



January 1, 2025 - December 31, 2025

# ANNUAL REPORT



*“The food distribution in December helped tremendously. The holidays are difficult financially. It’s tough for everyone because there’s bills, gifts. The meals provided food for our family. I’m thankful for that.”*

— Trish

## CONTENTS

A Letter from our CEO.....	3
‘25 Recap/Our Vision.....	4
Feeding Our Communities.....	6
Mobile Pantries.....	10
Feeding Kids.....	13
Feeding Seniors.....	14
Community Impact.....	17
Volunteers & Supporters.....	18
Fundraising Overview.....	21
Looking to the Future.....	22



# To Our Neighbors in Service

## A MESSAGE FROM OUR CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

*This past year reminded us why the work we do matters — and how deeply it depends on one another.*

In 2025, communities across West Central Texas faced continued economic pressure, rising food costs, and uncertainty around access to basic resources. Early in the year, reductions in government food support resulted in a significant loss of available food for food banks nationwide. For us, that meant nearly one million fewer pounds of food entering our system than the year before.

Moments like these test the strength of an organization — not just its capacity, but its commitment. And what this year made clear is that the Food Bank of West Central Texas is built on resilience, partnership, and a shared belief that no neighbor should face hunger alone.

Across our 13-county service area, we adapted. We leaned into our partnerships with local agencies, schools, churches, and community organizations. We expanded mobile distributions to reach rural communities. We prioritized children and seniors — neighbors who often feel the impact of food insecurity most acutely. And because of the collective effort of donors, volunteers, and supporters, food continued to move from warehouse to tables.

Within these pages, you’ll see the impact of that work — measured in meals distributed, families served, and programs sustained. But you’ll also see something less easily quantified: the power of community stepping up. Volunteers who gave their time. Donors who chose consistency over convenience. Partners who opened their doors and their networks so food could reach those who needed it most.

As we look ahead to 2026, we do so with clarity and resolve. We are focused on expanding access, strengthening our infrastructure, and deepening community engagement so that food assistance is not only available, but reliable and dignified. The challenges ahead are real — but so is the strength of the community behind this mission.

Thank you for walking alongside us through a year that required flexibility, compassion, and trust. Because of you, when our neighbors needed support, it was there.

In gratitude and resilience,



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brandon Forrest".

Brandon Forrest  
CEO/President

***On the cover, a mother holds food that represents stability, dignity, and perseverance.***

Taylor is raising three young sons on her own, balancing full-time work with the daily responsibility of making sure her family has what it needs to thrive. Like many parents, she has turned to food pantries during challenging seasons — not as a last resort, but as a necessary support.

The image reflects the strength of families who keep moving forward, even when resources are stretched thin. It honors the reality that providing nourishing food is not a luxury, but a basic human need — and that community support can make the difference between uncertainty and hope.

# 2025 RECAP

## *A Year of Resilience, Partnership, and Impact*

2025 was a year that required flexibility and resolve. Early reductions in government food support along with increased demand, particularly during the 43 day government shutdown, challenged food banks across the country — including here in West Central Texas.

In response, our network leaned on strong local partnerships, diversified sourcing, and community support to ensure neighbors continued to receive food. While the year presented real challenges, it also reinforced what makes this work possible: collaboration, adaptability, and a shared belief that food access matters.

Through every shift, our mission remained the same — to provide consistent, reliable access to nutritious food for neighbors across our region.

# OUR VISION

## *A community where no one goes hungry.*

Access to nutritious food is one of the most powerful and cost-effective ways to improve health, strengthen families, and build resilient communities. When people have reliable access to food, children learn better, adults are healthier and more productive, and families can focus on stability rather than survival. Addressing hunger does more than fill an empty stomach — it creates lasting opportunity.

For over four decades, the Food Bank of West Central Texas has worked to ensure that neighbors facing food insecurity are not alone. Through strong partnerships with local nonprofits, schools, healthcare providers, and volunteers, we deliver nourishing food to individuals and families across our region while advancing long-term solutions that address the root causes of hunger.

