

# HELP US END HUNGER IN FLORIDA



## How is the Florida Association of Food Banks different from other charitable feeding programs?

All FAFB members must adhere to comprehensive guidelines for food collection, storage and distribution to remain members of America's Second Harvest ("A2H") – The Nation's Food Bank Network. Only select organizations attain membership in this national organization which has grown to 200 member food banks and food-rescue organizations serving all 50 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico.

Food banks are a major source of food providing:

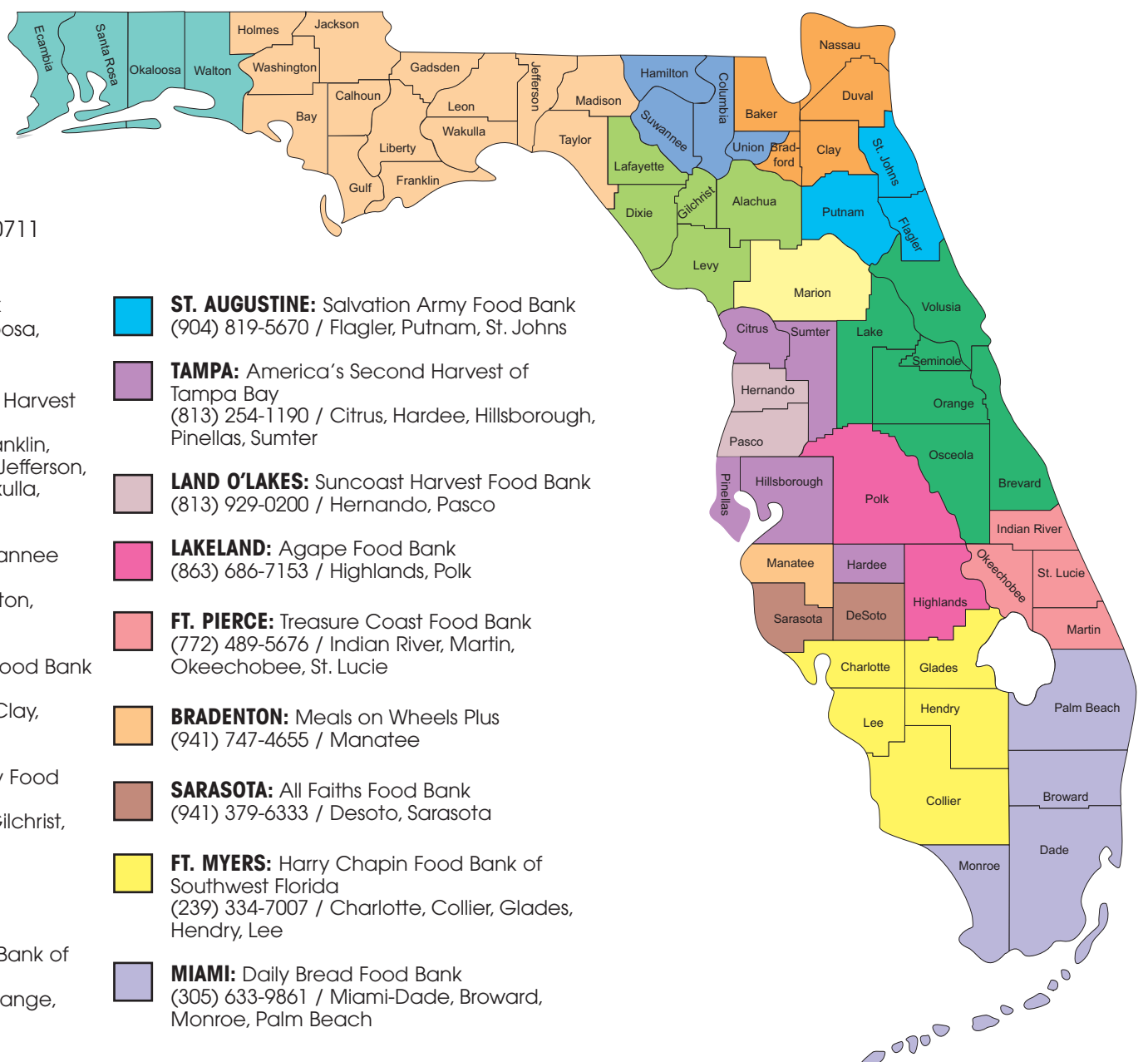
- 74.2% of the food the pantries distribute
- 49.0% of the food the kitchens serve
- 41.5% of the food the shelters serve

Emphasis is placed on food safety by adhering to a number of food handling requirements and high standards. Food donors, from local sources to national corporations, know that people who are hungry in Florida will receive the food in the most economical and efficient way.

- We are 16 food banks serving all 67 Florida counties.
- We serve a Florida-network of 3,000 faith-based and non-profit agencies.
- We distribute over 60 million pounds of food annually.
- We stringently adhere to national and state standards.
- FAFB Members are private, non-governmental organizations with high ratings from Charity Navigator.

