



2024 Impact Report



FOOD RESCUE US®







## WE RESCUE TOGETHER



"One of the biggest programs here at Open Doors is our food programs, our grocery pantry, and our kitchen provide meals to thousands of people here in our area. And it wouldn't be possible without the support of partners like Food Rescue US who help ensure not only that people are able to be welcomed and eat nutritious food, but also that we have the resources to support our other programs and help move people toward financial stability."

- Erin McDonough, Open Doors Director of Community Supports

# THE IMPACT GENERATED BY FOOD RESCUE US IN 2024 REFLECTS A TREMENDOUS LEVEL OF COMMITMENT AND DEDICATION.

Active in 44 locations across 23 States plus DC, our network of local site directors, partners, and more than 24,000 registered Food Rescue US volunteers completed a record number of rescues\*—131,968 to be exact!

This record number of rescues resulted in nearly 32 million meals delivered and over 37 million pounds of food diverted from landfills, preventing the release of an estimated 94,700 tons of CO₂ equivalent, primarily from methane, one of the most harmful greenhouse gases driving global warming.

Over our lifetime, Food Rescue US volunteers have rescued 183 million meals and kept 220 million pounds of food out of landfill, which generated a savings of more than 541,600 tons of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent.

The unmatched efficiency and effectiveness of our solution is further highlighted by the fact reported in our 990 report that in 2024, Food Rescue US distributed over \$73 million worth of donated food on an operating budget of approximately \$1.6 million. In fact, as shown on page 11 of this report, 99.1% of our donations went to supporting our program services, turning every dollar of donation into 16 meals.

As we look towards the future, significant government cuts to various food assistance programs are beginning to take effect and food insecurity in the U.S. is on the rise. The nation's food banks are already struggling to secure food, and the need for Food Rescue US to provide food free of charge and prevent food waste will soon be at an all-time high.

All of us at Food Rescue US are tremendously grateful for your support. If you are able at this critical time, we respectfully ask that you please dig even deeper to help us feed our food insecure neighbors and at the same time protect the planet. We appreciate that we all want our donations to make the biggest possible impact and that's why we are so pleased to present this Food Rescue US Impact Report!

Onwards and upwards,

Buthfares

**Britton Jones** 

Executive Chairman

Melissa Spiesman

Interim Chief Executive Officer









## **2024 IMPACT**

Food Rescue US makes it easy for people to take action—connecting surplus food with those who need it most through a tech-enabled, community-powered food rescue model. Food donors list available food, agencies share their needs, and volunteers deliver it directly to community partners. Local site directors are the engine behind this work. By building local relationships, they ensure every rescue meets real needs and strengthens their community.

In 2024, this model drove impact nationwide. New communities joined in, partners deepened their support, and thousands of volunteers delivered fresh food where it was needed most. Together, we're feeding people, reducing waste, preventing methane emissions, and strengthening communities—one rescue at a time.

37,376,638

**POUNDS RESCUED** 

(220m+ rescued to date)

94,700

TONS OF CO<sub>2</sub> EQUIVALENT AVOIDED

1,130

**NEW FOOD DONORS ADDED** 

(5,027 total donors registered)

31,147,198

**MEALS MADE POSSIBLE** 

131,968

RESCUES COMPLETED

4,936

**NEW VOLUNTEERS SIGNED UP** 

(24,035 total volunteers registered)



## 2024 HIGHLIGHTS

#### Rescues of Note



#### **Our First Nationwide Rescue**

Food Rescue US coordinated a nationwide rescue across 18 states during Food Waste Prevention Week in April. As a national restaurant company was planning a menu refresh, they reached out to Food Rescue US to help it reduce food waste during the transition. Volunteers from 20 Food Rescue US sites and 12 partner organizations recovered surplus food from hundreds of locations, delivering it directly to agencies serving people facing food insecurity.



#### 93,000 Pound Rescue

Food Rescue US rescued 93,000 pounds of truffle products donated by Sabatinos and delivered to the Midwest Food Bank in Manchester, CT., making it our largest rescue of 2024.



#### Olympic Rescue

Food Rescue US - Fairfield County partnered with NBC Sports and Flik Hospitality Group in Stamford throughout the 2024 Paris Olympic Broadcast. Gold medals to the team for the sustained, weeks-long effort to rescue prepared food and deliver it to six area social service agencies.



#### Miami Formula 1 Rescue

For the third year in a row, Food Rescue US - South Florida was tapped to facilitate the multi-day food rescue from the Miami F1 race at Hard Rock Stadium. More than 80,000 pounds of food that never left the stadium kitchens were rescued and delivered to multiple social service agencies in the Miami area. The New York Times covered the operation.

