

NOURISHING THE COMMUNITY

Project Angel Food
Annual Report 2025



Nourishing the Community

Letter from our CEO



I share Project Angel Food's 2025 Annual Report with mixed emotions. The year from July 2024 through June 2025 brought both heartbreak and hope, as well as challenge and resilience. We faced crises that tested our city, from the Eaton and Palisades fires to deepening economic strain across our region and threats to vital federal funding. Yet in those hardest moments, we also witnessed the extraordinary compassion of the people who fuel our mission and make this work possible.

Time and again, Project Angel Food rose to meet the moment, providing comfort in crisis, stability in uncertainty, and healing through medically tailored meals delivered with love and compassion. In this remarkable year, more volunteers than ever before dedicated more hours to serve more people than at any point in our 36-year history. Though our work was recognized by the Governor of California and the County of Los Angeles, our proudest achievement remains the care we provide to every client we serve.

"Nourishing the Community" is also the name of the Robert Vargas mural on the side of our home at 922 Vine Street. It is more than a title; it is our promise.

With gratitude and determination,

Richard Ayoub
Chief Executive Officer, Project Angel Food



NEW AGENCY RECORD

4,373 new clients
A 76% increase from 2024

NEW AGENCY RECORD

7,157 individuals
UP 36% from 2024

Photo Credit:
Getty (headshot) Noe Garcia

Building for the Future

During the 2025 fiscal year, Project Angel Food made significant progress on the \$51.5 million expansion of our Vine Street home — the two-building The Chuck Lorre Family Foundation Kitchen & Campus, including the S. Mark Taper Foundation Operations Center. While construction moved forward, operations temporarily shifted to a ghost kitchen in Lincoln Heights to ensure uninterrupted meal service.

Our return home in January 2026 marked a major milestone in a transformation that will double our footprint, triple production capacity, and strengthen our ability to serve Los Angeles neighbors living with serious illness for decades to come — with the capacity to provide up to 10,000 medically tailored meals a day if needed.

Looking ahead, construction of the second building, the Community Outreach Center, is expected to begin in Q3 2026, with opening anticipated in early 2028. When complete, the two-building The Chuck Lorre Family Foundation Kitchen & Campus will also include a demonstration kitchen for client education, expanded Client, Nutrition, and Volunteer Services offices, orientation rooms for large groups, and space for Project Angel Food's Research and Policy Institute.



Rise to the Challenge Donor Wall

As of March 9, 2026

\$10,000,000+

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\$3,000,000-\$4,999,999

S. Mark Taper Foundation
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THE CHUCK LORRE
FAMILY FOUNDATION
KITCHEN & CAMPUS



