# LOS ANGELES REGIONAL



# STATUS REPORT Updated November 30, 2020 <u>For More Information:</u> David May Marketing/Communications Director (323) 383-1319 (cell) dmay@lafoodbank.org

## **CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) PANDEMIC RESPONSE**

Key Facts and Statistics:

### Facilities, Transportation and Volunteers

- The Food Bank's *distribution centers* in South Los Angeles and Commerce are operating with no significant constraints with the exception of following LA County Department of Public Health guidelines, including for social distancing. The Food Bank is also utilizing warehouse space in Commerce donated by Prologis. The acquisition by the Food Bank of a new 256,000 sq.ft. distribution center in the City of Industry is providing additional space while the facility is being renovated to meet the Food Bank's needs.
- The Food Bank's truck fleet is operating with no constraints throughout LA County. However, we are seeking donated trucking (refrigerated trucks preferred), for more information go to: <u>https://www.lafoodbank.org/donate/partnerships/</u>
- We are recruiting volunteers (ages 18 years or older) for on-site volunteer shifts, Food Bank distribution sites and our partner agencies located throughout LA County, for more information, go to: <u>https://www.lafoodbank.org/volunteer/</u>
- Charitable food distribution continues to be deemed as an "essential" service by the State of California and Los Angeles County.

#### Food Volume and Inventory

- Food distribution has increased by 145% compared to the pre-pandemic period.
- 140 million pounds of food, the equivalent of 116 million meals, have been distributed since the crisis started in March, including 1.6 million emergency food boxes distributed to families and individuals (4.8 million individuals served in total) through partner agencies and direct "Drive Through" and Mobile Food Pantry distributions.
- Food donations have increased by 140 percent since the pre-pandemic period. *The Food Bank is filling the gap between food supply and demand by purchasing truckloads of food items at wholesale prices utilizing \$10 million of funds committed by Los Angeles County.*
- The Food Bank's on hand food inventory totals 13.6 million pounds, the equivalent of 11 million meals of shelf-stable, perishable and frozen food items, approximately a five-week supply.

#### <u>Distribution</u>

Food and other grocery products are distributed to people through a network of partner agencies and Food Bank direct distribution programs located throughout Los Angeles County:

- To date, 40 partner agency sites have reported that they have suspended food distributions, with the majority of the sites being food pantries that distribute groceries to families and individuals. For the vast majority of agencies still operating, their request for food (i.e., online order) is continuing to increase as they are experiencing an increased demand for food assistance.
- The Food Bank has added 100 new agency partners since the Coronavirus crisis started.
- The Food Bank provides food to families and individuals through our Mobile Food Pantry program which have transitioned to a *"Drive-Through" format* whenever possible to reduce personal interaction per Public Health guidelines. *Recent distributions serving families and individuals heavily impacted by layoffs, furloughs or a decrease in work hours have ranged from 1,000 to 7,560 families served per distribution. More than 220 distributions have been held serving the communities of Alhambra, Altadena, Athens Village, Arcadia, Arleta, Artesia, Azusa, Baldwin Park, Bell, Bell Gardens, Bellflower, Burbank, Carson, Castaic, Commerce, Compton, Covina, Cudahy, Downey, Duarte, East Los Angeles, El Monte, El Sereno, Florence-Graham, Glendale, Hawaiian Gardens, Hawthorne, Huntington Park, Industry, Inglewood, La Puente, Lake Los Angeles, Lake View Terrace, Lancaster, Lancaster, Lennox, Lincoln Heights, Littlerock, Long Beach, Los Angeles, Lynwood, Maywood, Mission Hills, Montebello, Monterey Park, North Hills, Northridge, Norwalk, Quartz Hill, Panorama City, Paramount, Pico Rivera, Pomona, San Fernando, San Pedro, South Los Angeles, South Gate, Sylmar, Torrance, Van Nuys, Wilmington and Whittier.*
- The Food Bank provides food packages to 27,800 seniors every month at distribution sites throughout LA County. *With Governor Newsom's request for seniors age 65 and older to stay at home, the Food Bank has developed new partnerships to deliver food to seniors and is also supplementing the distributions of LA County senior meals with food items.*
- With school closures, the Food Bank is supplementing school district's "Grab and Go" meal distributions for schoolchildren with additional food for the families at the LA and Inglewood Unified School Districts and 10 other school districts.

In a typical month before the Coronavirus Pandemic, the Food Bank provided food to 300,000 adults, seniors and children through our partner agency network and Food Bank direct distribution programs. *The number of people served has increased markedly and is now estimated to be at more than 900,000 people served over the course of a month.* 

**Food Assistance:** For people seeking food assistance go to the Food Bank's food pantry locator at: <u>https://www.lafoodbank.org/find-food/pantry-locator/</u>

Other important sources of food assistance include:

LA County DPSS: If you have lost your job, or just need assistance, please apply for CalFresh and other benefits online by visiting the Your Benefits Now (YBN) website at <a href="http://dpss.lacounty.gov/wps/portal/dpss/main/programs-and-services/calfresh/">http://dpss.lacounty.gov/wps/portal/dpss/main/programs-and-services/calfresh/</a> and clicking on the YBN logo to get started.

Women, Infants & Children (WIC) Program: Go to <a href="https://www.phfewic.org/how-wic-works/apply-for-wic/senior/Older Adults:">https://www.phfewic.org/how-wic-works/apply-for-wic/senior/Older Adults:</a> For meals from LA County and City of LA, call 800-510-2020
211 LA County is the information & referral agency, go to <a href="https://www.211la.org/">https://www.211la.org/</a> or call 211