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# A letter from our CEO



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**Jamie Kendall**

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[pbcfoodbank.org](http://pbcfoodbank.org)



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EXCELLENCE



Dear Friends and Partners,

**It takes a village**, and here at the Palm Beach County Food Bank, we live that truth every day. When I reflect on the meals delivered, the families supported, and the children who go to bed with full stomachs, I am humbled by the extraordinary community that makes it all possible. None of this is possible because of any one person or organization. **It will take all of us to end hunger.**

**To our farming partners**, thank you for donating fresh produce that ensures our neighbors receive not just food, but *nourishment*. **To our manufacturers and food industry partners**, your shelf-stable food and pantry essentials are the *backbone* of what we distribute each week. **To every individual, business, school, and faith community** that has hosted or participated in a food drive, every can collected, every collection box filled sends food directly to a neighbor in need. **To our partner agencies**, the pantries, soup kitchens, schools, and community programs across Palm Beach County, you are the *heart* of our network. You know your neighbors by name, and we consider it our greatest privilege to serve alongside you. **To our financial donors**, your generosity is the *engine* that drives everything. Your contributions are a reminder that **food is more than sustenance; it is dignity.**

Last year, because of this village, we provided **11.9 million meals** to neighbors from Boca Raton to Belle Glade, from Riviera Beach to Royal Palm Beach. Every meal is a family helped, a child **nourished**, a senior cared for. We do not take lightly the trust you place in us, and we honor it with every decision we make.

As I look ahead, I am filled with hope - *because of you*. **Our village is strong**. It is growing, and it is united by one belief: *no neighbor in Palm Beach County should ever go hungry*. From the bottom of my heart, thank you for showing up, for giving, and for believing that we are always **stronger together**.

With deep gratitude,

Jamie Kendall

## Publix Super Markets Charities



We love Publix Charities and Publix Super Markets!

Publix Super Markets Charities generously awarded the Palm Beach County Food Bank with grants for:

- ♥ Food delivery truck
- ♥ Warehouse equipment and supplies
- ♥ Produce for Seniors program support

As part of their community giving, Publix staff volunteer at our facility and our special events year-round, representing how Publix is doing good together. These impactful resources and helping hands bring us closer to alleviating hunger in our community

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# HUNGER HEROES

## FOOD DRIVES



**Isabella** started her own initiative, growing a garden in her backyard and donating fresh produce, along with non-perishable goods, to the Food Bank.



## MEAL BUILD

680 MEALS



Lourdes Noreen McKeen



**#WorldHungerDay** raised awareness and moved our community into action!

Our 4th annual Meal Build food drive partners built up canned food structures to take down hunger!

- Chavez Bros, LLC
- Reworld
- Valley National Bank and Valley Insurance Services
- Violet Spells with Fancy Guys Services, LLC

## Volunteering

We love our volunteer village! Without their selfless spirit, our mission would not be possible. Thank you for coming back day after day, year after year, to nourish our neighbors in need and improve their lives, one meal at a time.

July 2025-June 2026

160

Total Volunteer Groups

4,854

Total Volunteers

33,041

Total Volunteer Hours

\$1,194,093

What it would cost the Food Bank to hire full time staff if we did not have volunteers



Thank you to **AMG** for sponsoring Pack to Give Back at the Kravis Center and for choosing the Food Bank for your volunteer day project. We appreciate you!

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# EVENTS

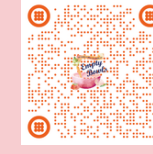
## Empty Bowls Delray Beach

Save the dates for our signature Empty Bowls events in 2027. We're super excited to return to Delray Beach for our 9th annual Empty Bowls in May, and we'll be back in Palm Beach at the Church of Bethesda-by-the-Sea on February 19th. Please check our website for information on tickets and sponsorships.



Fall 2027  
11 a.m.-2 p.m.  
Old School Square

## Empty Bowls Palm Beach



Friday, February 19, 2027  
11 a.m.-2 p.m.  
Church of Bethesda-by-the-Sea

## KRAVIS CENTER'S PACK TO GIVE BACK



HUNGER ACTION DAY - SEPTEMBER 15, 2026

GOAL: 300,000 MEALS

NEARLY 1,000 VOLUNTEERS

THANK YOU FOR TAKING ACTION, HUNGER HEROES!

[PBCFOODBANK.ORG/KRAVIS-GIVEBACK](http://PBCFOODBANK.ORG/KRAVIS-GIVEBACK)



## Florida Atlantic's Pack to Give Back



Pack to Give Back. Make an Impact.  
Saturday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2027. Let's beat 2026's 67,000 meals packed!