Building for the Future

Who we Serve

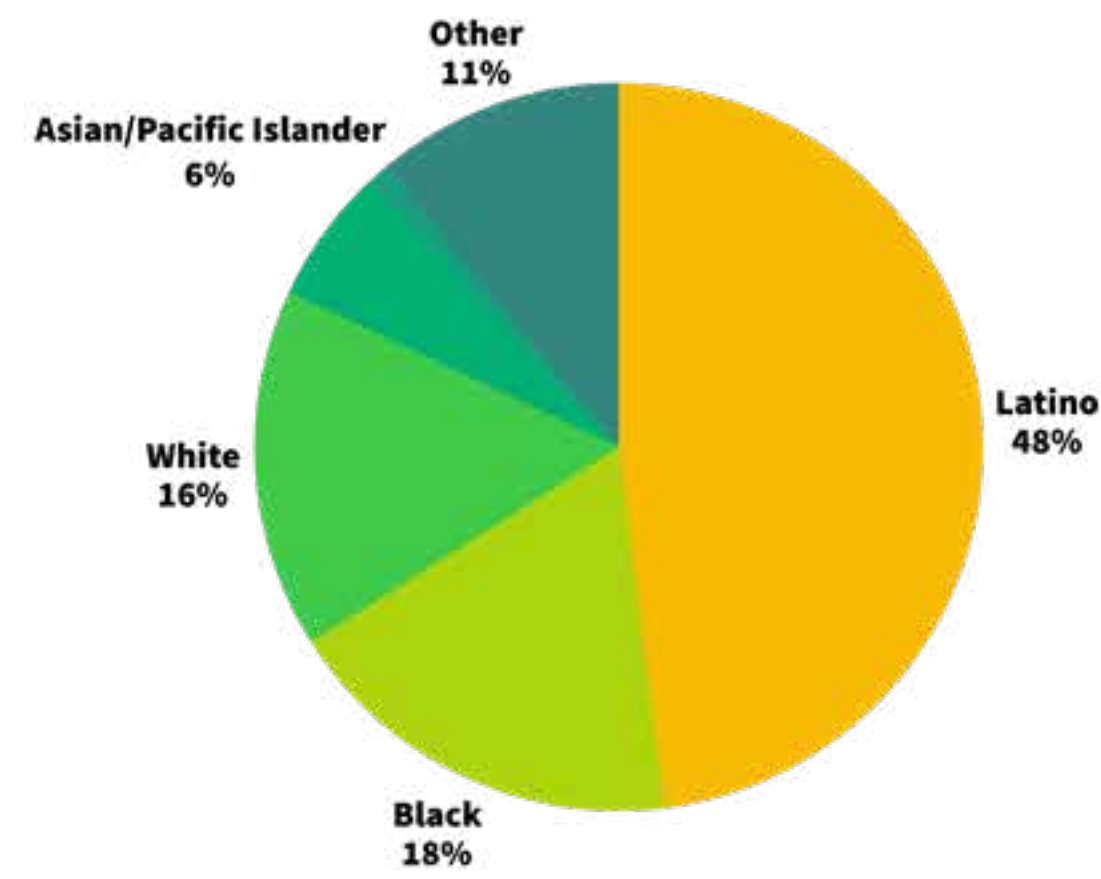
Project Angel Food nourishes Los Angeles neighbors living with serious illness—often isolated, food-insecure, and overlooked—reflecting the region’s diversity. Economically, 78% live below the federal poverty level and 95% meet HUD “Very Low Income”; for 86%, our meals are their only consistent food source.

Age Demographics

Clients range from 9–108 years old
58% of clients are 60+



Racial Demographics
84% of clients are people of color



“The doctor told me I was very lucky — I almost didn’t make it.”
— Sumi, Project Angel Food client.

After a major heart attack left her heart functioning at 20%, she was diagnosed with cardiovascular disease, diabetes, and a life-threatening blood clot near her heart. Project Angel Food means stability, dignity, and one less heartbeat under strain.



NEW Agency Record!

Up 36% Year-to-Year

- 7,157 individuals receive services
- 4,373 new clients, up 76%

“What you do, you keep people alive.” — Dave, Project Angel Food client.

A Vietnam veteran living with PTSD, diabetes, and heart disease, he faced recovery alone after a triple bypass—until Project Angel Food stepped in. Now our weekly deliveries bring strength, stability, and a sense of family to his door.



Nourishing the Community

Who we Serve

We provide medically tailored meals and evidence-based nutrition counseling for seriously ill individuals who are often too sick to shop or cook. Grounded in a person-first, compassionate approach, our diagnosis-aligned meal plans help improve people's health while offering ongoing nutrition education and support from registered dietitians.



Medically Tailored Meal Categories

- Heart Healthy-Diabetic
- Dialysis Friendly
- Vegetarian
- Low Protein
- Chopped (Heart Healthy)

Most Common Qualifying Illnesses

- 32% Severe Diabetes
- 12% Cardiovascular Disease
- 11% ESRD - Kidney Failure
- 9% Cancer
- 8% Chronic Kidney Disease
- 7% HIV/AIDS

"Project Angel Food feels like a safety net—like angels delivering exactly what I need." — Joan-Mary, 69.

Living alone with severe diabetes, each delivery brings medically tailored meals, fresh fruit, and something harder to measure: she is seen, lifted, and no longer alone.



Our Client Advisory Board meets twice a year for a chef's dinner—testing new meals and sharing feedback that helps shape Project Angel Food's programs and services.