#### Other Highlights

#### 90-Day Onboarding Program

In 2024, we launched a 90-day onboarding program to equip new Food Rescue US site directors with the tools they need for success. The structured curriculum breaks the role into manageable steps, offering the tools and training needed to build a strong, policy-aligned local operation. By day 90, each site is equipped with a leadership team, key community partners, and several recurring rescues. So far, 100% of participants have completed the program and officially launched as Food Rescue US Site Directors.

"What I've learned through working with Haley and the 90 Day program is they really know how to build these sites and by plugging into the blueprint that you all create, we can create our own success... It's first rate, you get what you need, you get it quickly, you're never out there on your own."

- June Ingraham, Western Suffolk Co. Co-Site Director



#### **Volunteer Training Program**

Data showed that volunteers who complete a rescue within their first week go on to complete over 10 times more rescues than average. To boost engagement, we worked with site directors to launch a virtual training session for new volunteers and made targeted app updates. By the end of 2024, first-week rescue completion rates had more than doubled.



#### In the Media

In 2024, Food Rescue US was featured in many national media outlets, including:





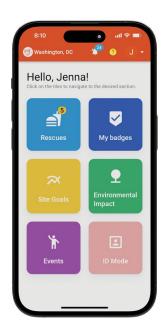








## **TECH SPOTLIGHT**



#### **BUILDING A BETTER PLATFORM FOR FOOD RECOVERY**

This year, our product team was laser-focused on three big goals:

- Make the volunteer experience easier and more rewarding
- Make it simpler for food donors to participate
- Empower site staff with more advanced tools to manage rescues

#### **For Volunteers**

We rolled out several features to make volunteering smoother:

- Rescuer ID Mode: a digital badge for fast ID during pickups
- Improved scheduling tools, new badges and milestones
- Cleaner, more intuitive app navigation

#### **For Food Donors**

- Simplified the donor signup process
- Made it easier to log donations and match them with agencies

#### For Site Staff

- Launched Quick Response Teams to help with last-minute rescues
- Introduced smarter planning and routing tools to better match donations with agency needs

#### **Behind the Scenes**

We upgraded our data systems to:

- Improve rescue record accuracy
- Expand reporting features
- Enrich user profiles for volunteers, donors, and agencies

#### **BOTTOM LINE**

Our platform is now faster, smarter, and more supportive—for everyone.

6,616

NEW USER REGISTRATIONS

Up 14.7% from last year

244

RESCUES PER MONTH
PER SITE

A 6% increase

**17X** 

FASTER LOAD TIME ON KEY PAGES

From 2+ seconds to just 0.12

**19X** 

IMPROVEMENT IN
PROCESSING SPEED
FOR CRITICAL APP
FUNCTIONS

"I find that our app technology makes everything so much easier, from posting a rescue to matching it with a food receiving agency all the way to having volunteers sign up."

- Ellen Bowen, Food Rescue US - South Florida Site Director



#### **USING DATA TO ADVANCE THE FIELD**

We also deepened our role as a leader in food recovery innovation by partnering with top research institutions:

#### **ACADEMIC & RESEARCH PARTNERSHIPS**

#### RECIPES (NSF-funded network)

We're providing transportation and logistics data to over 40 researchers across 15 universities. Their work is advancing predictive modeling and helping connect food recovery with health equity, environmental impact, and smarter planning.

#### **Michigan State University**

We explored how AI can optimize rescues—helping us plan routes, coordinate volunteers, and improve operations.

#### **BVA Nudge Behavioral Study**

We studied how app design affects volunteer motivation and retention. Result: a redesigned onboarding flow that doubled first-week rescues and is projected to add 4,000 additional rescues this year.

#### **LOOKING AHEAD**

These partnerships are helping us do more than improve our own platform. They're shaping the future of food recovery—driving smarter systems, better outcomes, and stronger communities.







"I take great pride in knowing that within one hour, I can pick up from 3 companies, deliver to 3 non-profits within 3 miles. And I just think that's great. I can see the immediate impact of the food donations."

- **Torrance H.**, Volunteer, who plans his quick rescue and delivery routes through the city with the app



"This work is so important to me because I am a Miami native, and I have seen Miami change in my lifetime because of climate change. We are rescuing food that is perfectly edible and delivering it to social service agencies rather than throwing it into South Florida's near-capacity landfills. We keep this food local and help prevent the impact of decomposing food on our environment."