In 2025, your support helped provide millions of meals to neighbors in need, reaching children, seniors, and working families throughout West Central Texas. Each meal represents dignity, hope, and the reassurance that someone cares.

Our vision is a future where hunger is not a barrier to health, learning, or possibility. With your partnership, we are building that future — one meal, one family, and one community at a time.



Cooper High School Student Council members lend a hand at the Rose Park Senior Mobile Food Distribution, supporting older neighbors with nutritious food during summer 2025.

# FEEDING OUR COMMUNITIES

*Where your support made a difference*

**4.2 million**

*pounds of food distributed*

**3.5 million**

*meal equivalents provided*

**1.45 million**

*pounds of fresh produce and dairy*

## IMPACT AT A GLANCE

In 2025, the Food Bank of West Central Texas worked alongside partner agencies, mobile pantries, and community meal sites to ensure neighbors across our service area had consistent access to nourishing food — when and where it was needed most.



### COMMUNITY REACH

**7,279**

families served  
monthly on  
average

**58,656**

meals served  
monthly through  
meal sites

### HOW FOOD MOVES

**Partner Agencies**  
Local nonprofits and  
faith-based organizations  
distributing food year-round



**Mobile Pantries**  
Direct distribution bringing  
food to underserved  
neighborhoods



**Meal Sites**  
Prepared meals for children,  
seniors, and individuals  
facing immediate hunger





***"I'd do anything to protect my girls."***

— Nyx

Nyx's friends and family call her "Mama Bear." It's a name she wears with pride.

A single mother of two daughters, Nyx has always been fiercely protective of her girls. Before health complications changed her life, she worked full-time in a demanding public safety role and continued working throughout her pregnancy. But after a routine surgery, severe complications led to multiple hospitalizations and long-term health challenges.

Today, Nyx lives on a fixed disability income — less than \$1,200 a month.

Making sure her daughters have enough to eat is her greatest concern.

By visiting a local food pantry, Nyx is able to bring home fresh fruits, vegetables, and milk — foods she says help her girls stay healthy and strong. During the summer months, when school meals aren't available, community meal programs provide an essential safety net.

"They don't judge you," Nyx says. "They welcome you. They give you peace of mind."

With support from food assistance programs, Nyx can focus on what matters most: caring for her children, protecting their future, and showing them what resilience looks like — one day at a time.

# MOBILE PANTRIES

## Meeting Neighbors Where They Are

Mobile Food Pantries remain one of the most effective ways we reduce barriers to food access, particularly in rural communities.

### In 2025

**14**  
Mobile Food Pantry  
sites operated across  
10 counties

**1,545**  
households served  
monthly through mobile  
distributions

**21%**  
of all food distributed  
came through mobile  
pantries

By bringing food directly into neighborhoods, parks, churches, and community centers, Mobile Pantries ensure access regardless of transportation, distance, or mobility challenges.



Zachry, one of our warehouse drivers, helps volunteers load food into neighbors' vehicles at our mobile food distribution in Comanche county.

## 9-year-old Jalissa

Programs like the Food Bank of West Central Texas' **Food4Kids** help nourish kids beyond the school day. Alongside mobile meal distributions, school pantries, and backpack programs, these efforts ensure that Jalissa—and millions of children who rely on school meals—still have access to food when school is out.



# FEEDING KIDS

## Food4Kids & School Partnerships

Every child deserves consistent access to nutritious food—not just during the school day, but when classrooms close and weekends begin.

Food insecurity can make it harder for children to learn, focus, and thrive. Through **Food4Kids**, the Food Bank of West Central Texas works alongside local schools and community partners to ensure children have reliable food when they need it most.

Food4Kids provides take-home food packs filled with shelf-stable, nutritious items designed to support children outside of school hours. These packs help bridge the gap for families facing uncertainty, offering peace of mind and stability during weekends and school breaks.