Nourishing the Community

History in the Making

The Eaton and Palisades fires defined the year, bringing devastating loss—including to many of the seriously ill neighbors Project Angel Food serves. More than 300 clients, along with members of our staff and volunteer corps, were evacuated or lost their homes.

Still, the work did not stop.

In a moment of profound crisis, Project Angel Food nourished the community with food, care, constancy, and compassion. We relaxed eligibility requirements, expanded service to hundreds of newly displaced people, increased meal production, and delivered medically tailored meals, groceries, toiletries, water, and other essentials. For clients without electricity or gas, we provided ready-to-eat meals. Daily wellness calls and visits helped keep vulnerable neighbors safe, supported, and connected to urgent resources.

The community, in turn, rallied around this work. Volunteers filled our kitchen and delivery lines, including Governor Gavin Newsom, First Partner Jennifer Siebel Newsom, and their family. Angel Art returned for the first time since COVID, with Alexandra Grant as honorary chair, and Lead with Love: LA Strong raised critical support for fire relief. Fire can destroy homes, but not the human spirit.

Read Project Angel Food's full history [here](#).



Project Angel Food's fire relief response, left to right: Cameron Mathison returning to a client's lost home, client Jackquiline receiving a care package; hundreds of volunteers pitching in; Governor Gavin Newsom and family volunteering; and hundreds of volunteers pitching in.

