How A Food Bank Works

Food comes in to Houston Food Bank from various sources and is inspected, sorted, and stored in our warehouse.

Food is then distributed to our community partners. These partners include pantries, soup kitchens, schools, multi-service centers, and other hunger relief agencies.

Our partners then give out the food directly to those who need it in the community.

Our mission: food for better lives. Our vision: A world that doesn’t need food banks.

Last Year In Review:

18 Counties served by Houston Food Bank

92,835 households per week provided with food assistance on average

1,500 Partners such as food pantries, soup kitchens, meal sites, and shelters.

159 Million Meals of nutritious food made possible

16 Million Meals made possible from HFB’s SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) application assistance

88,061 people volunteered at least once

8 Million Meals provided to kids through our Backpack Buddy, Kids Cafe, and School Market programs

42% Fresh Produce out of our total output was distributed to partners and the community

112% more households received food assistance in March - June, 2020, the first 4 months of the pandemic, than in that period in 2019

88 Million Pounds of food and product distributed to the community during the first 4 months of the pandemic (March - June, 2020)

*Data from Houston Food Bank’s 2020 fiscal year (July 2019 - June 2020)
In addition to distributing food from our warehouses to our partners, we provide additional programs to better support people in the community and help them achieve long-term stability and exit cycles of poverty.

**Backpack Buddy**
Nutritious, kid-friendly food is provided for the weekend for at-risk children in schools grades K-12, as well as at summer meal program sites.

**Community Assistance Program**
Assistance is provided to help community members apply for state-funded social and health services, including SNAP, Medicaid, Children’s Medicaid and others.

**Food For Change**
Food for Change Programs strategically distribute food as a catalyst to motivate clients to participate in partner social service programs with measurable outcomes, such as chronic disease management programs and certain educational courses.

**Kids Cafe**
Healthy meals and snacks, cooked in our on-site Keegan Kitchen, are given out year-round on weekdays, along with nutrition and health education, to kids at after-school and summer meal sites throughout our service area.

**Nutrition Education**
Free classes in nutrition, food safety, meal preparation, and budgeting are taught in collaboration with Houston Food Bank partners.

**Senior Box Program**
A monthly box of food is provided to low income seniors 60 years of age or older.

**School Market**
School-based markets are located on the grounds of a school to provide an easily accessible source of food assistance to students and their families.

**Teachers Aid**
Rather than dip into their own incomes, as is all too often the case, teachers from low income schools can get free school supplies through the Teachers Aid program.

For more information or ways to get involved, visit: www.houstonfoodbank.org

A gift of $10 provides access to 30 meals for someone in the community

This institution is an equal opportunity provider