



Honoring our Past,
Nourishing our Future,
Moving Forward
Together

2025 IMPACT REPORT

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Center for Food Action is to support northern New Jersey residents experiencing food insecurity and economic hardship by providing food, rental and utility assistance, and comprehensive wraparound services that support individuals and families on their path toward greater stability and self-sufficiency.

VISION STATEMENT

CFA's vision is to expand CHOICE pantries at all locations to increase access to fresh, nutritious food, while investing in infrastructure and technology to enhance efficiency, optimize warehouse operations and logistics, and serve as a central hub for community partners. We will continue to integrate rental and utility assistance programs and connect our neighbors to social and wraparound services that provide pathways to long-term self-sufficiency.

CORE VALUES

- INTEGRITY** We are ethical stewards of our resources.
- COMPASSION** We empathize with our neighbors' humanity and life experiences.
- RESPONSIVE** We meet the emerging needs of neighbors in our community.
- COLLABORATION** We build dynamic partnerships aligned with our work.
- INNOVATION** We seek to infuse creative programs with technology-enabled processes.
- COLLECTIVE IMPACT** We collaborate with partners to give an amplified voice to food insecurity in New Jersey





5 KEY STATISTICS

170,811 People Served (101,900 adults + 68,911 children)

77,317 Households Supported

\$970,838 Spent to Support Homelessness Prevention

24,915 Weekend Snack Packs Distributed across
14+ Schools and Community Sites

2 Million Pounds of Food Distributed

“To know is to care, to care is to act, to act is to make a difference.”

– HARRY CHAPIN

Dear Friends and Partners of Center for Food Action,

Nearly 50 years ago, a small but determined group of Bergen County residents gathered in a modest office in the Church of Radburn in Fair Lawn. Inspired by the vision of singer Harry Chapin and radio host Bill Ayres, they shared a simple yet profound mission: to fight hunger, poverty, and injustice at their roots. What began as World Hunger Year New Jersey (WHY/NJ), with little more than two repurposed school rooms and a shared sense of urgency, has grown into something none of us could have imagined.

Today, Center for Food Action is a cornerstone of support across Bergen and upper Passaic County. We have more than 30 dedicated employees and hundreds of volunteers. We operate six distribution sites. These include our corporate headquarters in Englewood, locations in Hackensack and Ringwood, warehouse facilities in Saddle Brook and Mahwah, and a satellite center on the Bergen Community College campus in Paramus. Our impact has expanded well beyond emergency food relief. We now provide rental, utility, and heating assistance, wraparound services, and statewide advocacy.

In 2025, the extent of our reach reflects the depth of the need in our communities. Through our distribution sites, mobile unit, school partnerships, and community collaborations, CFA delivered vital services to more than 77,317 households. We reached over 170,811 individuals. Our core programs continue to meet people where they are:

- **Emergency Food Program:** Providing families with fresh produce, meat, dairy, bread, and non-perishable essentials.
- **Homelessness Prevention Program:** Offering multi-level rental assistance, including security deposits and rental arrears, to stabilize and secure housing for vulnerable families.
- **Utility and Heating Assistance:** Helping households manage the burden of gas, electricity, heating, and oil costs.
- **Advocacy:** Connecting individuals and families to partner agencies and additional resources through guidance and referral services.
- **Weekend Snack Pack Program:** Partnering with schools and community organizations to ensure children have easy-to-prepare snacks to bridge the hunger gap each weekend.

The impact of our work would not be possible without you. To our donors, volunteers, partner agencies, government supporters, and the communities we serve — thank you for believing that no one in Bergen or Passaic County should go to bed hungry or face a crisis alone. The work continues, and we are honored to carry it forward together.

With gratitude,



Nicole A. Davis
Executive Director
Center for Food Action



Menen Mathias-Fredericks, MD
Board Chair
Center for Food Action



HIGHLIGHTS

CFA navigated challenges associated with food security in 2025: cuts to USDA food assistance programs, federal funding uncertainty that left vulnerable families without their traditional safety net – Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, and government shutdowns. We responded to our neighbors by expanding our capacity, meeting a 69% increase in guests during the November crisis and Thanksgiving, and serving 9,634 households in a single month in response to federal programs faltering.