Nourishing the Future

Going the Distance

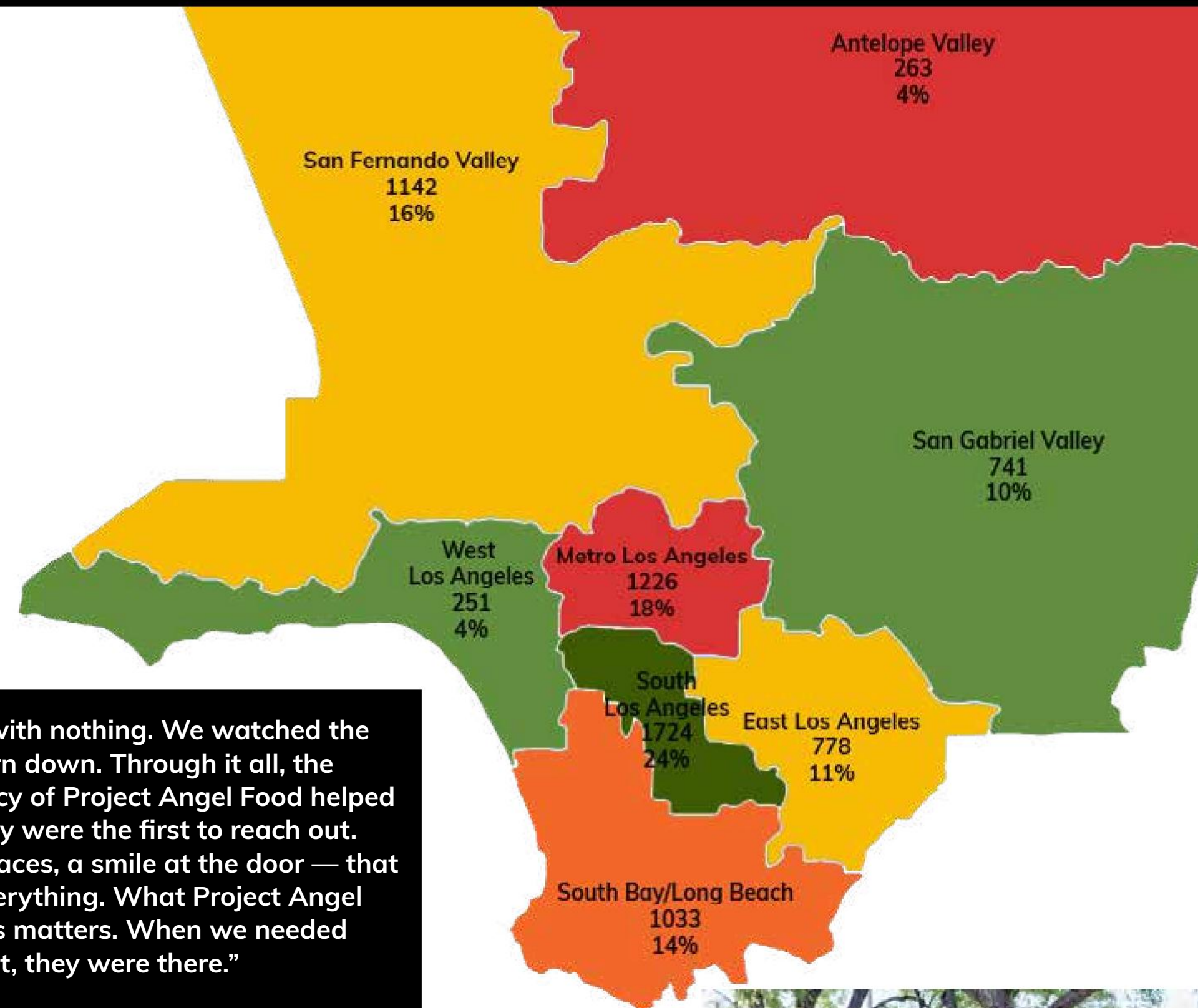


“We left with nothing. We watched the house burn down. Through it all, the consistency of Project Angel Food helped most. They were the first to reach out. Familiar faces, a smile at the door — that meant everything. What Project Angel Food does matters. When we needed them most, they were there.”

— Aria, caregiver for her 90-year-old aunt Orna, who has dementia.

Volunteer Cameron Mathison delivers meals to a Orna, a client who lost her Altadena home in the Eaton fire, and has been relocated seven times to date. See their story [here](#).

Number of clients and percentage of clients by service section in L.A. County.



Three Project Angel Food drivers were evacuated during the L.A. Fires, but never missed a day.

Sixteen vans traveled 220,000 miles, delivering meals on 81 routes to every corner of L.A. County's 4,751 square miles.



Nourishing the Community

Financials

Project Angel Food's revenue supporting operations increased by \$5.1 million, driven by the overwhelming response to our fire relief efforts and a 73% increase in Community Supports revenue.

The complete 2025 Audited Financial Statement is available [here](#).

Project Angel Food Operations

SUPPORT

Individual contributions	4,935,918
Foundation grants	3,571,600
Government	2,673,635
Community Supports Program	7,338,725
Special events, net	1,866,422
Investment return (net)	959,106
Support for operations	21,345,406