In 2025, **Food4Kids** served children across multiple school districts, distributing backpacks each month through trusted school partnerships. Each pack provided enough food for multiple meals—helping students return to school nourished, focused, and ready to learn.

**Food4Kids** is more than a program. It's a commitment to our youngest neighbors—to their health, their potential, and their future.

When kids have the food they need today, they're better prepared for tomorrow.

# FEEDING SENIORS

## Nutrition, Dignity, and Connection

Every senior deserves reliable access to nutritious food — and the dignity and connection that come with it — even while living on a fixed income.

Rising food costs, healthcare expenses, and limited transportation can make it harder for older adults to meet basic needs. Food insecurity among seniors often goes unseen, but its impact is significant — affecting health, independence, and overall quality of life.

Through senior-focused programs like the Rose Park Senior Pantry and community-based distributions across West Central Texas, the Food Bank works to ensure older neighbors have consistent access to food in spaces designed to be welcoming, respectful, and reliable.

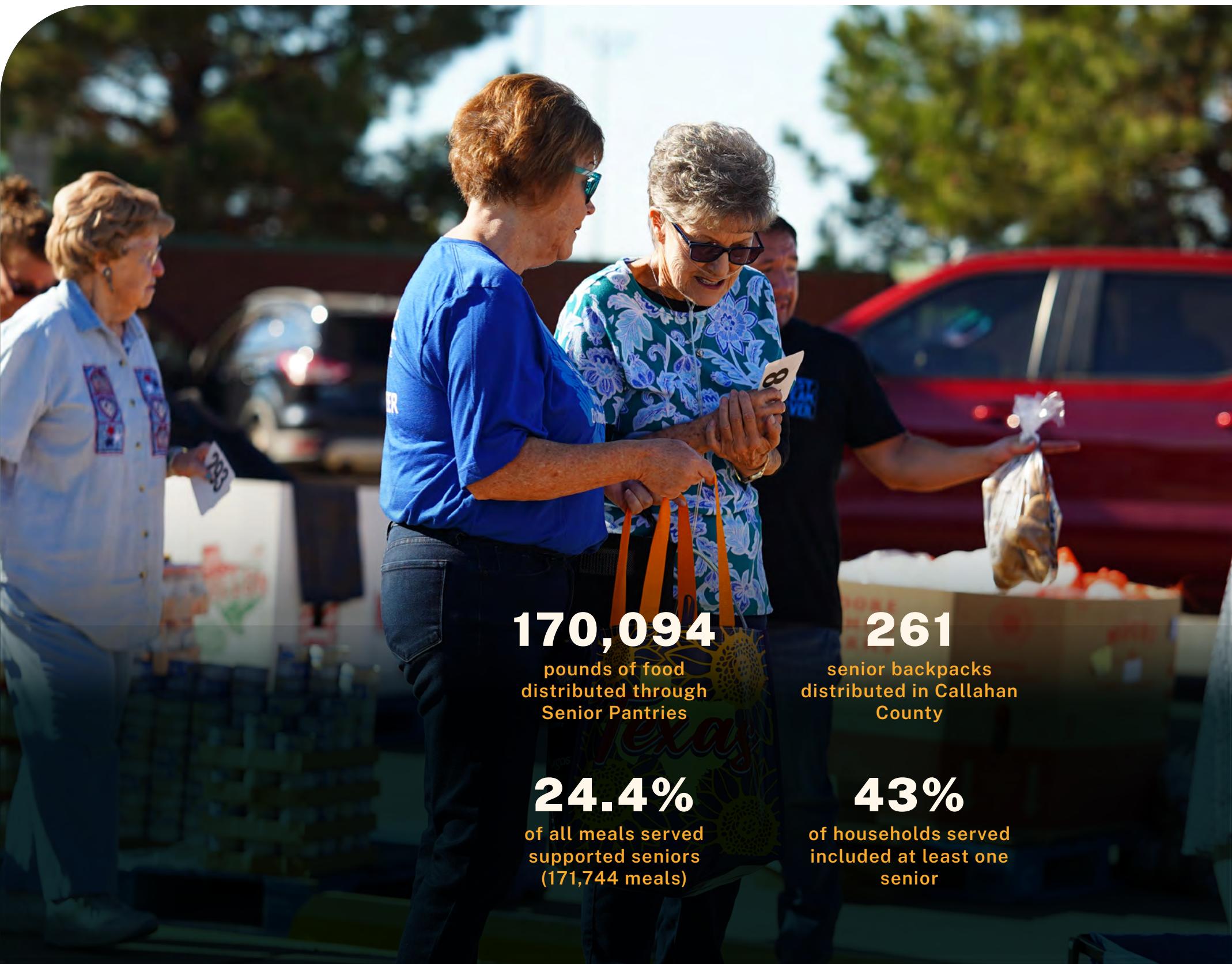
These programs prioritize more than nutrition. They create points of connection — places where seniors are known by name, routines are trusted, and support is delivered with care.