## FAFB Florida Association of Food Banks

325 John Knox Rd. / Suite L103  
Tallahassee, FL 32303 • (850) 224-0711



- PENSACOLA:** Bay Area Food Bank (850) 995-1233 / Escambia, Okaloosa, Santa Rosa, Walton
- TALLAHASSEE:** America's Second Harvest of the Big Bend (850) 562-3033 / Bay, Calhoun, Franklin, Gadsden, Gulf, Holmes, Jackson, Jefferson, Leon, Liberty, Madison, Taylor, Wakulla, Washington
- LAKE CITY:** Food Bank of the Suwannee Valley (386) 755-5683 / Columbia, Hamilton, Suwannee, Union
- JACKSONVILLE:** Second Harvest Food Bank of Northeast Florida (904) 353-3663 / Baker, Bradford, Clay, Duval, Nassau
- GAINESVILLE:** Bread of the Mighty Food Bank (352) 336-0839 / Alachua, Dixie, Gilchrist, Lafayette, Levy
- OCALA:** First Step Food Bank (352) 732-5500 / Marion
- ORLANDO:** Second Harvest Food Bank of Central Florida (407) 295-1066 / Brevard, Lake, Orange, Osceola, Seminole, Volusia

- ST. AUGUSTINE:** Salvation Army Food Bank (904) 819-5670 / Flagler, Putnam, St. Johns
- TAMPA:** America's Second Harvest of Tampa Bay (813) 254-1190 / Citrus, Hardee, Hillsborough, Pinellas, Sumter
- LAND O'LAKES:** Suncoast Harvest Food Bank (813) 929-0200 / Hernando, Pasco
- LAKELAND:** Agape Food Bank (863) 686-7153 / Highlands, Polk
- FT. PIERCE:** Treasure Coast Food Bank (772) 489-5676 / Indian River, Martin, Okeechobee, St. Lucie
- BRADENTON:** Meals on Wheels Plus (941) 747-4655 / Manatee
- SARASOTA:** All Faiths Food Bank (941) 379-6333 / Desoto, Sarasota
- FT. MYERS:** Harry Chapin Food Bank of Southwest Florida (239) 334-7007 / Charlotte, Collier, Glades, Hendry, Lee
- MIAMI:** Daily Bread Food Bank (305) 633-9861 / Miami-Dade, Broward, Monroe, Palm Beach

# DID YOU KNOW THAT

ALMOST TWO MILLION FLORIDIANS ARE FOOD-INSECURE EVERY DAY -- EVERY YEAR?

- **40% of Florida families served through a charitable feeding program have at least one working member in the household.**
- **25% of people served are children – almost 18% of Florida’s children under age 18 live in poverty.**
- **18% of the people served are elderly, often having to choose between housing and buying medicine or food.**
- **The Florida Association of Food Banks provided enough food for 30 million meals... last year alone.**

## Ever wonder what happens to surplus food

due to over manufacturing? Food that has the wrong label, food that is close to expiration, food that has a damaged package or a slight blemish?

Tragically, it often gets thrown away, while many of our neighbors go without food... unless someone is willing to take it from manufacturers, producers, stores, distributors, and even farmers.

## Why Florida Food Banks are so important

With the idea of quickly acquiring, then distributing to the hungry, foods that are surplus or would be rejected by typical shoppers, the “food bank” cause was launched over 30 years ago.

Getting food to the hungry is an ongoing job surrounded by complicated logistics. This is where food banks come in – to find, store and distribute food that feeds people in poverty and crisis – through charitable feeding programs such as emergency food pantries, soup kitchens and shelters, foster homes, homes for abused women and children, residential programs for mentally and/or physically challenged, day care facilities, and substance abuse programs.

Unfortunately, hundreds of thousands of people within Florida live in poverty, and cannot feed themselves and their families. Currently, about 25% of all emergency food distributed in Florida is eaten by children, but food needs among the elderly and working poor are growing rapidly.

## We need to keep driving towards a hunger-free Florida

It takes literally hundreds of donors to keep a constant supply of food available 365 days a year. We run a very efficient distribution system. On average, we can distribute enough food for four meals for every dollar invested; that’s a powerful ROI. Even with cutting as much from operational costs as possible (96 cents of every dollar goes to finding,

transporting, warehousing, and distributing), food banks in Florida are taking hard hits from the decline in donors, rising fuel costs, and the increasing need for food assistance as the state’s population grows.

## Economic Impact in Florida

A conservative estimate is that the FAFB provided enough food for 30 million meals in Florida...last year alone. The in-kind value of that food is approximately \$75 million. This ‘money-value’ isn’t found in government or private budgets. FAFB saves frontline agencies up to 85% in their food costs.

That translates into millions of dollars of savings for thousands of charitable programs throughout Florida. As these programs save money, and stretch their budgets, more social services are provided to communities; more children can get into day care; additional counselors can be hired; extra beds can be

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added to shelters; needed medicine can be brought for the ill; nutritious food can be offered; unskilled people can be trained for jobs – the list goes on and on. All this makes Florida a better place to live.

## THE FLOW OF FOOD TO THE HUNGRY