EXPENSES

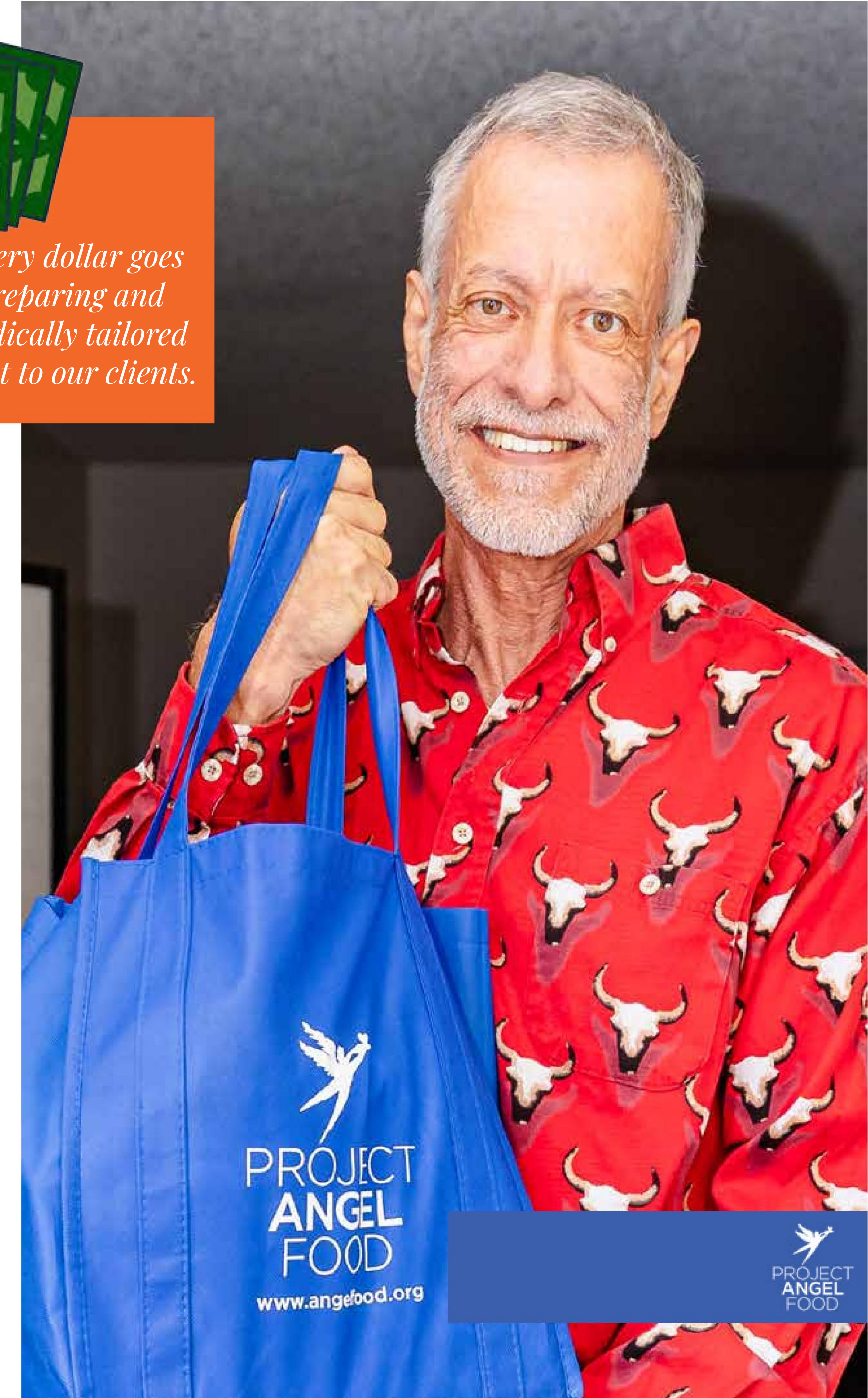
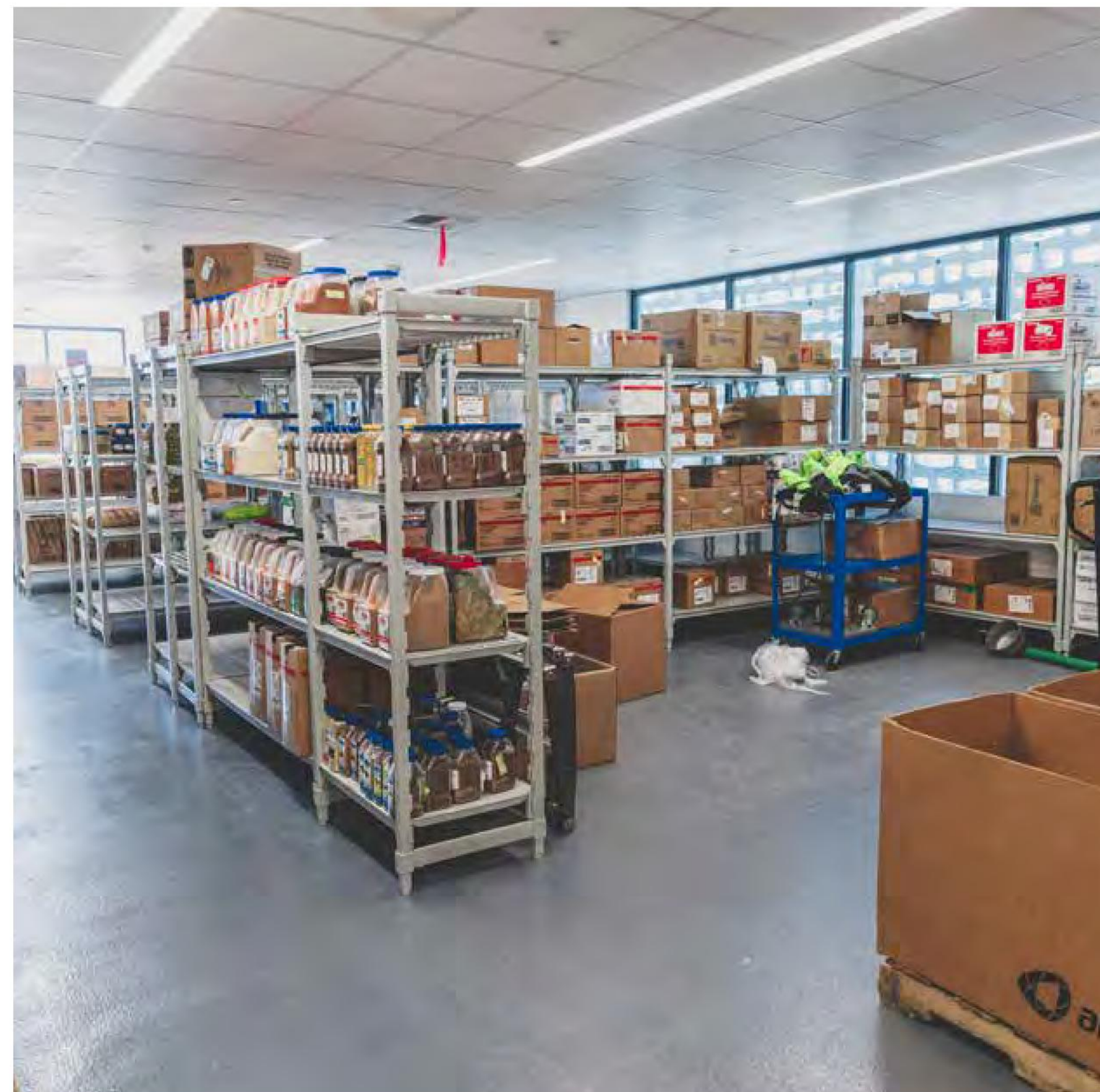
Program	\$14,593,901
Management & General	511,758
Fundraising	1,133,435
Operating expenses	16,239,094

