

Your Local Food Bank



KNOW HUNGER

Our Mission is to Alleviate Hunger in the Inland Empire
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CEO Corner



Joanna Solorio,
MBA
Interim Chief
Executive Officer

Dear Friends of the Food Bank,

Feeding America Riverside | San Bernardino (FARSB) is sharing a brief leadership update as CEO Carolyn Solar Fajardo begins her scheduled maternity leave. This transition has been thoughtfully planned and communicated in advance with our Board of Directors, staff, Feeding America National Organization, and key supporters.

During this time, Joanna Solorio will serve as Interim CEO. Joanna is FARSB's Human Resources Director and has been a valued member of our leadership team for the past five years. She holds a BS in Human Resources from California State University, San Bernardino, and an MBA from California Baptist University. Known for her sound judgment, strategic insight, and collaborative leadership style, Joanna is well-prepared to guide the organization during this interim period.

We are grateful for Carolyn's leadership and the care she has taken to ensure a smooth transition. The Board has full confidence in Joanna's ability to maintain stability and momentum through Winter and Spring 2026.

For any questions or general inquiries, please get in touch with our team at (951) 359-4757.

Thank you for your continued partnership and support.

Join us for 2026 Curbing Hunger!

We're thrilled to announce the return of our annual luncheon, *Curbing Hunger: Serving Hope*, on Friday, March 27th at 11:30 AM. This will be a simple yet powerful soup and bread gathering held at our warehouse, where you'll learn more about our ongoing efforts and local programs, connect with like-minded community members, and deepen your understanding of food insecurity in the Inland Empire.

Together, we're working to serve hope one bowl at a time.

Looking to make an even greater impact? Event sponsorship opportunities are available through Friday, February 27th. Sponsors receive enhanced brand visibility, recognition on FARSB's website and social media, and more.

Scan the QR code to complete our interest form to learn more and get involved. We can't wait to see you there!



Scan code to sign-up,
become a sponsor,
and learn more!



Holiday Season Impact



Throughout the holiday season, rising costs and barriers to food access made both Thanksgiving and Christmas difficult for many Inland Empire families. We remained committed to ensuring every family could gather around a full table with dignity, choice, and hope.

With Bank of America's and other various funders' support, FARSB distributed hundreds of turkeys and hams for Thanksgiving and Christmas to Community Partners, Military Veteran Program (MVP) sites, and families across the region.

These were combined with holiday gift cards from the Albertsons, Vons, and Pavilions Foundation, which enabled families to choose foods that best fit their needs and traditions.

We are also grateful for the volunteer support of Yuhaaviatam of San Manuel Nation, whose time and care helped ensure the December distribution ran smoothly and that families were welcomed with kindness.

To our donors, thank you. Your generosity brings peace of mind during the holidays, turning a simple gift into a full table, a joyful gathering, and one less worry for a family.

45 Years of Service

FARSB Concludes our 45th Year of Serving the Inland Empire

As FARSB closes its 45th year of service, we pause to reflect on both the meaningful impact made and the growing need across the Inland Empire. While progress continues, food insecurity remains a pressing challenge—one that requires collaboration, continued advocacy, and a shared commitment to building a more equitable food system.

As we enter our 46th year, we invite you to continue this advocacy journey with us as we work toward expanding access to nutritious food and strengthening food assistance across the Inland Empire.

This past year brought important milestones worth celebrating. In calendar year 2025, FARSB:

- Opened our first client-choice pantry, the Fresh Start Pantry by Goodman, and served over 1,000 households
- Served 22,179 students and children through our Grab n' Go program
- With our MVP program, we worked alongside military veteran-focused organizations to help serve 4,832 households
- Assisted with the application process for CalFresh and 1,372 successful submissions



From everyone at FARSB, thank you! These accomplishments would not be possible without the generosity and dedication of our donors, volunteers, community partners, and neighbors.



Making a difference can be as simple as a small donation. Your generosity can help ensure that more people enjoy a warm and hearty meal. To contribute, go to FeedingIE.org/Donate.



Join us at the food bank and make a difference in the lives of those facing hunger. Spots for volunteers are filling up quickly—book your volunteering slot now at FeedingIE.org/Volunteer.



Your participation in a food drive helps those in need directly. Check out our updated flyer with essential items like canned fruit, dry beans, canned soup, and various shelf-stable foods. Register now at FeedingIE.org/Food-Drives.

Thank You for Making Our 5th Can Tree Wonderland Shine!

Thank you to everyone who sponsored, built a can tree, or joined us for our Annual Can Tree Wonderland: NY Rockin' Christmas, presented by the Albertsons, Vons, Pavilions Foundation!

Held Saturday, December 13th, the event brought together local businesses, organizations, and families to raise food and funds while enjoying free Santa photos, hot pizza from Mamma Mia, coffee and hot chocolate from Dutch Bros., and a special petting zoo visit from Orangewood Farms!

Thanks to the incredible generosity of our community, this year's Can Tree event raised over \$66,000 and collected more than 8,000 pounds of food. Together, these contributions will help provide the equivalent of 300,000 meals for families facing food insecurity across the Inland Empire.

Would you like to make a further impact? You can join our Meals For Many monthly giving club and contribute year-round.



Strengthening Hope for Inland Empire Families

The holidays may be over, but families urgently need meals and support more than ever. Right now, your monthly gift makes a critical difference by ensuring no one is left behind in these challenging months. Join us today as a Monthly Donor and make a lasting impact.

Join the Meals for Many (M4M) monthly giving club and be recognized in our next newsletter. Sign up at FeedingIE.org/Meals-For-Many or scan the QR code. Thank you for being there all year long!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ONGOING SUPPORT!

Angela Taylor
 Bethany Patrick
 Charles James

Devon Wright
 Elizabeth Wilbur
 Kathleen Burger

Keith Nanneman
 Randolph Roman
 Rebecca Hutton

Terry Melendy
 Theresa Martinez
 Yissel Parra

