

# ANNUAL REPORT 2024



# People facing hunger are at the center of all we do.

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A Message from Our President & CEO  
and Board Chair.



## Dear Friends,

As we celebrate our **10th anniversary**, we're proud to share Feeding Northeast Florida's achievements in 2024—a year marked by both significant growth and evolving community needs.

During this period of economic transition, we've witnessed a **sobering reality**: many who once supported our work may now find themselves seeking assistance. **Rising costs** of housing, food, and necessities have created financial strain for countless families who previously had stable footing, reminding us that food insecurity can affect anyone with little warning.

This year marked a turning point with the opening of our **new centralized facility**, revolutionizing our operations by combining previously disconnected warehouses into one efficient hub. This increased capacity arrived at a critical moment, allowing us to serve more neighbors as demand continues to grow.

Your support has enabled us to distribute **over 35.6 million pounds of food** across our 12-county service area in 2024. Our merger with Bread of the Mighty continues to strengthen our regional impact, helping us reach deeper into rural communities while maximizing every donated dollar.

Looking ahead, we're excited to **expand our new facility** with a community kitchen, demonstration garden, and innovative food distribution methods. These additions will not only provide more nutritious meals but also create opportunities for education and deeper community engagement in hunger-relief work.

With more than **310,000 individuals** still facing food insecurity, including **93,000 children**, our work remains urgent. Yet we're encouraged by our progress in developing sustainable solutions that address the root causes of hunger.

Thank you for a **decade of partnership**.  
Your generosity continues to transform lives throughout Northeast Florida.

With heartfelt gratitude,

Susan King  
President & CEO

Dipak Rajhansa  
Chair, Board of Directors



# Board of Directors

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Feeding Northeast Florida has a Board of Directors composed of experts in the fields of health, nutrition, business, and the non-profit sector, guiding the strategic and long-term planning necessary for positioning the organization to end hunger in the region.

## BOARD LEADERSHIP

### BOARD CHAIR

**Dipak Rajhansa** | Bingle Premier Lighting

### VICE CHAIR

**Russell Baker** | CEO, Wingard

### GOVERNANCE CHAIR

**Linda Pittenger** | Managing Partner, The Pittenger Group, LLC

### FINANCE CHAIR

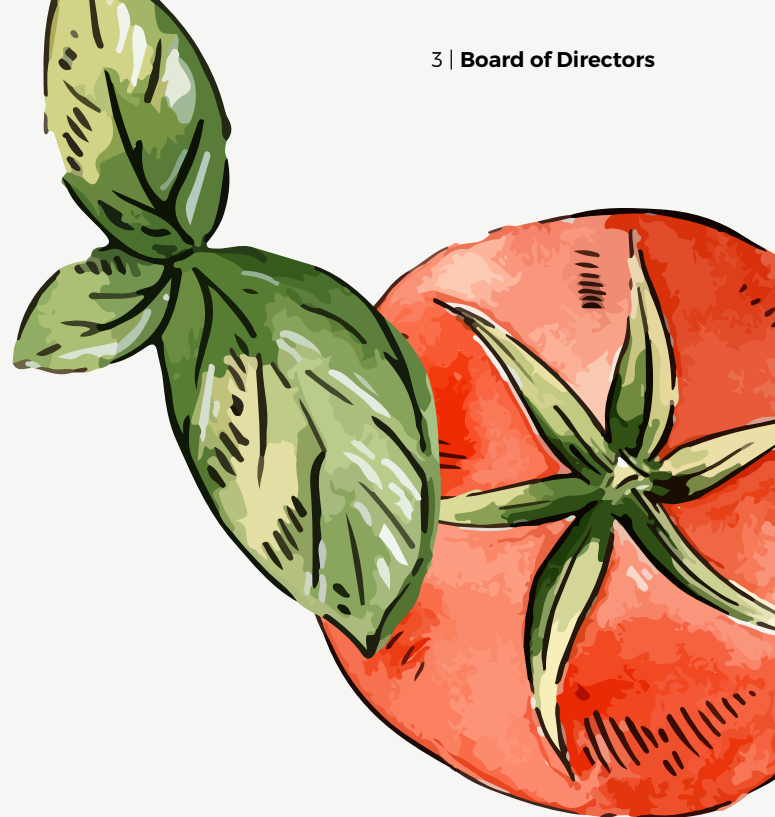
**Gavin Hayden** | Senior Manager, KPMG LLP

### SECRETARY

**Marla Buchanan, Esq.** | Attorney/CEO, Blue Ocean Title, LLC

### PRESIDENT & CEO

**Susan King** | President & CEO, Feeding Northeast Florida



## BOARD MEMBERS

**Josh Martino** | President and Legal Counsel, Bono's

**Len Brown** | Global Business Ventures, PGA Tour

**Poppy Clements** | Retired – Community Volunteer

**Craig Provenzano** | VP Enterprise Tax, Guidewell Mutual Holding

**Anurag Sharma** | Chief Technology Officer, Vystar Credit Union

**Ted Rueger** | CEO, Eastern Quality Foods

# At Feeding Northeast Florida, we use food as a catalyst to strengthen lives and communities.

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## Our vision is access to nutritious food for all.

