

KNOW HUNGER

Our Mission is to Alleviate Hunger in the Inland Empire



CEO Corner



Vanesa Rangel-Mercado
Interim CEO

Dear Hunger Heroes,

Summer break has begun, which is typically a busy time for food banks as we help supply families with nutritious meals, bridging the gap left by the end of reliable school meals. FARSB is busier than usual as we work to sustain current operations for longevity, advocate for funding for hunger-relief, and continue our thoughtful search for a new Chief Executive Officer. Even as new leadership brings about change, we remain committed to feeding the Inland Empire (IE).

As we enter a new fiscal year, we're focusing on connecting health and nutrition, highlighted in several stories showcasing our commitment to providing families with healthy meals. This issue also includes a look at our partnership with local businesses to fundraise for food purchases, healthcare clinic referrals for better food access, and our role in the national movement happening in September known as Hunger Action Month (HAM).

HAM is a major event for food banks, as we ask neighbors to take collective action to fight hunger in the IE. With a call to donate food or funds, volunteer, and advocate for hunger-relief policies, there are many ways to get involved in the movement and boost awareness for the individuals facing food insecurity in our region. Whatever you're able to do, remember that we're doing this together, making a bigger impact across the counties to ensure that no one goes without the food they need to thrive!

Thank you for supporting our mission; we couldn't do it without our beloved community!

Summer Match Doubled Donations

THANKS DCH SUBARU OF RIVERSIDE

This summer, a generous match challenge of up to \$40,000 helped raise funds for FARSB's hunger-relief programs to alleviate child hunger while schools are out. Thanks to this effort, our community raised over \$17,000 with the match, providing over 70,000 meals to help families struggling with food insecurity have nutritious, stable meals during summer break when kids go without reliable school lunches. We're grateful for the generous donations and the match from our local Subaru dealership in Riverside for taking action for children across the IE.



Food As Medicine 3.0 (FAM3) Release

LINKS FOOD SECURITY TO WELLNESS

FARSB was one of several food banks in the Feeding America national network featured in the Food As Medicine 3.0 (FAM3) report that was recently released on July 8th. This report highlighted the programs used by food banks to connect healthcare partners with food assistance, so patients receive nutritious food. The FoodRx program, part of FARSB's Feeding With Healthcare pillar, supplied nutritious food boxes to healthcare clinics that screened patients for food insecurity. If a need was identified, the patient received the food box to take home. The report saw a 9% increase in patients' fruit and vegetable intake, a 7% drop in food insecurity, and 37% fewer emergency room visits. There was also a nearly 10% drop in patients who delayed or missed medical care due to costs as a result of the program, showing promising results!



SCAN ME



HUNGER ACTION MONTH IS BACK

TAKE ACTION WITH FARSB THIS SEPTEMBER

Join the national movement to raise awareness of hunger and food insecurity across the nation this September and *Play Your Part* with FARSB! Food banks are helping our community members in need have equitable access to the food they deserve, and in the IE, 684,000 people struggle with food insecurity. This looks like a senior skipping meals to afford medication, parents having coffee for breakfast so their children can eat, or a veteran having little left for groceries after paying bills. Hunger affects the entire community, and it takes the whole community to fight it.

Harnessing collective action creates a greater impact, and we want you to be part of this movement all month long. Whether you host a food drive at your workplace, gather friends or family to volunteer, or skip a small luxury so you can make a monetary gift to a community organization, you are making a difference in the lives of your neighbors in need. Learn more about Hunger Action Month and how to get your business or organization involved for greater impact at FeedingIE.org/hungeraction



Making a difference can be as simple as a small donation. Your generosity can help ensure that more people enjoy fresh produce and full meals during the warmest months of the year. To contribute, go to FeedingIE.org/donate



Start a summer food drive and help provide nutritious items to neighbors in need. Check out our updated flyer for essential items like canned vegetables, dry beans, and peanut butter so families can make full meals. Register now at FeedingIE.org/Food-Drives



Join FARSB and make an impact in the lives of neighbors facing hunger. Volunteers sort product, pack boxes, or glean produce that goes to our pantry partner network. Sign up today at FeedingIE.org/Volunteer

ADVOCACY ALERT



AUGUST RECESS: LOCAL ADVOCACY

Congress members are in their August Recess until September, but with a funding bill still not passed, the delay of the SNAP cost shift to states remains unconfirmed. While members are at their local offices, it's an ideal time to reach out to speak with officials and voice your support for hunger-relief policies - like including the SNAP delay in cost shift to states in the Farm Bill. Learn more about local advocacy at FeedingIE.org/advocate



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CAN TREE WONDERLAND PLANNING BEGINS NOW FOR THE SEASON OF GIVING

It's nearly 100 degrees, but at FARSB, *it's beginning to look a lot like Christmas*, as we plan for Can Tree Wonderland! This annual holiday fundraiser, FREE community event, and decorating competition invites groups to sign up to collect or purchase canned goods and create holiday trees to decorate.

The competition heats up as participants wrap their cans, add holiday tree toppers, and hang tinsel to create a themed display of their choice. All food and funds collected during the event go to FARSB to support hunger-relief efforts during the holiday season when families need it most.

If you'd like to sponsor the event, sign up your business or group to participate, or simply attend the event, learn more at FeedingIE.org/cantree



WE'RE **BERRY** THANKFUL TO MONTHLY DONORS!

This time of year can be challenging for many families to make up for the loss of reliable school meals when it should be a time to relax and enjoy their time off. Thankfully, the ongoing support of our monthly donors has enabled us to combat summer hunger and supply meals to these families. When you join the Meals for Many (M4M) monthly giving club, you become a monthly donor and get a shout-out in our next newsletter. Become a M4M member at FeedingIE.org/Meals-For-Many or scan the QR code. Thank you for your continuing support!



THANK YOU FOR YOUR ONGOING SUPPORT!

Antonio Bonilla
DeVon Wright
Elizabeth Alexander

John Tochtrop
Kerry Mauck
Matt Evans

Mette Simonsen
Nayeli Jimenez Acosta
Song Bi

Tameka Brooks
Terry Melendy
William Savage



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