2025 Operating Surplus 5,106,312

Thanks to our community, we ended the year with a surplus—an investment in future growth and long-term sustainability.



86 cents of every dollar goes directly to preparing and delivering medically tailored meals at no cost to our clients.



Community Supports

Project Angel Food is powered by strategic partnerships that expand access to medically tailored meals across Los Angeles County.

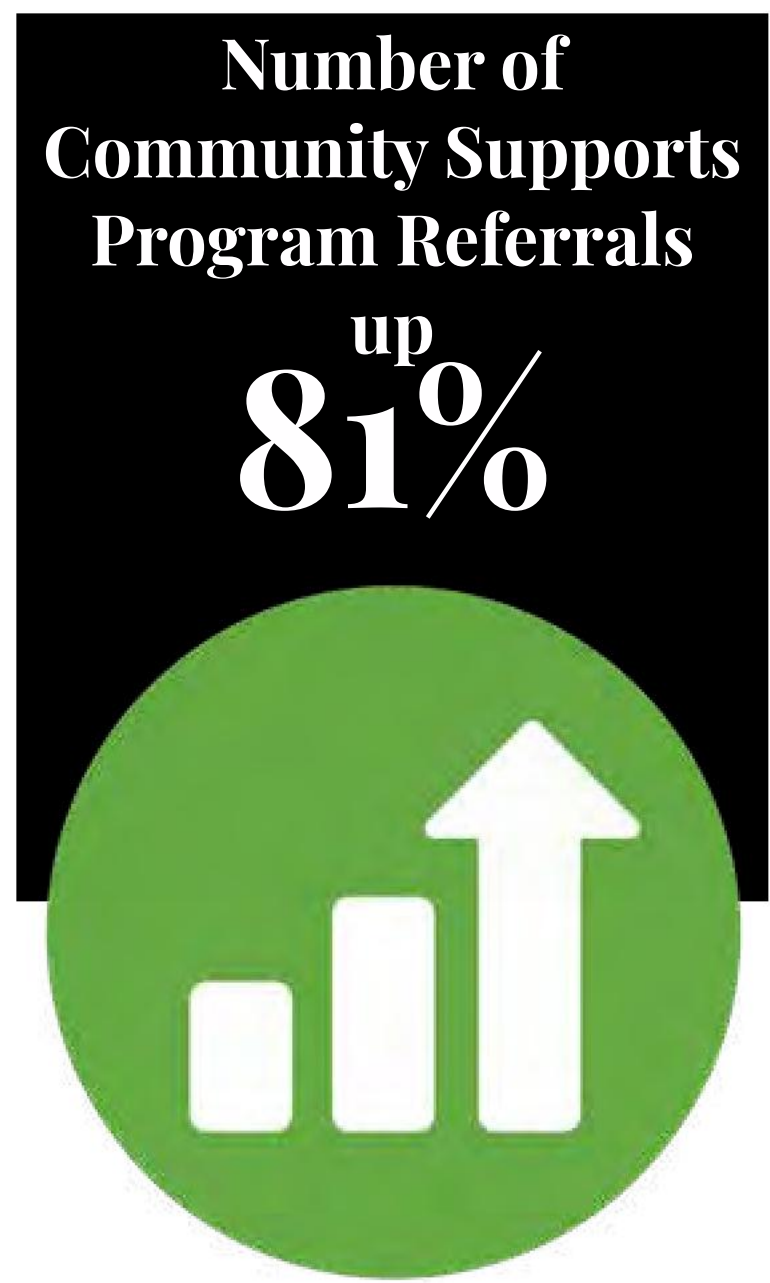
Our managed care plan contracts through Community Supports, launched in 2022 as part of California's Medi-Cal transformation, continue to anchor this growth. Partnerships with Anthem, Blue Shield Promise, Health Net, L.A. Care, and Molina enabled us to serve 1,476 clients by June 2025 — a 46% increase over the prior year. Referrals for these services increased 81% year over year.

To streamline access, we launched a digital referral pathway with Findhelp, beginning with Cedars-Sinai. Within the first month, we received 20 referrals and are expanding the model to additional health care partners.

We also deepened partnerships in the San Gabriel Valley, working with regional hospitals and clinics, including Tzu Chi Medical Center, Chinatown Service Center, Herald Christian Health Center, and Park Tree Community Health Center. This outreach led to our first written materials in Mandarin.

Through a new connection with LANES, a regional health information exchange, we are improving eligibility review, recertification, and nutrition care coordination.

These partnerships translate into impact — strengthening health, stabilizing lives, and nourishing our community.



Clients receive more than medically tailored meals — they also gain nutrition education and practical tools to support their health, healing, and independence.



“Project Angel Food makes me feel seen—like a person, not a number. These meals do more than nourish me as I battle multiple serious illnesses; they remind me that someone cares, that I matter, and that I am not facing this alone.” — Celeste, Project Angel Food client

Referred by Blue Shield of California Promise Health Plan, Celeste now has the support she needs through Project Angel Food's medically tailored meals, nutrition guidance, and compassionate care, as debilitating pain and crushing fatigue make shopping and cooking for herself nearly impossible.

Annie Lennox volunteers during L.A. Fires.

New Project Angel Food Record!
5,814 Volunteers in 2025



Nourishing the Community **Volunteers**

Boosted by service during the L.A. fires, volunteer participation **increased 40% to 5,814 individuals** who worked **15,314 shifts** and contributed **47,881 hours**, an estimated equivalent of **26 full-time employees** and valued at approximately **\$1.1 million.**



“We celebrate not only the incredible volunteers who understand the profound impact of medically tailored meals, but the spirit of service that brings us together.”