Feeding Northeast Florida rescues and distributes food and household necessities directly to families experiencing food insecurity and to more than 500 anti-hunger organizations. Our work improves access to healthy and culturally preferred food, provides nutrition education and coaching, and builds community engagement efforts that address the root causes of hunger.

Every day we provide more than 97,000 meals within our 12-county service area, but we are also building a diverse network of community partners, farmers, government agencies, volunteers, and corporations who believe in our vision of using nourishment, education, and community engagement to provide access to nutritious food for all.





# Serving The Community Who Served to Protect Us



## Northeast Florida Women Veterans

Every day, our nation's military is protecting our freedoms and our future. Yet many active-duty service members, veterans and their loved ones are experiencing food insecurity. 310,020 people across the First Coast are currently facing hunger with thousands of them representing the veteran population. With the support of our 236 partner agencies and 500 food pantries, Feeding Northeast Florida is committed to ensuring that our neighbors who serve have access to the resources they need to thrive.

The president and CEO of Northeast Florida Women Veterans, Dee Quaranta, says, "The pantry is a major part of what we do because it's providing basic needs to the community." In addition to the food, FNEFL was able to secure a grant to get Northeast Florida Women Veterans a refrigerator and freezer to store fresh produce and protein for the more than 350 women veterans it serves every year.

Dee, a 20-year U.S. Air Force veteran, knows the challenges the 15,000 women veterans in our region face as they transition back into civilian life. She says, "Some of these women are isolated. They won't come out.

They're dealing with their mental health. Some of them will come out just to get the food and then go back [home]. At least we are providing food for them."

When thinking about the impact the pantry has on the military community, Dee looks back to when a woman at their shelter was diagnosed with cancer. When she eventually moved into a new home, the woman was unable to go grocery shopping while she was recovering. One of Northeast Florida Veteran Women's case workers would take food directly from the pantry to her home, making sure the woman had healthy meals each week. When she gained back her strength, the woman returned to say, "y'all just saved my life."

It's through these local efforts that we can make it easier for our neighbors to access the food and tools they need to flourish.

**"Y'all just saved my life."**



## Year in Review

# 310,020

310,020 people, including 93,690 children, are facing hunger in Northeast Florida



1/7 adults don't know where their next meal is coming from



1/5 children will go to bed hungry



# Year in Review

In 2024, neighbors facing  
hunger gained access to

**35,656,211**  
**Pounds**  
**of food**

**500**

Food pantries  
stocked

**2,360**

Mobile pantries  
delivered

**\$123.6**

Million total savings to families  
receiving food

**72%**

Of all food distributed is fresh or  
frozen produce, dairy or protein

**15,861**

Volunteers assisted

**38,741+**

Volunteer hours provided



**98.6¢** of each **\$1**

donated goes toward program support





# A Decade of Impact

Over the past decade, Feeding Northeast Florida has dedicated itself to combating hunger and improving the lives of countless individuals and families in our community. As we reflect on our journey, we are proud to present a timeline of achievements and successes. Throughout the years, we relied on the resilient, unwavering support of our community, even in the most challenging times. During the COVID-19 pandemic, the need for food in our region surged by more than 400% almost overnight. We responded, scaling operations dramatically and increasing annual food distribution from 17 million pounds to over 32 million pounds in one year to meet the unprecedented demand. Each year following has been a record-breaking year; the demand for our services has required that we distribute more food, more efficiently. Join us as we reflect on ten years of impactful service and look ahead to a future of continued support and progress.

- 2014** | Feeding Northeast Florida founded
- 2015** | SnackPack and Mobile Pantry programs launched
- 2016** | Named 12th most efficient food bank in Feeding America Network
- 2017** | SnackPack program expanded
- 2019** | Susan King named CEO
- 2020** | Launched Project SHARE, fed seniors isolated during COVID
- 2021** | Prescriptive Nutrition program launched
- 2022** | Nutrition Education contract awarded
- 2023** | Merged with Bread of the Mighty
- 2024** | Merged with Renewing Dignity
- 2024** | Moved into our Forever Home Facility



## In Ten Years We:

- Built a network of more than **500 hunger-relief partners**
- Distributed **over 196 MILLION\*** meals in our community
- Distributed **235.5m lbs.** of food

\* These numbers reflect duplicated estimates, as many of the families and individuals that we serve visit our pantries multiple times, ensuring they have the support they need throughout the year.



# New Building

In June of 2024, Feeding Northeast Florida moved into our state-of-the-art forever home campus consolidating our operations from two aging warehouses into one community hub empowering us to more efficiently focus on our mission to nourish and strengthen the neighborhoods we serve.