Thank you for making 2026's event a success!

- Florida Atlantic College of Business
- Eileen Acello, Honorary Event Chair, FAU Marketing Instructor, and Food Bank board member
- Event partner FAU American Marketing Association
- Lunch Sponsor: Jersey Mike's Yamato
- Media Sponsor: Boca Mag





### A Wedding and Culinary Success

One of our first culinary students, a graduate of our pilot workforce development culinary training, held his beautiful **wedding** in our **Premier Kitchen**!

Currently, he's experiencing success with his **small culinary business**, using all the food preparation skills, cooking techniques, and methods he learned during his time in our Michelle Hagerty Community Kitchen. Congratulations!

**Premier Kitchen Events**



A Kitchen With a Cause



### Senior Cooking Demos



Year-round, we partner with the **Palm Beach County Community Services Department** to host local seniors at our live senior cooking demos with Chefs Doug and Dave.

After watching a live demonstration and enjoying the nutritious dish, seniors go home with a meal kit, including fresh ingredients and a printed recipe to recreate the dish at home!

### Workforce Development Culinary Training

"Remember, you will never stop dicing onions!" - Chef Dave  
Congratulations, graduates!



Since the fall of 2025, we have partnered with the **School District of Palm Beach County** to prepare cohorts of workforce development culinary trainees in our Michelle Hagerty Community Kitchen. Students learn food preparation, cooking techniques, and event catering, which they put into practice at our **Premier Kitchen Events**. So far, **94% of students** have graduated from four cohorts!

**Over 4,400 nourished neighbors!** From the first car to the last car, our community turned hunger into hope for **1,000 households** on the morning of November 7, 2025.

Seven days after SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) benefits were paused for 160,000 Palm Beach County locals, the Palm Beach County Food Bank collaborated with **Palm Beach County** to meet the drastically increasing food needs of residents affected by current national events. We held an emergency drive-through food distribution to alleviate the unexpected hunger experienced by many.

Tremendous thanks go to PBC Food Bank's private donors, Palm Beach County, PBC's Community Services Department, PBC's Parks & Recreation, and PBC Food Bank and United Way of Palm Beach County volunteers and support staff!

### Emergency Food Distribution



John Prince Park

### Education or Food on the Table

"I had to quit school twice to get a job to help my family. I'm the oldest. I have six brothers and sisters. They need me, but it's a lot of pressure. I want to protect them," shared Jessica, not able to hold back her tears. Jessica hopes to complete radiology technician school to improve her and her family's life, but the rising cost of living is making that goal uncertain.

Jessica's mom, who works a full-time job, receives support from our Benefits Outreach Program. She cooks the family's meals with whole, nutritious foods she purchases through the program, but the rising cost of groceries is making that a challenge.

To supplement that support, Jessica drove over to our facility to find other resources. "**We had to look for spare change in the car and around the house to put gas in the car to get here.**"

To assist walk-in neighbors in need, like Jessica, we provide one or two emergency food boxes, depending on their household size, and a list of current community partner agencies, like soup kitchens and food pantries, they can visit.



### Food and Nutrition Program



After two years of planning, the **Food and Nutrition Program** is officially here!

The Food and Nutrition Program is a new, free, and transformative program in partnership with the **Florida Department of Health** to give a hand up, not a handout. It is made possible with the support of **Palm Beach County, the Community Services Department, Florida Blue Foundation, and Baptist Health Foundation**. Currently at **nine locations**, we distribute nutritious, medically tailored whole foods to neighbors in need while educating them on cooking affordable meals during live workshops. We are empowering participants to make healthier choices to prevent or combat diet-related health conditions, like hypertension and diabetes. With continued and growing funding, thousands more Palm Beach County neighbors struggling with hunger and limited diets will receive assistance for years to come.

SUMMER/FALL 2026

# Nourished

A newsletter publication of Palm Beach County Food Bank

Childhood Hunger



**Initiatives**  
**204,891**

Backpacks 2025-2026

Senior Hunger



**Initiatives**  
**131,200**

Meals 2025-2026

Food and Nutrition



**Program**  
**3,541**

Neighbors assisted since Nov. 2025

Hot & Nutritious



**Meals**  
**36,000**

Summer 2026

**11.9 million meals**  
Distributed July 2025-June 2026



**Michelle Hagerty**  
Community Kitchen

"I am happy with my food!"  
Childhood Hunger Initiatives recipient



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