



CHATTANOOGA AREA  
**FOOD BANK**

2025  
*Impact  
Report*

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Dear Friends,

This past year brought real challenges in the work of ending hunger across our region. Since 2023, food insecurity has continued to rise, affecting more of our neighbors each year. And yet, as I reflect on this year, I am drawn to hope.

I feel deep pride in our communities—from Bradley County, Tennessee, to Whitfield County, Georgia, and every county in between. I am grateful for the tireless efforts of our community partners, staff, volunteers, and generous supporters. As need increased, our response rose alongside it. Together, we adapted, strengthened partnerships, adapted to change, and reached more neighbors than ever before. The milestones in this report reflect that shared commitment.

Hope, in this work, is not abstract—it is visible and measurable. It looks like volunteer hours tripling year over year. It looks like bold steps to provide free staple foods, trusting our community to help fill in the gaps. Most of all, hope looks like people asking, *What can I do today to make my world better?*

This work requires endurance, and we are committed to the long haul. Thank you for continuing this journey with us.

With deep appreciation,

*Melissa Blevins*



Melissa Blevins  
President & CEO

## 2025 Headlines

Raised over \$7.3 million to fund our mission

WE PROVIDED  
**Groceries for  
16.9 Million Meals**  
— AND —

Responded to cuts in federal funding for food assistance

Navigated a 43-day federal government shutdown

*Collected  
254,375 lbs  
from food drives*

*Initiated our  
Fresh Food, Families, and  
Finance program, funded by  
Tennessee's Families First grant*

*Delivered a record-breaking amount of fresh produce*

Served an estimated  
180,000  
individuals

Launched a new website to better serve our neighbors, supporters, and partners

2025  
5.9 Million  
Pounds of  
Fresh  
Produce

## Our Process

Food is sourced from retailers, manufacturers, farmers, producers, and government nutrition programs.

Our neighbors receive their groceries through pantry distributions, hunger-relief partners, and other programs.

Fresh produce, prepacked boxes, and pantry staples are delivered across our service area to Foxwood Food Center, mobile pantries, and hunger-relief partners.

Our staff and volunteers sort and pack food at our three locations.



2025  
45,890  
Household  
Visits at  
Foxwood

2025  
558  
Mobile  
Pantry  
Events

2025  
6,869  
Volunteers  
across  
3 Facilities

2025  
42,832  
Volunteer  
Hours

2025  
23,434  
Gallons  
of Fresh  
Milk

2025  
2,108  
Deliveries  
across  
20  
Counties

## Programs

### Foxwood Food Center

Our grocery-store-style pantry where guests choose foods to accommodate their personal preferences, allergies, and other dietary restrictions.

### Mobile Pantries

We help organize massive distributions at schools, community centers, and places of worship to deliver groceries directly to communities in need.

### Children's Programs

Our Sack Packs and Summer Bags ensure food-insecure children have enough to eat during their weekends and summer breaks.

2025  
121,183  
Meals for  
Children

### Hunger-Relief Partners

We supply food across a wide network of food pantries, senior centers, mobile pantries, and children's programs.

### Produce Delivery

Our fleet delivers millions of pounds of fresh produce to our Hunger-Relief Partners across 20 counties, reducing barriers to accessing nutritious food.

### Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Outreach

We assist individuals across our service area with the SNAP application and recertification process.

### Teaching Garden

In our on-site garden, we grow produce for Foxwood Food Center, start seedlings for local community gardens, and teach about self-sufficiency and caring for the land.

### Retail Rescue

Meat, dairy, produce, baked goods, and pantry staples are donated by local grocery stores and distributed to our partners, saving millions of pounds of good food from landfills.

2025  
1,547  
SNAP  
Apps  
Submitted

2025  
6.3 Million  
Pounds of  
Rescued  
Food

## The 2025 Government Shutdown Crisis

The 43-day federal government shutdown in fall 2025 **disrupted SNAP access for over 100,000 families** across our region. During November, many neighbors were forced to make difficult choices between basic necessities and food.