- Jane Marie Russell, Food Rescue US - South Florida Volunteer Coordinator

## **FINANCIALS**

#### **STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION\***

As of December 31, 2024

#### **ASSETS**

| Total Assets                      |
|-----------------------------------|
| Investments                       |
| Prepaid expenses                  |
| Contributions receivable \$58,365 |
| Cash and cash equivalents         |

#### **LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS**

#### Liabilities

| Total Liabilities |
|-------------------|
| Deferred revenue  |
| Accrued expenses  |

#### **Net Assets**

| Net assets without donor restrictions \$451,570 |
|---|
| Net assets with donor restrictions \$55,000     |
| Total Net Assets                                |

Total Liabilities and Net Assets. . . . . . . . \$803,939

#### **STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES\***

For The Year Ended December 31, 2024

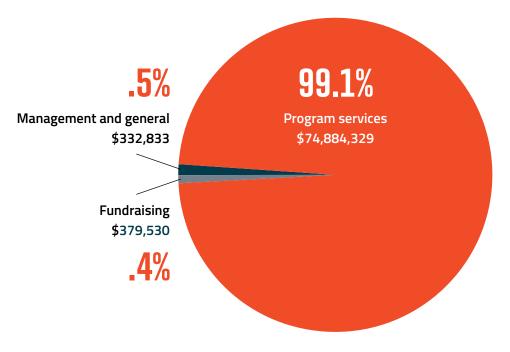
#### **REVENUES AND OTHER SUPPORT**

| Total Revenues and Other Support | \$75 137 743 |
|----------------------------------|--------------|
| Investment return, net           | \$30,400     |
| In-kind donated services         | \$35,000     |
| In-kind food donated             | \$73,631,977 |
| Contributions                    | \$1,178,986  |

#### **EXPENSES**

| Total expenses         |  |
|------------------------|--|
| Fundraising\$379,530   |  |
| Management and general |  |
| Program services       |  |

#### **EXPENSE OVERVIEW**



Scan below to see the full financials



<sup>\*</sup>Financial information sourced from Food Rescue US independently audited financials.

## 2024 LOCATIONS

Our network consists of independent nonprofit organizations, volunteers, and various entities operating under the Food Rescue US name, utilizing our proprietary app and best practices. We are delighted to collaborate with organizations and individuals who share our dedication to reducing hunger and food waste.

#### **ALABAMA**

#### Birmingham

Grace Klein Community

#### **COLORADO**

#### **Eagle Valley**

Eagle Valley Community Foundation

#### CONNECTICUT

#### **Fairfield County**

Food Rescue US -Fairfield County Co-Site Directors: Haley Schulman and Karen Saggese

#### Northwest CT

Food Rescue US -Northwest CT Site Director: Colleen Stradtman

#### Hartford CT

Food Rescue US - Hartford Site Director: Anika Hidayat

#### **DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**

#### Washington, DC

Food Rescue US - DC Site Director: Kate Urbank

#### **FLORIDA**

#### South Florida

Food Rescue US -South Florida Site Director: Ellen Bowen

#### Southwest Florida

Food Rescue US -Southwest Florida Site Director: Krishna Mala Sachdeva

#### IOWA

#### Davenport and Bettendorf

Food Rescue US - Quad Cities Site Director: Taelor Denton

#### **IDAHO**

#### **Canyon County**

Food Rescue US -Canyon County Site Director: Tami Blayney

#### **ILLINOIS**

#### Rock Island and Moline

Food Rescue US - Quad Cities Site Director: Taelor Denton

#### **Greater Chicago Area**

Food Rescue US -Chicagoland Site Director: Linda Bartman

#### **INDIANA**

#### Fort Wayne

Food Rescue US -Fort Wayne Site Director: Jodi Leamon

#### **KANSAS**

#### Wichita

ICT Food Rescue

#### **MARYLAND**

#### **Anne Arundel County**

Blessed in Tech

#### **Howard County**

Food Rescue US -Howard County Site Director: Carla Cash

#### Prince George's County

Prince George's County Food Rescue

#### **MASSACHUSETTS**

#### **Boston**

Food Rescue US - Boston Site Director: Charlie Burns

#### Cape Cod

Barnstable County

#### **MICHIGAN**

#### Detroit

Food Rescue US - Detroit Site Director: Darraugh Collins

#### **Greater Lansing Area**

Food Rescue US -Lansing Communities Co-Site Directors: Valerie Lafferty and Gabi Mayer

#### **MINNESOTA**

#### Minneapolis

TC Food Justice

#### **NEW JERSEY**

#### Bridgewater

Food Rescue US -Bridgewater Co-Site Directors: Nirmala Shivakumar, Vanitha Sekar, and Hilda Roman

#### **NEW MEXICO**

#### Albuquerque

Food Rescue US -Albuquerque Site Director: Randy Truman

#### **NEW YORK**

#### **Nassau County**

Food Rescue US -Nassau County

Site Director: Madhu Minna

#### Western Suffolk County

Food Rescue US -Western Suffolk Co. Co-Site Directors: June Ingraham and Anne Sacks-Berg