In 2025, senior-focused distributions helped ensure thousands of older adults remained nourished, supported, and connected in the communities they call home.

When seniors have consistent access to nutritious food, they can focus on their health, independence, and staying connected to the communities they call home.

### Rose Park Senior Mobile Distribution

Neighbors gather at the Rose Park Senior Pantry in Abilene, where consistent access to nutritious food and meaningful connection help older adults remain healthy, independent, and supported in their community.



**170,094**

pounds of food  
distributed through  
Senior Pantries

**24.4%**

of all meals served  
supported seniors  
(171,744 meals)

**261**

senior backpacks  
distributed in Callahan  
County

**43%**

of households served  
included at least one  
senior



Randy, our Director of Community Initiatives, briefs Blue Cross Blue Shield of Texas volunteers before a mobile food distribution in Taylor County — coordinating local partners to ensure food reaches neighbors efficiently and with care.

# COMMUNITY IMPACT

## Who We Serve & Where We Reach

**50%**  
of households served  
included children

**43%**  
of households served  
included seniors

**Rural communities**  
relied heavily  
on mobile food  
distributions

**Partner agencies**  
enabled localized,  
community-driven  
response

Hunger does not exist in isolation. It crosses age, geography, and circumstance — often affecting multiple generations within the same household.

In 2025, the Food Bank of West Central Texas served neighbors across both urban centers and rural communities, responding to a wide range of needs through flexible, community-centered solutions.

Nearly half of the households we served included children, while more than four in ten included seniors — highlighting how often food insecurity impacts families caring for both young and older loved ones. For many rural communities, mobile food distributions were a critical lifeline, bringing nutritious food directly to areas with limited access to grocery stores or transportation.

Local partner agencies played an essential role in this work, helping ensure food reached neighbors in ways that were trusted, timely, and rooted in the communities they serve.

Together, this collective effort reflects the reality of hunger in West Central Texas — and the importance of meeting it with compassion, adaptability, and strong community partnerships.

# VOLUNTEERS & SUPPORTERS

## The Power Behind Every Distribution

Every distribution, delivery, and program begins with people willing to show up.

In 2025, volunteers played a vital role in helping the Food Bank of West Central Texas serve neighbors across our 13-county region. From sorting and packing food to supporting mobile distributions and community pantries, volunteers made it possible to respond consistently — even as need continued to grow.

Youth volunteers, families, corporate teams, and community groups all contributed their time and energy, demonstrating that addressing hunger is truly a shared effort. Together, volunteers helped ensure food reached neighbors with care, dignity, and reliability.