When federal systems faltered, the Chattanooga Area Food Bank and our network of partners responded at scale—moving more than **2.3 million pounds of food** in a single month to meet an elevated and ongoing level of need.

### OUR EMERGENCY RESPONSE

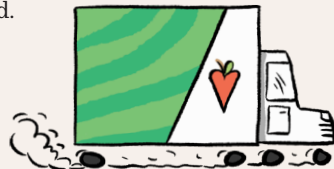
Pasta, sauce, and peanut butter were offered to partners at no cost.



An additional prepacked box was provided to our guests at Foxwood Food Center.

Operational hours were extended and volunteer shifts were expanded.

6,397  
VOLUNTEER  
HOURS WERE  
LOGGED JUST  
IN NOVEMBER  
2025



Delivery fees were waived for partners.

## Finances

### Support & Revenue

|                        |               |
|------------------------|---------------|
| Food Donations         | \$ 28,753,811 |
| Contributions & Grants | 7,339,251     |
| Government Income      | 1,875,290     |
| Operational Revenue    | 3,362,272     |
| Miscellaneous Income   | 380,639       |

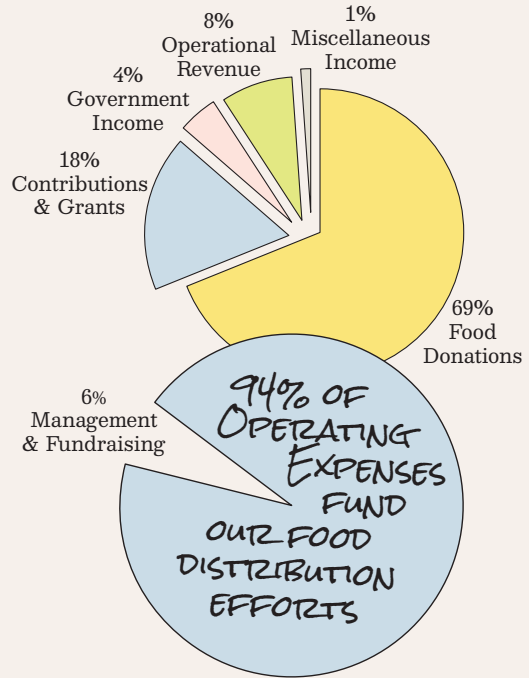
|                         |               |
|-------------------------|---------------|
| Total Support & Revenue | \$ 41,711,263 |
|-------------------------|---------------|

### Operating Expenses

|                           |               |
|---------------------------|---------------|
| Food Distribution         |               |
| Development & Fundraising | \$ 36,754,516 |
| Management & General      | 1,032,688     |
|                           | 1,453,746     |

|                         |               |
|-------------------------|---------------|
| Total Operating Expense | \$ 39,240,950 |
|-------------------------|---------------|

### Increase (Decrease) in Net



## Core Beliefs OF THE CHATTANOOGA AREA FOOD BANK

No one should go hungry. Food is a basic human right.

All people are worthy of dignity, compassion, and respect.

Equitable access to quality food strengthens the community,  
empowers self-sufficiency, and fosters hope.

The greatest impact happens in collaboration.

The needs of those we serve guide how we do our work.

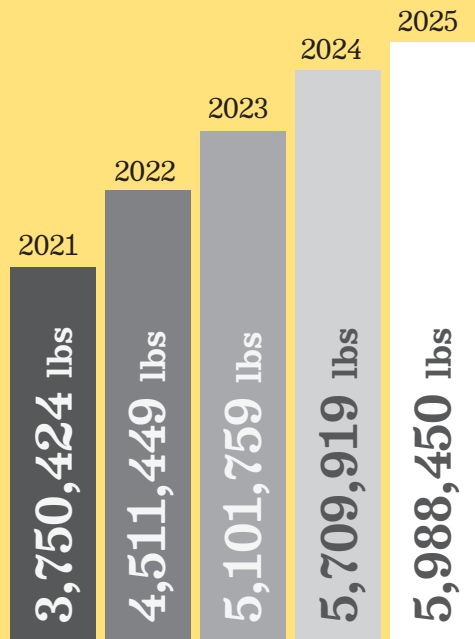




## Our Service Area THE BIG PICTURE

200+ Hunger-Relief Partners  
20 Counties  
3 Chattanooga Area Food Bank Facilities  
7,000mi<sup>2</sup>