Our team distributed nearly \$1 million in homelessness prevention assistance, protecting 914 neighbors from displacement and filling gaps left by reduced federal support. When the federal government shutdown threatened local stability, local donors, constituents, and sponsors rose to the occasion to meet the needs

YEAR IN REVIEW



FOOD SECURITY

170,811
people served
across all programs

101,900
adults
68,911
children

69% household increase in food assistance in November responding to community crisis

2 Million
pounds of food
distributed

Fresh produce,
meat & culturally
diverse options

6 Locations

Englewood, Hackensack, Saddle Brook, Mahwah, Ringwood, and Bergen Community College—serving Bergen & Passaic Counties



CRITICAL PROGRAMS

Serving **14+** schools & community sites

24,915

Weekend Snack
Packs distributed

5,060

people served
through community
group partnerships

Emergency
Food Pop-ups **495** people served

6,540

people reached
through home
deliveries



THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS



Wegmans



HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION

914

total people protected from homelessness

\$970,838

in rental, heating &
utility assistance

486

families kept in
their homes

Security deposits &
eviction prevention

Emergency utility &
heating assistance



SERVING EVERY CORNER OF OUR COMMUNITY

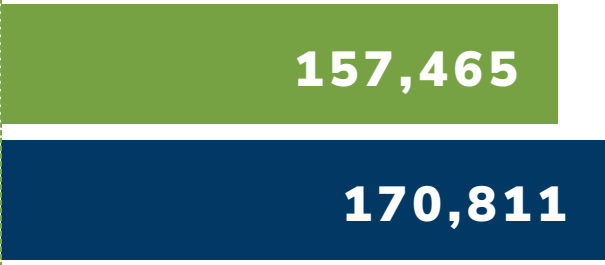
LOCATION	PEOPLE SERVED	ADULTS	CHILDREN	HOUSEHOLDS	% OF TOTAL
Englewood	43,782	30,380	13,402	13,756	25.6%
Hackensack	41,049	28,462	12,587	14,703	24.0%
Saddle Brook	22,973	22,973	9,584	12,413	19.1%
Mahwah	13,962	9,399	4,563	5,458	8.2%
Ringwood	1,425	973	452	475	.8%
Bergen CC	1,026	813	213	326	.6%
Deliveries	6,540	5,186	1,354	3,495	3.8%
WSP Program	24,915	-	24,915	24,915	14.6%
Community Groups	5,060	3,373	1,687	1,562	3.0%
Pop-ups	495	341	154	214	.3%
TOTAL	170,811	101,900	68,911	77,317	100%



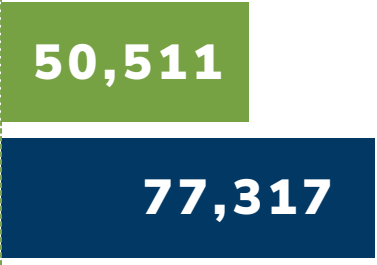
Responded to the government shutdown with **69% more families served in November**

2025 MILESTONES

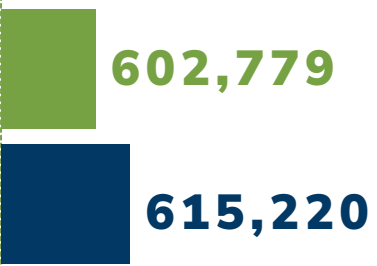
Served **13,346 more people** than 2024 (+8.5%)



Served **26,806 more households** than 2024 (+53%)

