provide food boxes and produce for students and families in need.

The recent \$50,000 contribution from the Dart Foundation will help our program continue to operate and end childhood hunger. Thank you, Dart Foundation, for nurturing our future leaders!



## Ending Food Deserts Together AMAZON FRESH OPENS IN FONTANA

FARSB had the honor of attending the grand opening of the first Amazon Fresh in San Bernardino County! Acquanetta Warren, the mayor of Fontana, stated that our region is a food desert and recognized the need for more healthy options. She called this new addition "an improvement to quality of life."

A food desert is an area where access to affordable, healthy food options is limited due to the lack of nearby grocery stores compounded by low income and limited transportation. Amazon Fresh commemorated this step forward with a \$10,000 donation to FARSB. This contribution will further assist our mission of making nutritious food available to our neighbors in need!



## Families Need Your Help More Than Ever

### GIVE THEM THE HOLIDAYS THEY DESERVE

Donations toward food banks across the country are dropping back down to pre-pandemic rates. At FARSB, we are experiencing a similar trend, but the need is higher than ever. Many individuals and families that did not need help before are turning to our food bank to make ends meet. Hunger Action Month, one of the biggest campaigns across the nation, fell short in terms of funds raised to help our neighbors; that means we must now work harder to meet the need.

Whether through donations, organizing food drives, or volunteering, we can all play a part in ensuring that every family in the Inland Empire can enjoy a nourishing holiday meal and share in the spirit of the season. Here is what YOU can do:



Making a difference can be as simple as a small donation. Your generosity can help ensure that more people enjoy a warm and hearty meal during this festive time of year. To contribute, go to [FeedingIE.org/Donate](https://FeedingIE.org/Donate).



Start a holiday food drive and spread some cheer to those in need. Check out our updated flyer with essential items like canned corn, stuffing, and various shelf-stable holiday foods. Register now at [FeedingIE.org/Food-Drives](https://FeedingIE.org/Food-Drives).



Join us at the food bank and make a difference in the lives of those facing hunger. Spots for volunteers are filling up quickly—book your volunteering slot now at [FeedingIE.org/Volunteer](https://FeedingIE.org/Volunteer).



### Delivering Hope to Airport Fire Evacuees

Meet Pedro, one of our dedicated drivers, delivering essential food and water to the Lake Community Center to support evacuees from the Airport Fire. Pedro has been a vital part of our food bank, helping alleviate hunger in the Inland Empire for 22 years. Thank you, Pedro, for your commitment!



## Can Tree Wonderland is BACK! YOU'RE INVITED TO THE BIGGEST EVENT OF THE YEAR

Join us for our 4th Annual Can Tree Wonderland presented by Albertsons, Vons, and Pavilions Foundation on **Saturday, December 14th!**

Local businesses and community teams will create canned trees to fight hunger in Riverside and San Bernardino Counties. It's a fun, creative way to help families in need and showcase your holiday spirit! Participate by sponsoring, buying cans, or organizing internal food drives. Your support will directly benefit the Inland Empire. The event also features a community fair, with voting on the trees, and a special visit from the Grinch!

To learn more and participate, visit [FeedingIE.org/CanTree](https://FeedingIE.org/CanTree).



## Our Monthly Donors are unbe-LEAF-able

This time of year can be challenging for many households to make ends meet when it should be a time of joy and celebration. Fortunately, the ongoing support of our monthly donors has enabled us to combat holiday hunger and spread hope during this season.

When you join the Meals for Many (M4M) monthly giving club, you become a monthly donor and get a shout-out in our next newsletter. Become a M4M member at [FeedingIE.org/Meals-For-Many](https://FeedingIE.org/Meals-For-Many) or scan the QR code. Thank you for your support!



THANK YOU FOR YOUR ONGOING SUPPORT!

David Spell  
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