



Food Finders

Rescuing Food, Reducing Hunger

Food FOR Thought

Fresh News on Food Rescue And Hunger Relief

SUMMER 2025

Hello Friends,

As summer unfolds, our “Summer To End Hunger” food drive has started and if you would like to make an impact, please sign up to participate. With kids out of school for the summer, it means they also do not have access to school breakfasts and lunches. Add that to the rising cost of food and this places added stress on families as they scramble to fill the gap. This is where you can step in.

We’re also collecting school supplies and backpacks. These needed supplies ensure students head back to school prepared with the tools they need to thrive. Join us in making sure no child is left behind this summer.

Food Finders’ mission is to “Eliminate hunger and food waste while improving nutrition in the food insecure communities we serve.” By keeping food out landfills we are protecting our natural resources, providing food to those who need it most and building a more equitable food system. Through June we have rescued 7.5 million pounds of food which has provided 6.2 million meals. We will continue to be a resource amid the troubling backdrop of federal program cuts, escalating climate crises and immigration sweeps across the southland.



SAVE THE DATE

**JULY - AUG 31
SUMMER TO
END HUNGER
FOOD DRIVE**

**9/18 - LONG
BEACH GIVES**

**9/19 - FOOD
FINDERS’
ROCKIN’ BLUES
BBQ**



Thank you for your ongoing commitment and generous support of our program. The challenges are great, but so is our collective power to create change and I hope this newsletter inspires you to get more actively involved in our organization.

We hope to see you at our “Rockin’ Blues BBQ” event, Friday September 19th. Tickets are on sale now. Have a wonderful and healthy summer.

Diana Lara, Executive Director

**FOOD
RESCUE
IMPACT
THROUGH
JUNE**

6,174,432 MEALS DELIVERED

7,409, 318 LBS OF FRESH FOOD RESCUED

4,023, 260 LBS OF GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS DIVERTED

3,378,649,008 GALLONS OF WATER SAVED

4 Counties Served: LA, OC, RIVERSIDE, & SAN BERNARDINO



Food Finders

Rescuing Food, Reducing Hunger

10539 Humbolt St., Los Alamitos, CA 90720

(562) 283-1400 www.FoodFinders.org

<https://bit.ly/give-a-meal-web>



Advocacy Council Update

We are at a pivotal moment. H.R. 1, also known as the One Big Beautiful Bill Act, has been signed into law as a major reconciliation package. While it is being promoted as fiscally responsible and pro-growth, its deep cuts to Medicare, Medicaid, and SNAP (known as Medi-Cal and CalFresh in California) threaten to unravel the safety net for millions of people already facing economic hardship.



If you would like to learn more about our Advocacy Council or are interested in joining, reach out to Luis Mendiola: lmendiola@foodfinders.org!

SNAP Reductions and Stricter Requirements

H.R. 1 proposes nearly \$300 billion in SNAP cuts over the next decade. It expands work requirements to include able-bodied adults ages 18–64 and lowers the age limit for dependent children from 18 to 7.

Over **2 million children could lose some SNAP benefits**. One analysis shows 57% of families in poverty would be affected, with an average annual loss of \$2,500.

California Impact

California could lose \$36 billion in CalFresh funding over 10 years, threatening food access for 5.5 million residents. Programs like Meals on Wheels and the CalFresh Restaurant Meals Program may face significant cuts.

The state may also face \$3.1 billion annually in added cost-sharing. H.R. 1 would slash \$9.8 billion in federal Medicaid funding, an 11% cut, putting 1.2–1.9 million Californians at risk of losing coverage. Work requirements would take effect in 2027, further impacting low-income residents, seniors, and people with chronic conditions.

Food and Health Stability at Risk

Food insecurity increases chronic illness, lowers medication adherence, and leads to more hospital visits. H.R. 1 would worsen these outcomes for vulnerable populations.

Widening Economic Disparities

H.R. 1 favors wealthier households. The poorest 10% would lose 4% of their total resources (over \$1,600 annually) while the wealthiest 10% would gain more than \$12,000 a year.

Take Action

In recent months, our Advocacy Council has made important strides in statewide food justice efforts. One major success was our collaboration with Food4All partners to help ensure the final California budget removed harmful trigger cuts to immigrant-inclusive food programs. This outcome protects provisions that expand access to food assistance regardless of immigration status, a major victory for food equity statewide.

But the work isn't done. Decisions from Sacramento and D.C. could deepen hunger and health disparities, with major impacts expected between 2026 and 2028. By then, it may be too late.

Now is the time to act. We're building collective power, and we need your voice. Whether you're a nonprofit partner, public advocate, or directly impacted, your perspective matters.

Join our Advocacy Council today by emailing Luis Mendiola, and help drive change at the local and state level. Your engagement, big or small, helps build the pressure we need to protect our communities.



—2025— *Rockin' Blues* —BBQ—

PRESENTED BY
**Smart & Final
Charitable Foundation**

SEPTEMBER 19, 2025 | 5-9PM

BETTY RECKAS CULTURAL CENTER - LONG BEACH
FLAVOR-PACKED BBQ | REFRESHING COCKTAILS
LIVE BLUES MUSIC | OPPORTUNITY DRAWING
SILENT AUCTION | AND MUCH MORE!

GENERAL ADMISSION: \$125
RESERVED TABLES-SPECIAL SEATING FOR 8: \$1,500
(10 AVAILABLE)
SEATING IS LIMITED

Tickets Now Available:
bit.ly/FoodFindersBluesBBQ



Thanks to Our Sponsors
(at time of print):



Thank You To Our Recent Major Donors (Feb - June)

- Adrian and Audrey Dedoes
- Albertsons Companies Foundation
- Andrea Huebner
- Andrew and Virginia Cohn
- Athens Services-Paramount
- Banc of California
- Bess J. Hodges Foundation
- Boeing Employees Community Fund
- Bragg Companies
- Charlotte Bennett
- Charis Family Fund
- Charles and Mildred Schnurmacher Foundation, Inc.
- Community Partners-LA Equity Grant
- Dan Murphy Foundation
- David and Debby Lalonde
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- Fluor Foundation
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- Geoff Stover and Persephene St. Charles
- Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church
- Helen and Will Webster Foundation
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- Lazy Acres Market
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- Port of Long Beach
- Republic Services
- Rudy and Mary Lou Lalonde
- Sandra Yavitz
- Servicon Cares
- Shankar and Geetha Ram
- Sisters of St. Joseph Healthcare Foundation
- The First Reformed Church
- The Green Foundation
- The Lawrence Foundation
- The Rudolph J. and Daphne A. Munzer Foundation
- Western Eagle Foundation



You can help us
keep kids fed
while school is
out!

Summer to End Hunger Food Drive

June 1 - August 31



- Peanut butter
- Rice/Pasta
- Canned Meats
- Canned vegetable/fruit
- Granola bars
- Cereal, Oatmeal, pancake mix, syrup
- Canned Beans
- Soup
- Personal Hygiene items
- School supplies
- Backpacks

You can also donate
today to support this
food drive!



City of Long Beach Summer Food Program

Since 1979, Long Beach Parks and Recreation has provided over 2 million free summer meals to kids and teens (ages 1-18) through the USDA-funded Summer Food Service Program.

Meal Schedule:

Parks: Mon-Fri, June 16-Aug 22

Bret Hart & Brewitt Libraries: Tues-Fri, June 17-Aug 8

