



FY22 At a Glance: North Texas Food Bank

Fiscal Year 22 (July 2021 – June 2022) was a milestone year for the North Texas Food Bank as we marked our 40th anniversary of providing access to nutritious meals in North Texas. We began the year optimistically as more of our neighbors returned to work and we cautiously emerged from our COVID response. However, as the year progressed, we started to see our meal distribution numbers reach levels that met or exceeded pandemic numbers due to inflation and rising food and fuel prices. We expect this elevated need to carry into FY23.

Last year, the Food Bank worked in partnership with more than **400 food pantries and community organizations from the NTFB's diverse Feeding Network** to provide access to **nearly 137 million nutritious** meals across a diverse 13-county service area that spans 10,000 square miles – the most annual meals ever in our history and a **9 percent increase** from FY21.

To address the continued heightened levels of hunger in the 13 counties we serve and to address underlying barriers to food security, the North Texas Food Bank launched **Nourish North Texas – a three-year comprehensive fundraising campaign**. Nourish North Texas is an ambitious campaign that **will transform how we fight hunger in North Texas**. The campaign supports our new strategic plan to provide our neighbors facing hunger with more **Food for Today** while providing **Hope for Tomorrow** by helping to eliminate the barriers to food security through investment in our Partner Agencies and forming new partnerships that address broader issues such as **health outcomes, educational attainment, the ability to earn a living wage and financial stability**. Hunger and poverty are inextricably linked, and if we want to make a lasting impact in the fight against hunger, we must do more than provide food.

The [North Texas Food Bank](#) was established in 1982 to aid in local hunger relief efforts, and as an organization has a proven track record of accomplishment, earning a 4-star rating from Charity Navigator.

The Need in North Texas

- Research from Feeding America indicates that the food insecurity* rate is **12.9 percent** in North Texas. This means there are nearly **700,000**** food-insecure people (**and 257,030 children**) in the NTFB 13-county service area.
- This translates to **1 in 8 people, including 1 in 5 children**.
- The NTFB service area is the **5th highest in the nation** in food insecure people out of the Feeding America service areas.

* Food insecurity is a lack of consistent access to enough food for an active, healthy life which often equates to missed meals or unhealthy choices.

**Source: Feeding America Map the Meal Gap, 2022

- The NTFB service area is **4th in the nation** in the number of food insecure children out of the Feeding America service areas.
- Dallas County has the **6th highest number** of food insecure persons in the nation.
- Dallas County has the **5th highest number** of food insecure children in the nation.
- Every community experiences food insecurity, but we do not all experience it in the same way. **Racial disparities in food security are prevalent across North Texas.**
- In the 13 counties served by the North Texas Food Bank, 1 in 8 (12.9%) persons overall face food insecurity. This includes:
 - **1 in 4** (23%) Black Persons
 - **1 in 6** (17%) Hispanic Persons
 - **1 in 17** (6%) White, non-Hispanic Persons
 - **1 in 6** (16%) Persons of other Ethnicities
- **Hunger exists in all zip codes.** Every day people are forced to make difficult choices between buying food and other necessities, such as medication or covering their utilities.

Creating a Hunger Free, Healthy North Texas

- In FY22, the NTFB increased access to nutritious food by **9 percent** over FY21, ending the year at **136.9 million meals – the most ever annual meals in our history and an average of 11.4M meals per month.** This includes **52 million meals accessed through the SNAP program** and 85 million through distributed nutritious food.
- In FY22, **NTFB distributed an average of 2.1 million pounds of food per week via our Feeding Network; 91.8% of this food is nutritious and 32% was fresh produce.**
- In FY22, NTFB distributed **more than 32 million pounds of fresh produce.**
- The NTFB Feeding Network includes more than **400 food pantries and community organizations** that are in neighborhoods and communities where neighbors facing hunger work and live.
- Beyond food assistance, many partners provide **wrap-around services and programs** that focus on fighting the underlying causes of poverty and food insecurity.
- The Mobile Pantry Program distributed more than **6.5 million meals** to neighbors in hard-to-reach areas, including rural and urban locations, through **478 distributions (98 unique distribution sites)** throughout our 13-county service area.
- Through programs and partnerships, NTFB provided hungry **children** with access to more than **51.9 million** nutritious meals. During the 2021-2022 school year, the NTFB Child Programs specifically served over **1.7 million meals through the School Pantry Program** and almost **880,000 meals through the Food 4 Kids** backpack program.
- In FY22, NTFB provided **seniors** with access to **20 million nutritious meals** through its dedicated Senior Program (CSFP) and its main services and SNAP.
- In FY22, we expanded a meal delivery partnership with **DoorDash** to directly serve seniors facing hunger. The collaboration offers a delivery option for seniors in CSFP who could not otherwise access a CSFP distribution location. NTFB made close to **7,000 deliveries** to seniors in FY22 since the program launched in early December 2021.

- SNAP is the nation's No. 1 defense against hunger. This year we provided access to more than **52 million meals through our SNAP services, which equates to an economic value of \$211 million.**
- As part of our plan to provide **Hope or Tomorrow**, we launched pilot programs with **Children's Medical Center and Learn2Earn workforce development program** with Dallas College.

Time, Talent and Treasure Make a Difference

- To better understand who we serve, we are utilizing **service insights** from across our Feeding Network and have worked with Feeding America to develop a network-wide tool for gathering client data.
- NTFB maximizes donations to meet the need. For every \$1 donated, NTFB can provide access to more than three nutritious meals, and **94% of our resources go directly toward fulfilling our mission.**
- Volunteers are the hearts and hands of our organization. In FY22, volunteers donated **70,589 hours** to helping serve North Texans in need.
- The North Texas community helps meet the need in our area, with **722** community organizations and businesses hosting canned food drives each year, collecting more than **614,079** pounds of non-perishable foods.