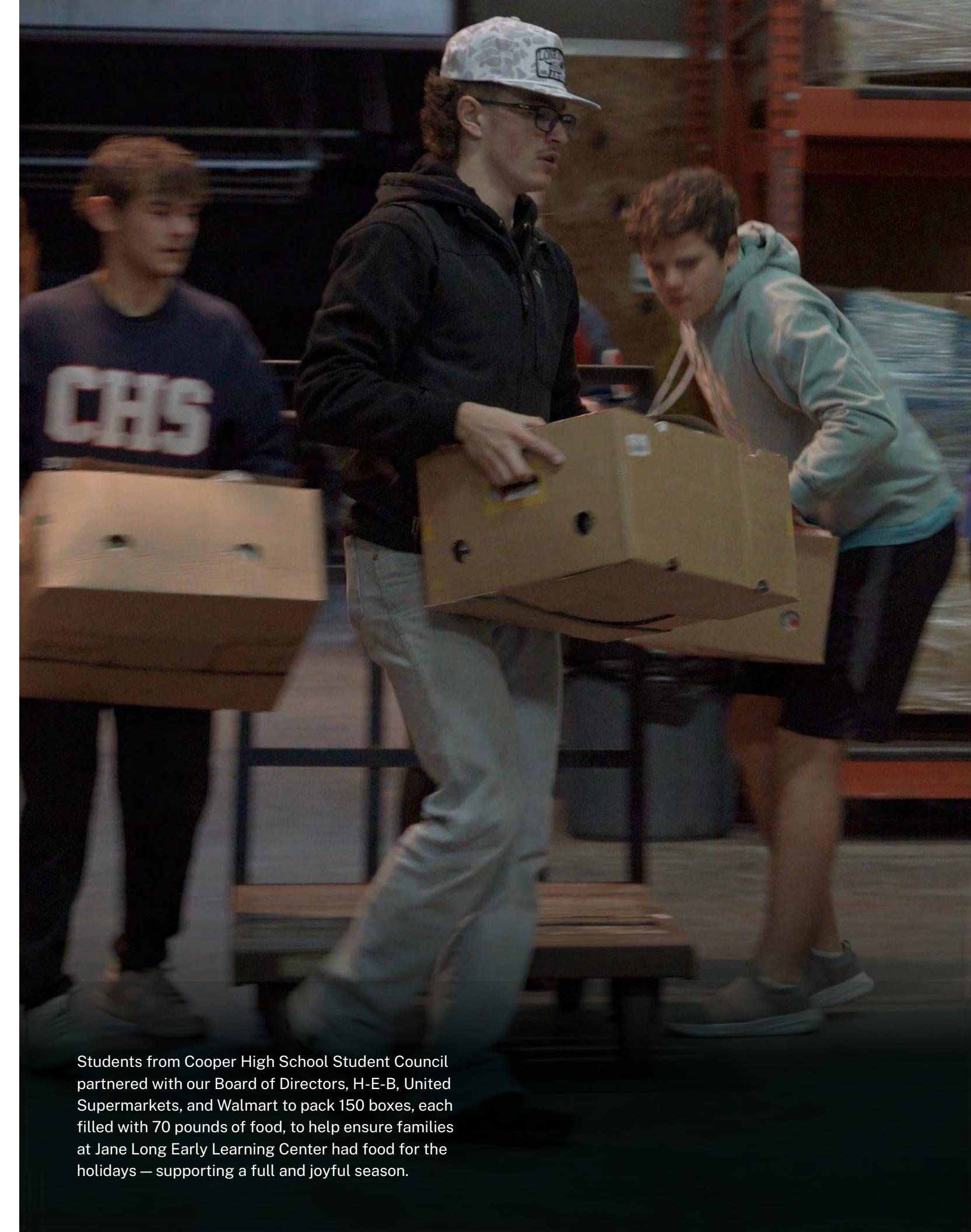
Behind every pound distributed is a community choosing to act.