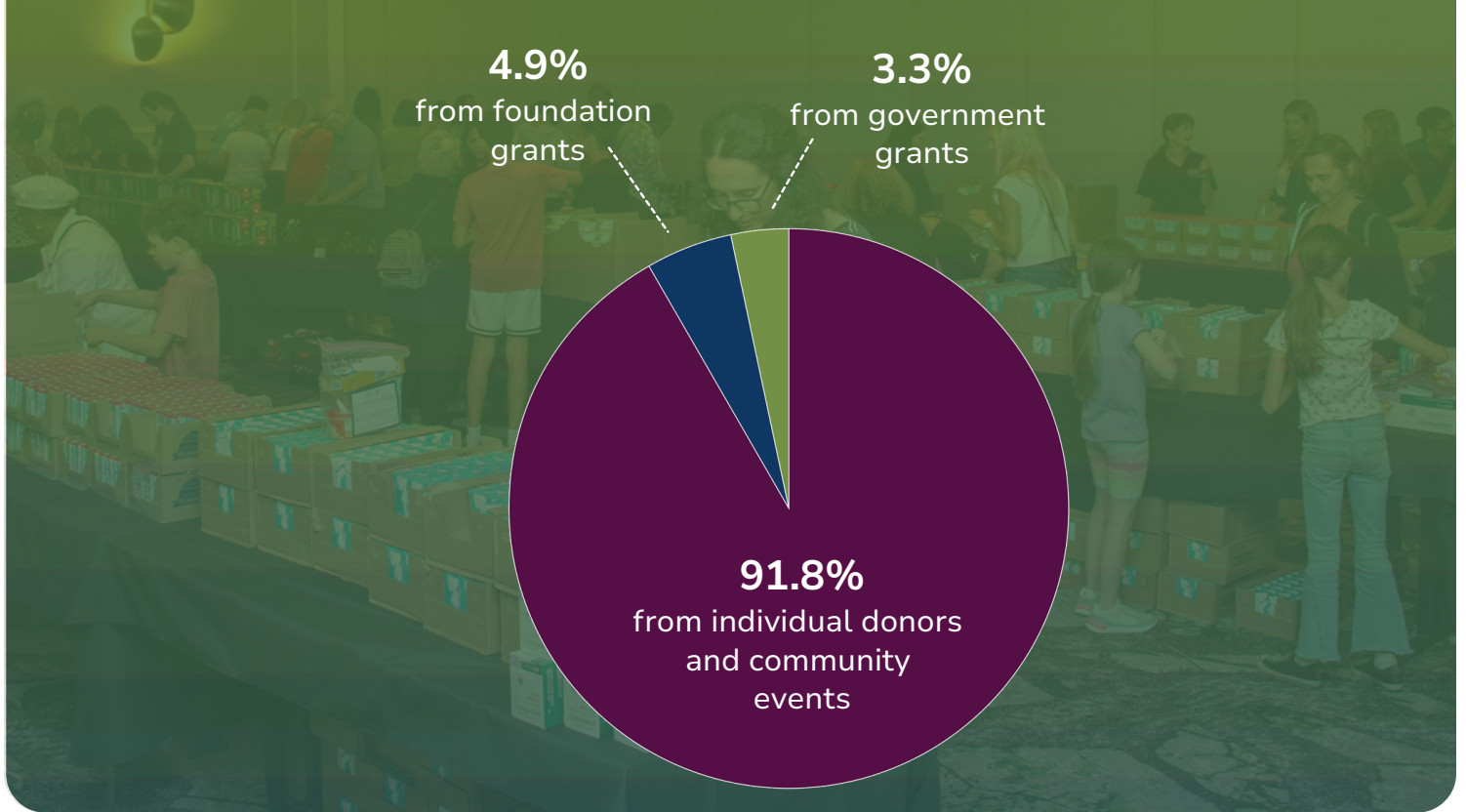


CFA spent **\$615,220** in food purchases (+2.1%)



2024
2025

Delivered food to 6,540 homebound individuals



RISING TO MEET THE NEED

Your support made it possible to respond quickly and compassionately when our community needed it most.

We reached more than 170,000 people and distributed 24,915 Weekend Snack Packs to help bridge gaps in school meal programs. During November’s government shutdown and the Thanksgiving season, we expanded our capacity by 69% to meet the surge in need.

When families faced eviction, we stepped in—protecting 914 individuals with nearly \$1 million in emergency assistance.

This impact is made possible by you—our generous donors, dedicated volunteers, corporate partners, and committed staff. In 2025 alone, volunteers contributed 20,911 hours of service.

Together, we’re doing more than providing food. We’re preserving dignity, preventing homelessness, and proving that when a community comes together, it works. Thank you for your partnership.



JOIN US IN 2026

GIVE

Help us meet growing need



VOLUNTEER

Join our volunteer team



PARTNER

Corporate & community partnerships





Center for Food Action

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