

Donor Update: October 31, 2020

As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, this spring Connecticut Food Bank saw a 44% increase in demand for our food and services amid a series of complications:

- Staggering numbers of families and individuals in need of food
- Breakdown of the national food supply chain
- Corporate food donations reduced by as much as 60%
- Skyrocketing food costs coupled with food scarcity
- Temporary reduction of our volunteer workforce
- Disruption to partner agencies and mobile pantry operations



Despite those challenges and because of your generous financial support, Connecticut Food Bank distributed a record amount of food in Fiscal Year 2020 which ended June 30:

- **28.6 million pounds of food delivered**
- **23.8 million meals provided**
- **500 food access points in 6 counties**
- **147,000 people served every month**

Where We Are Now: July 1 – September 30, 2020

Our network of over 300 partner agencies made up of food pantries, community kitchens, and other emergency food providers continues to be our primary means of feeding people in need. **90% of our food is distributed through this vital network of partner agencies.**

Mobile Food Distributions look different today than in pre-COVID times. Originally modeled as a mobile farmer's market, our Mobile Pantry Program now delivers pre-packaged fresh and non-perishable groceries to food-insecure households at 40 regular sites each month.

In partnership with local government and community agencies, we also operate large-scale drive-through distributions that serve up to 1,500 families each. Recent sites include Norwalk, Bridgeport, New Haven, and New London, with more sites being added as needed. Because of you, we're working to meet the needs of seniors, working families, children, and veterans who are struggling now more than ever. **Many are seeking our help for the first time.**



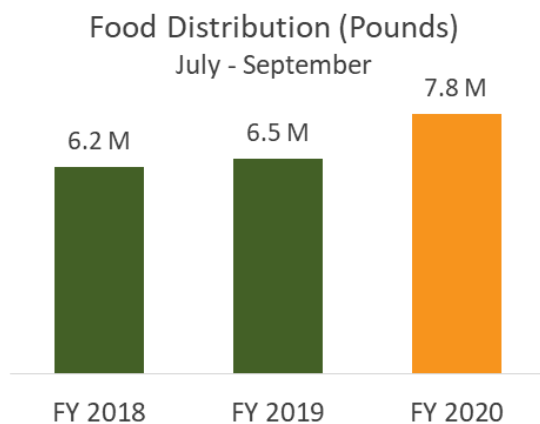


Dairy Express is a new way for us to deliver fresh, nutritious milk and dairy products each week to residents of hard-hit communities who cannot afford dairy products on their own.

Dairy products are donated from Borden Dairy and Guida's Dairy, and are supplemented with fresh milk from The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP), a federal program that distributes surplus agricultural food products to the nation's food banks, including Connecticut Food Bank.

Feeding vulnerable seniors: our Senior Box Program delivers shelf-stable food to 1,600 low-income seniors each month through the federal Commodity Supplemental Food Program. **We serve 55 senior living communities in Fairfield, Middlesex, New Haven, New London, and Windham counties.**

Your Support Makes a Big Difference



Since July 2020, Connecticut Food Bank has increased food distribution by more than 20% when compared to the prior year – representing an average of **more than 370,000 additional meals per month**. This increase is a result of the generosity of financial donors like you, the courage and altruism of thousands of volunteers, and our mission-driven staff members who work to make sure that our most vulnerable neighbors continue to have access to food.

As the pandemic and its economic fallout remain with us for the foreseeable future, so does the increase in food assistance across all populations in our six-county service area. Feeding America - the national network of 200 food banks - projects a sustained need for food assistance unlike anything seen in decades. Connecticut Food Bank is a proud member of this network in the fight against hunger in our communities.

COVID-19 PANDEMIC AND FOOD INSECURITY

NEARLY **400,000** INDIVIDUALS ARE NOW AT RISK OF HUNGER IN OUR SIX-COUNTY SERVICE AREA

ONE-THIRD OF THOSE SEEKING FOOD ASSISTANCE ARE DOING SO FOR THE VERY FIRST TIME

FOOD INSECURITY AMONG CHILDREN IS PROJECTED TO INCREASE TO **23.6%** THIS YEAR, UP FROM **14.4%**

We thank you for making all we do possible!