**9,758**  
total volunteer hours contributed

**1,449**  
hours contributed by youth volunteers  
(23% of total volunteer hours)

**40**  
volunteer groups

**961**  
individual volunteers



Students from Cooper High School Student Council partnered with our Board of Directors, H-E-B, United Supermarkets, and Walmart to pack 150 boxes, each filled with 70 pounds of food, to help ensure families at Jane Long Early Learning Center had food for the holidays — supporting a full and joyful season.



***“Because of our donors and partners, we are able to respond to today’s needs while building the capacity to serve our communities for years to come.”***

*— Brandon Forrest, CEO*

# FUNDRAISING OVERVIEW

**Sustaining the Work. Strengthening the Future.**

**Strong community support from individuals, businesses, and foundations**

**Continued investment in core programs and infrastructure**

**Expanded capacity to serve neighbors across all 13 counties**

**Momentum toward long-term sustainability and growth**

In 2025, the Food Bank of West Central Texas continued to build a stronger, more resilient foundation for meeting hunger across our 13-county service area. Through the generosity of individual donors, businesses, foundations, and community partners, we secured the resources needed to respond to growing demand while investing in long-term capacity.

Support this year helped fuel core programs, expand mobile distributions, strengthen partnerships, and advance the development of our new community center — ensuring food reaches neighbors efficiently, reliably, and with dignity.

Fundraising efforts in 2025 reflected both trust and shared commitment. As needs increased, so did community engagement, allowing the Food Bank to adapt, grow, and remain responsive across urban and rural communities alike.

Every gift — large or small — played a role in moving food from warehouse to table and strengthening a network of support for the future.

The Food Bank of West Central Texas is committed to responsible stewardship of every dollar entrusted to us. Contributions are used to support programs, operations, and infrastructure that directly strengthen food access and community impact.

Full audited financial statements are available at [fbwct.org](http://fbwct.org).

# LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

## Building Capacity. Deepening Partnerships. Meeting Growing Need.

As we look to 2026, the Food Bank of West Central Texas remains focused on meeting increased need with stronger infrastructure, deeper partnerships, and expanded access across our service area.

Food insecurity continues to affect families, seniors, and rural communities in complex ways. Rising costs, limited transportation, and shifts in public support mean that flexibility and preparedness are more important than ever. Our response is grounded in what we know works: community trust, reliable access, and partnerships that meet neighbors where they are.

In the year ahead, we are expanding our capacity through the development of our new drive-thru pantry and community space — an investment that strengthens our ability to distribute food efficiently, serve neighbors with dignity, and coordinate more effectively with community partners.

This expansion allows us to move more food, support more partners, and build a foundation for long-term impact across West Central Texas.

We are also committed to deepening relationships with schools, senior centers, faith communities, and local organizations through programs like Food4Kids, senior-focused distributions, mobile pantries, and NeighborGoods. These partnerships allow us to deliver food in ways that are trusted, accessible, and rooted in the communities we serve.

As we move forward, our work will continue to be shaped by compassion, adaptability, and collaboration. Together, we are building a stronger, more resilient network — one that ensures food assistance is not only available, but reliable, respectful, and responsive to the needs of our neighbors.



Covering our new east-facing wall, this hand-painted mural by local artist, Stephanie Prosser, reflects the heart of our mission — honoring the 13 counties we serve, the complexity of food insecurity, and the hope created when communities come together to ensure every neighbor has access to nourishment.



Your support helped the Food Bank of West Central Texas respond to hunger across our 13-county service area in meaningful, lasting ways this year. Because of you, neighbors facing food insecurity had access to nutritious food delivered with dignity, care, and consistency.

On behalf of the families, seniors, children, and individuals we serve — thank you. We are deeply grateful for your partnership and look forward to continuing this work together as we build a stronger, more food-secure West Central Texas.



# Together, we fight hunger and feed hope.



Partner Food Bank | FEEDING AMERICA



Food Bank of West Central Texas  
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[fbwct.org](http://fbwct.org)

The Food Bank of West Central Texas is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Donations are tax-deductible as allowed by law. EIN: 75-1888192

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