— Sen. Alex Padilla, Project Angel Food Volunteer



Customized Volunteer Experiences bring teams together, just like this dedicated group from City National Bank.

Nourishing the Community

Volunteer Groups

More than 200 corporations, community groups, and schools volunteered with Project Angel Food this year, turning teamwork into meaningful impact. Customized Volunteer Experiences turn team building into community building, with options including catered lunches, custom meal labels featuring your organization's logo and message, social media and website recognition, and a Feed Bead bracelet for each participant. Click here for the [full list](#).

City National Bank delivers a mountain of support, making a real impact at Project Angel Food.



The next generation of volunteers has the moves. After spending the morning packing and preparing meals in the Project Angel Food kitchen, students from the Debbie Allen Dance Academy took their energy outside—showing that service and rhythm go beautifully hand in hand.



SoCal Gas volunteers package meals with care, bringing nourishment to those in need.



Cedars-Sinai volunteers package meals with care, bringing nourishment to those in need.

To learn how your company can do a Customized Volunteer Experience contact Volunteer Services at vs@angelfood.org.

Nourishing the Community

Staff



Nourishing the community starts within Project Angel Food itself, where our dedicated staff of 111 employees — in the kitchen, on the road, and across our organization — brings talent, heart, and shared purpose to every part of the mission. Together, we transform compassionate care into medically tailored meals that nourish neighbors in need. A complete list of our amazing staff is [here](#).



Executive Team

Richard Ayoub, Chief Executive Officer
LaShanda Maze, Chief Development Officer
Don Macaulay, Senior Director of Operations and Administration
Benjamin Martin, J.D., Senior Director of Programs and Strategy
Brad Bessey, Director of Communications and Talent Relations
Mindy Glazer, Director of Institutional Giving and Strategic Partnerships
Kerry Hannawell, Director of Finance
Mark McBride, Director of Philanthropy
John Gordon, Executive Chef

A complete list of our amazing staff is available [here](#).



Project Angel Food has 120 dedicated staff members.



Remembering a Bright Light at Project Angel Food

Andre Jones was more than our Assistant Manager of Dispatch—he was joy, compassion, and grace. Living with kidney failure while caring for his mother, he still showed up each day with strength, purpose, and a radiant smile. “I came here for the job,” he said, “but I stay for the mission.” Andre passed away peacefully in his sleep on September 16, 2025, and will always remain part of the heart of Project Angel Food.

Nourishing the Community

Leadership

Project Angel Food is guided by a volunteer Board of Directors whose members are deeply engaged in the work—providing strategic direction, financial stewardship, and governance oversight to ensure the organization’s strength and sustainability.



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In Memoriam

Ron de Salvo
Sandy Gallin
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Dante Di Loreto
President of Scripted Entertainment, FremantleMedia
Media North America

Dr. Cynthia Mathis
Physician – Clinical Chief Det PM&R – Cedars-Sinai



“There has never been a more challenging — or more important — time to serve on Project Angel Food’s Board. As we recover from the fires, face looming federal funding cuts, complete The Chuck Lorre Family Foundation Campus, and respond to growing need, I am proud to stand with a deeply committed board and staff, united in strengthening Project Angel Food for the future.”

*Audrey Schlaepfer
Chair*



Nourishing the Community

Thank you Donors!

Foundations & Corporations

\$1,000,000

Takeda

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Building for the Future

Thank you Donors!



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FEMA Emergency Food and Shelter Program

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Paul Swerdlove and Elgart Aster
Alejandro Torres

\$10,000-\$24,999
Mary Aloe

The Circle of Angels is a special community of our most dedicated supporters, whose generosity helps make our mission possible. In gratitude, members receive exclusive CEO updates, unique volunteer opportunities and invitations to special events like the Circle of Angels Garden Party. In 2025, members were treated to a special performance by Grammy winner Thelma Houston at the Beverly Hills home of Josh Flagg.

Lisa Applebaum
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Eugene La Pietra
Sarah Landau



Thelma Houston thrills our at our 2025 Circle of Angels Garden Party held every spring.

Building for the Future

Thank you Donors!

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