#### Long Island North Fork

Food Rescue US - North Fork Co-Site Directors: Stephanie McEvily and Anne Howard

#### Long Island South Fork

Food Rescue US - South Fork Site Director: Radika Eccles

#### **NORTH CAROLINA**

#### Durham

Food Rescue US - RTC Site Director: Binta Watkins

#### Charlotte

Feeding Charlotte

#### OHIO

#### Cincinnati

La Soupe

#### Hamilton

JEE Foods

#### Columbus

Columbus Food Rescue

#### Dayton

The Food Bank of Dayton

#### Akron

Food Rescue US - Akron Co-Site Directors: Kim Johnson and Katie Evans



#### **PENNSYLVANIA**

#### Hershey

Cocoa Packs

#### **SOUTH CAROLINA**

#### Charleston

Food Rescue US - Charleston Co-Site Directors: Rachel Ellis

#### **TEXAS**

#### Austin

Keep Austin Fed

#### **UTAH**

#### Salt Lake City

Wasteless Solutions

#### **Box Elder County**

Wasteless Solutions

#### **Summit County**

Wasteless Solutions

#### **Weber County**

Wasteless Solutions

#### **VIRGINIA**

#### Northern Virginia

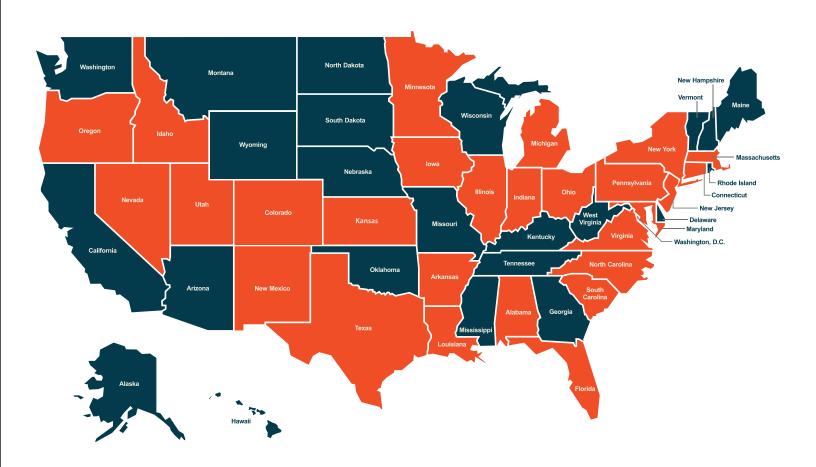
Food Rescue US - DC Site Director: Kate Urbank

#### Richmond

Food Rescue US - Richmond Co-Site Directors: Amyrose Foll and Turtle Segura

#### Virginia Beach

Food Rescue US -Virginia Beach Co-Site Directors: Sandra and Natalia De Los Rios



<sup>\*</sup>States in orange represent where our network operated in 2024

## **STAFF & BOARD**

#### Staff

Melissa Spiesman

Interim Chief Executive Officer

Sandy Steigbigel

**VP** Operations

Joe Robbins

Chief Product Officer

**Emma Worth** 

Director of Development

Haley Schulman

National Site Coordinator

Victoria Zapata

National Site Manager

Laurie Jones

Special Projects Director

Jenna von Elling

Marketing and

Communications Manager

Alyssa Defrin-Adeyemi

Grant Manager

Janice Moynihan

**Grant Writer** 

Alena Murphy

**Business Manager** 

Sheldon Rawson

Product Support Representative

Levi Grimm

Product Support

Representative

Wiktor Maszota

Frontend Developer

Rafal Rozanka

Chief Developer

**Board** 

**Britton Jones** 

**Executive Chairman** 

**Carol Shattuck** 

Executive Vice Chairwoman

Interim Treasurer

Karen McNair

Secretary

Anka Badurina

Leslie Dahl

Robbyn Footlick

Jim Kirsch

**Emily Klooster** 

**Bruce Koe** 

Robert Kretzman

John McKenna

Heide Moeller

John Popa







"A lot of things really started to change when we partnered with Food Rescue US. We can now support our students and their families with meat, fresh produce, and anything that you can create a real meal with. They come in with nothing, and they're walking out with large bags of great food that would otherwise be thrown out. And that just makes me so happy. We're using quality food to support families in their time of need."

Kate L., teacher and school food pantry coordinator



"We grew by 560% last year, and we're going to double in size this year. What that screams to me is that there's a lot of food going to waste in the community, and a lot of people who need it. There's more need than ever to do what we do."

- Rich Armenia, Feeding Charlotte Executive Director and Food Rescue US Licensee





#### **CONNECT WITH US**

info@foodrescue.us





