



Food Finders

Rescuing Food, Reducing Hunger

Food FOR Thought

Fresh News on Food Rescue And Hunger Relief

WINTER/SPRING 2025

Hello Friends,

As we look ahead to celebrating Food Finders' 36th anniversary this April, I'm excited to share the remarkable journey and growth of our organization. What began in a humble garage as an alternative to eating out of a trash can has blossomed into a dynamic force that now serves over 4 million individuals each year.

At the heart of our mission is our **Food Rescue Program**, which remains the cornerstone of our work. In 2024 alone, we rescued over **15 million pounds of food**, providing **12.6 million meals** to those in need. This effort not only nourished countless lives but also helped reduce greenhouse gas emissions by **8 million pounds**—a powerful step in our commitment to sustainability.

Our **Food4Kids Program** has grown significantly, now supporting **47 schools** within the Long Beach Unified School District. In 2024, we distributed **14,824 weekend meal boxes**, ensuring that children and families have the nourishment they need to thrive over the weekend.

Our **Community Marketplace** at Admiral Kidd Park continues to see tremendous growth. In 2024, we saw a **124% increase** in the number of individuals served—rising from **1,182 in 2023** to **2,651 in 2024**. This expansion highlights the ongoing need for our services and the ever-growing impact we're having in our community.

I am incredibly proud of what we have achieved together, and none of this would be possible without your unwavering support. Our mission relies on the dedication of volunteers who rescue food, assemble Food4Kids boxes, and provide vital office support.



We want to extend a heartfelt thank you for your contributions during the recent LA Fires. Your monetary support, blankets, food, gloves and additional items donated provided much needed support to those affected by the fires. Many of our donors stepped in to offer additional food to those in need. We understand this is a long-term recovery effort and we are committed to working with our partners to provide additional resources in the months ahead. Thank you for being a part of our journey—here's to continuing this important work for many years to come!

Diana Lara, Executive Director



SAVE THE DATE

**4/26 - ROOTED
IN COMMUNITY
36TH
ANNIVERSARY**

**5/10 - STAMP
OUT HUNGER
FOOD DRIVE
(VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED)**

**2024 FOOD
RESCUE
IMPACT**

12,633,995 MEALS DELIVERED

15,160,794 LBS OF FRESH FOOD RESCUED

8,223,311 LBS OF GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS DIVERTED

6,913,322,064 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>



2024 Partner Agency Highlights



2024 Food Donor Highlight



2024
299 Recipient Nonprofit Agencies received food.

12,633,995 Meals were distributed to Families, Individuals, Veterans, Seniors, Food Banks and College Pantries!



Partner Agency Supervisor:

David Martinez
DMartinez@FoodFinders.org
x 108



Partner Agency Coordinator:

Kelly Alarcon
KAlarcon@FoodFinders.org
x 111

2024
32,362 Rescues with 545 Food Donors

This includes baked goods, produce, dairy, non-perishables, meat and protein, and prepared individually packaged meals.



Food Acquisitions Supervisor

Anna Arevalo
AArevalo@FoodFinders.org
x 105



Food Acquisitions Coordinator:

Mark Eden
MEden@FoodFinders.org
x 117

Advocacy Council Update

Our Advocacy Council has officially approved our Legislative Agenda for 2025! We remain committed to advancing a just and equitable food system, with a strong focus on securing essential services and resources through the Farm Bill.



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

In addition, we continue our efforts to reduce food waste through the Feed the Community Act (H.R. 9189) and the Food Date Labeling Act (FDLA). We will submit a FDLA public comment and we encourage you to stay informed and submit your own public comment using our [FDLA Guide](#).

We will continue to monitor the rollout of SB 1383 to ensure food recovery efforts align with community needs. Beyond policy initiatives, our advocacy work includes collaborating with networks and agencies, tabling at events, and engaging with the community. We want to extend our best wishes to Anna Mahoney, who will soon begin her Peace Corps journey. We are grateful for her contributions and know she will continue to advocate for a more just and sustainable future.

Take a Seat at The Share Table

Consider becoming a month Share Table member. New members Pamela Focht and Joseph Martorella understand that their ongoing contributions provide certainty, stability, and continuity for Food Finders' operations. As Pamela remarked, *"You need to be able to count on a certain income each month, and we want to help keep Food Finders going!"* Learn more at www.FoodFinders.org/the-share-table.

The Share Table

Supporting Food Finders
Food Rescue Operations

\$30/mo = 3,960 meals/yr
\$50/mo = 6,600 meals/yr
\$100/mo = 13,200 meals/yr

Thank You To Our Recent Donors

- Adrian and Audrey Dedoes
- Amy Arnold
- Ashok and Manju Madan
- Athens Services - Paramount
- Bay Shore Congregational Church
- BCM Fdn.
- Bob's Discount Furniture Charitable Foundation
- Clif Bar Family Fdn.
- Commercial Bank of California
- Community Partners - LA Equity Grant
- David Ian Stern Foundation
- Debby and Michael Margulis
- Deborah and Rocky Gentner
- Douglas and Marnie Shiels
- Drollinger Properties
- EFSP- Los Angeles
- EFSP- Orange County
- Elaine Schamber
- Employees Community Fund/Boeing CA
- FAWCO Alumnae USA
- Fluor Foundation
- Geoff Stover and Persephene St. Charles
- Glenn Ducat
- Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church
- Grace First Presbyterian Church
- Janice Hahn LA Co. Supervisor - 4th District
- Jo-Anne Graham
- John and Lauren Opgenorth
- Judi Clark
- Julie Matsuura
- Linda and Terry Boyle-Simpkins
- Linde PLC
- Los Alamitos Medical Ctr. UCI Health
- Mayer Foundation (Herbert R. & Jeanne C.)
- Moss Foundation (Carol)
- NASA Services
- Omnicom Production
- Pacific Life Foundation
- Paul Schmitt
- Phillip and Charlene Bosl
- Port of Long Beach
- Reep Family Foundation
- Republic Services
- Sandra Yavitz
- Sempre Energy Foundation
- SoCal Gas Climate Champions
- Stater Bros. Charities
- Stephen Flam
- Terry Ulaszewski
- The Ella Fitzgerald Charitable Foundation
- Todd Saunders
- Tom Wilterink
- Walmart - Spark Good (Downey & Lakewood Stores)
- Wayne and Jean Andreen
- Western Digital Fdn.
- William Endres



ROOTED IN COMMUNITY

April 26, 2025 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Admiral Kidd Park

2125 Santa Fe Ave, Long Beach, CA 90810



Save the Date for this
FREE Community Event

