



Fighting Hunger. Giving Hope.

Updated May 26, 2020

For More Information:

David May

Marketing/Communications Director

(323) 383-1319 (cell)

[dmay@lafoodbank.org](mailto:dmay@lafoodbank.org)

## CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) PANDEMIC RESPONSE

### Key Facts and Statistics:

#### Facilities, Transportation and Volunteers

- The Food Bank's **two 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. For this reason, both facilities are closed to the public.
- 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: <https://www.lafoodbank.org/donate/partnerships/>**
- **We are recruiting volunteers for our partner agencies and Food Bank distribution sites throughout LA County, for more information, go to: <https://www.lafoodbank.org/volunteer/>** *The U.S. National Guard has been deployed and is providing its help on-site by assembling food boxes for distribution.*
- 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 from the Food Bank's two distribution centers has increased by 70% compared to the first two months of 2020 and this time last year.**
- **23.7 million pounds of food, the equivalent of 19.7 million meals, have been distributed since the crisis started in March, including 356,750 emergency food boxes distributed to families and individuals, totaling 8.9 million pounds of food, the equivalent of 7.4 million meals.**
- The Food Bank is experiencing some disruptions in food donations from our regular food industry donors. **The Food Bank is supplementing donated food by purchasing truckloads of targeted food items at wholesale prices.**
- The Food Bank's on hand food inventory totals 6.9 million pounds, the equivalent of 5.7 million meals of shelf-stable, perishable and frozen food items, approximately a two and a half week supply.

#### Distribution

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, 50 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 31 new agency partners since the Coronavirus crisis started.***
- The Food Bank provides food to families and individuals through our Mobile Food Pantry (MFP) program, which distributes food off of our trucks at a parking lot location. New MFP distributions have transitioned to a ***“Drive-Through” format*** (and walk-up where feasible) to reduce personal interaction per Public Health guidelines. ***Recent distributions to workers laid off or experiencing a decrease in work hours have ranged from 1,000 to 7,560 families served per distribution.*** With the closure of some partner agency sites and the increased demand for food assistance, the Food Bank is scheduling additional Drive Through distributions throughout LA County. ***Twenty-seven distributions have been held to date serving the communities of Azusa, Baldwin Park, Bell, Burbank, Carson, Commerce, Compton, Covina, Downey, East Los Angeles, Glendale, Inglewood, La Puente, Lake Los Angeles, Littlerock, Long Beach, Los Angeles, Maywood, Norwalk, Monterey Park, Pico Rivera, San Fernando, San Pedro, South Los Angeles, Sylmar, Torrance, Van Nuys, Wilmington and other locations.***
- The Food Bank provides food packages to 27,800 seniors every month at 149 senior centers and other sites throughout LA County. ***With Governor Newsom's request for seniors age 65 and older to stay at home, the Food Bank is partnering with Amazon to deliver food to seniors. The Food Bank is also supplementing the distributions of LA County senior meals with shelf stable 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 the Mountain View School District in El Monte.***

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 least 500,000 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: <https://www.lafoodbank.org/find-food/pantry-locator/>

*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** <http://dpss.lacounty.gov/wps/portal/dpss/main/programs-and-services/calfresh/> **and clicking on the YBN logo to get started.**

**Women, Infants & Children (WIC) Program:** Go to <https://www.phfewic.org/how-wic-works/apply-for-wic/>

**Senior/Older Adults:** For meals from LA County and City of LA, call 800-510-2020

**211 LA County** is the information & referral agency, go to <https://www.211la.org/> or call 211

For Los Angeles Regional Food Bank information and updates, go to <https://www.lafoodbank.org>