## A Look Inside

- **Transforming our Volunteer Center:**  
Increase to our volunteer capacity by 400%!
- **Community Kitchen & Teaching Garden:**  
The new facility includes plans for a commercial production kitchen and teaching garden, extending our reach and impact.
- **Education & Event Center:**  
Space for corporate events, community groups, hunger seminars, and fundraising events.
- **Nutrition Education Programs:**  
Dedicated space for nutrition education and prescriptive nutrition programs
- **Expanded storage facilities:**  
Doubling our cold storage capacity to 110,00 sq ft
- **A Bright Future:**  
Our new facility enhances our ability to serve the community and address growing food insecurity needs

# Every Penny Counts

Each donation to Feeding Northeast Florida supports an intentionally lean and efficient network that ensures every penny had a purpose. Here's how we put \$1 to work to provide 6 meals.

## MAXIMIZE PARTNERSHIPS

Through our affiliation with Feeding America, we receive food donations from national partners, farms, and local stores, ensuring no surplus goes to waste. Coupled with our dedicated logistics and volunteer labor, your donation fuels the collection, storage, and distribution of this food to over 500 anti-hunger organizations throughout our community.

## LEVERAGE BUYING POWER

A dollar at the grocery store doesn't stretch far, but the food bank harnesses the power of bulk purchasing. We buy essentials by the truckload, securing significant discounts and providing thousands of meals with fewer dollars.

## SUPPORT OPERATIONS

Your dollar helps cover the vital costs of operations to keep donated food safe – trucks, refrigerators, food safety measures, programs, and the team that makes it all happen. Every part of this system ensures food is safely and swiftly delivered to those in need.

## FILL NUTRITION GAPS

Not all needs are met by food donations. Your support enables us to purchase specific items such as low-sodium vegetables and culturally preferred foods, filling nutritional and demographic gaps.

## COMBAT WASTE

Supporting the food bank is also fighting food waste. Millions of pounds of food that would end up in landfills are redirected to local tables addressing both hunger and the environment.

## Put your \$1 into action.



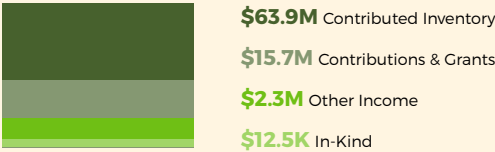
**\$1 = 6 meals** - With the purchasing power and efficiencies of our organization, we can turn **\$1 into 6 meals**, proving that every penny has a purpose. Whether your passion is helping families, seniors, single parents, veterans, children, the homeless, or even pets, the food bank is there providing vital support. Your generosity feeds families, sustains communities, and drives a mission where no contribution is too small to make a significant impact.



# Financials & Food Sources

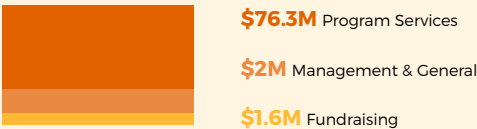


## Revenue & Support



**\$82,004,479** Total Revenue & Support

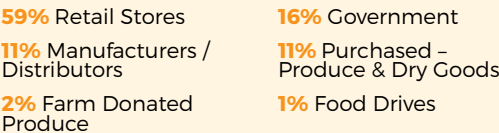
## Expenses



**\$80,021,742** Total Expenses

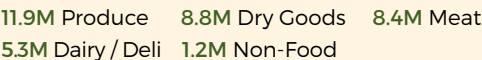
**\$30,836,422** End of year net assets

## Food Sources



## Types of Food Distributed

In Millions of Lbs.





# Ways to Give

Every dollar makes a difference.  
Together, we are **Feeding Northeast Florida**.

## DONATE ONLINE

Every \$1 you give results in enough food for 6 nutritious meals.

## MONTHLY GIVING

Set up a recurring gift online to ensure we can keep feeding our neighbors year-round.

## FUND DRIVES

Host a virtual food drive that provides a fun and efficient way for participants to combat hunger.

## GIFTS OF STOCK

Give and get more through stock donations—your gift is tax-deductible and incurs no capital gains tax.

## IRA DISTRIBUTIONS

Make a difference today and save on your taxes when you support Feeding Northeast Florida through your IRA.

## EMPLOYEE GIVING

Consider listing Feeding Northeast Florida as a charity of choice, or request your employer match gifts donated.

## BEQUESTS

Making a gift through your will or revocable living trust is a simple and flexible way to provide access to food and support your community for years to come.



Find Out More At  
**FeedingNEFL.org**

The logo for Feeding Northeast Florida. It features the word "FEEDING" in large, bold, orange capital letters, with a stylized wheat stalk icon above the letter "I". Below "FEEDING" is the words "NORTHEAST FLORIDA" in smaller, bold, green capital letters.

**FEEDING**  
NORTHEAST FLORIDA

The logo for Feeding America. It features the words "AFFILIATE FOOD BANK OF" in small, grey capital letters above the word "FEEDING" in large, bold, orange capital letters. Below "FEEDING" is the word "AMERICA" in large, bold, green capital letters. A stylized wheat stalk icon is positioned above the letter "I" in "FEEDING".

AFFILIATE  
FOOD BANK OF  
**FEEDING**  
AMERICA