

Los Angeles Regional Food Bank COVID-19 Emergency Response Update

LOS ANGELES REGIONAL



Fighting Hunger. Giving Hope.



"It's impacted us a lot because my wife is going through cancer treatment. It's just been really difficult. Both of us are disabled. [The Drive-Through food distribution] was extremely safe and it went so smoothy, everything is so well organized that it went so very smoothly."

– FOOD RECIPIENT AT A RECENT DRIVE-THROUGH DISTRIBUTION SITE

COVID-19 Status Update

The Los Angeles Regional Food Bank acted quickly to respond to the dramatic spike in the need for food assistance caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. With two million food-insecure residents, Los Angeles County faced a significant need for hunger relief before the spread of COVID-19. The pandemic has resulted in thousands of additional people to be at risk of being unable to afford the food they need.



When our community faces a large-scale disaster like COVID-19, the Food Bank is on the front lines of the response to help those who seek help. Amid the pandemic, the number of food recipients increased dramatically from 300,000 monthly before the crisis began to more than triple. Record numbers of newly unemployed or underemployed workers, at-risk children without access to school lunches, seniors and many others were impacted, and many were in need of food assistance for the very first time.

The ***increase in food distribution*** from our two Distribution Centers has increased ***80% each month*** since the outbreak. The Food Bank also adjusted

its operations to follow guidelines, including minimizing social interaction by conducting Drive-Through food distributions in communities across Los Angeles County. Recent Drive-Through distributions have ranged from 800 to 7,560 families served per event.

The Food Bank's 600+ Partner Agencies also experienced a dramatic increase in those seeking food assistance. Some agencies scaled their distributions up from once to many times per week, and others reported a 400% increase in distributed food. The Food Bank also made emergency kits available to the agencies, which allowed their distributions to remain safe and efficient.

Partnering with Los Angeles County school districts, including Inglewood and LAUSD, has allowed the Food Bank to distribute supplemental food kits as families picked up their "Grab and Go" meals.

Thanks to the generous support of Food Bank partners, hundreds of thousands of people are receiving nutritious food amid the crisis, and hundreds of thousands will continue to receive the help they need in the future.



Fighting Hunger Together



Hollywood Agent Richard Weitz and his 17-year-old daughter, Demi, hosted an A-list variety show on Zoom. The two raised more than \$350,000 during the four-hour event, which will provide enough food for more than 1.4 million meals to our community.



A virtual Te'LA'thon hosted by the Los Angeles Rams and KABC raised more than \$2.2 million to assist Southern California response efforts during this unprecedented global health crisis. Rams team captains Jared Goff and Andrew Whitworth each donated \$250,000 to kick off the virtual telethon and to finance a total of 2 million meals for our neighbors in need.



Michael Schur, a long-time supporter of the LA Regional Food Bank challenged his network of family, friends and fans to make contributions that he would personally match up to \$50,000 to provide emergency food distributions in LA County. The match was met within an hour, and he continued to encourage and match donations. His campaign raised more than \$336,000 for the Food Bank.



A grant from Edison International and funds donated by the company's employees to the Los Angeles Regional Food Bank, totaling nearly \$300,000, will support the Food Bank's efforts to provide food assistance for people facing hunger amid the coronavirus crisis. "At Edison, we're committed to giving back to the communities we serve and live in, especially in these unprecedented times," said Caroline Choi, senior vice president of Corporate Affairs at Edison International and SCE.

To Learn More Visit LAFoodBank.org