## Produce DELIVERED FRESH



### Chattanooga Area Food Bank Main Warehouse

2009 Curtain Pole Road  
Chattanooga, TN 37406

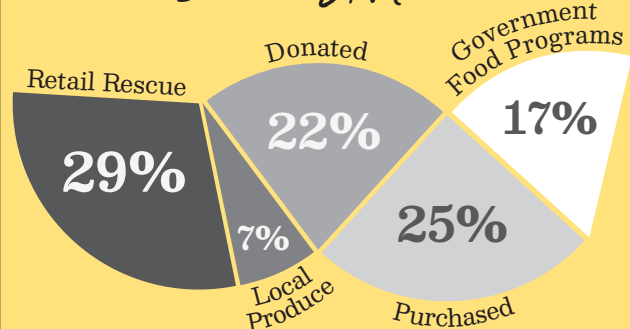
### Chattanooga Area Food Bank Foxwood Food Center

3209 Wilcox Boulevard  
Chattanooga, TN 37411

### Chattanooga Area Food Bank Pierce Distribution Center

1111 South Hamilton Street  
Dalton, GA 30720

## Our Sources VENDORS, FARMERS, STORES & MORE



The mission of the Chattanooga Area Food Bank is to lead a network of partners and unite the community to eliminate hunger by feeding, nourishing, and empowering those we serve.

## Where We Serve

## Distribution by Region



## Stories VOICES FROM OUR COMMUNITIES

**Aleasha, Foxwood Guest**  
Chattanooga, TN  
Y'all have been such a blessing to me and my family the times when we didn't have anything to survive on you guys were there to help us...I'm forever thankful and grateful for everything you guys have done for us.

**Anonymous Student**  
Chattanooga, TN  
I love getting the snackpack on fridays. I like the fruit. I would like you to include strawberries.

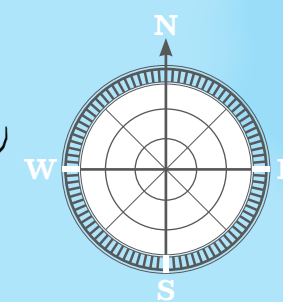
**Esamil, Foxwood Volunteer**  
Chattanooga, TN  
I enjoy doing this because [I] was struggling with food and I see how it is.

**Janice, The Gathering Guest**  
Ten Mile, TN  
[The mobile pantry] helps a whole lot. It saves money, so I can pay other bills.

**Jessica, City of Refuge Guest**  
Dalton, GA  
My family was so excited to have the fresh produce. My dad really loves veggies and he was over the moon when I brought them home. God bless you all for helping us.

**LaShai, Garden Volunteer**  
Chattanooga, TN  
Knowing that I was helping make the garden even healthier for our community warmed my heart, I didn't want to stop. This was a beautiful experience and I will definitely be volunteering again!

**Lindsay, Foxwood Volunteer**  
Chattanooga, TN  
I helped a dad and his little girl and she was a joy and brightened everyone's morning. I encourage anyone and everyone to volunteer. You will be surprised at how heartwarming the experience is.



## Legend

Distribution to Chattanooga Area Food Bank Facilities  
Distribution to Chattanooga Area Food Bank Hunger-Relief Partners

## Our Destinations PARTNERS & PROGRAMS

12% Programs  
14% Foxwood Food Center

74%  
Hunger-Relief Partners