



ANNUAL REPORT

FISCAL YEAR

2024



A Message from Leadership

Charting a Sustainable Future

Texas now leads the nation in hunger, with nearly 5 million people not knowing where they will find their next meal. The 13 counties served by the North Texas Food Bank in Fiscal Year 2024 have the fourth-highest number of food-insecure people in the country, with close to 778,000 neighbors facing hunger, and tragically, nearly 40% of those are children. Texas often boasts of being bigger, but leading the nation in food insecurity is not a badge of honor we can proudly wear. It is unacceptable.

Although inflation is leveling out, the cost of many necessities remains higher than ever. Groceries alone are up 21% since 2021, and Texans in the lowest income bracket now spend up to 70% of their income on food, rent and transportation, which leaves very little for anything else.

Knowing that unprecedented levels of hunger persist, we set our focus in FY24 on sustainability to ensure that we can continue to support our neighbors now and into the future. In the fourth year of our five-year Nourish North Texas strategic plan, we also continued moving to provide not just Food for Today but also Hope for Tomorrow through programs and partnerships that address the root causes of hunger, such as financial literacy and job skills courses, ESL classes and access to healthcare.

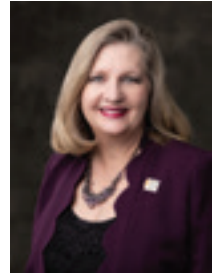
Along with our Feeding Network of nearly 500 partner pantries and community organizations, we provided access to 106.4 million physical nutritious meals in FY24, which was the most in our history and a nearly 10% increase from FY23. We also provided access to nearly 20 million meals through the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), thanks to the dedication of our Social Services Assistance navigators who help neighbors in completing their SNAP applications.

Working sustainably requires innovation. In FY24, we launched a new FoodRx pilot program through which partner health clinics provide patients facing hunger with food prescriptions that give them regular access to produce and nutritious groceries. And we opened a Repack Room where volunteers take bulk goods and repackage them into smaller quantities.

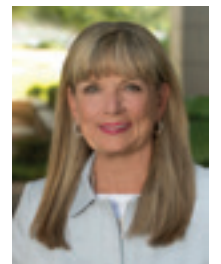
NTFB is continuing our focus on sustainability in FY25. Our Nourish North Texas strategic plan wraps up and we are focused on finishing strong while preparing to launch our next strategic plan. That plan will help us tackle hunger in our service area by using resources and data to ensure that we are providing food and services as effectively and efficiently as possible across the communities we serve.

All of this is only possible because of the generous support of you and our community. Thank you for your partnership as we strive toward a hunger-free, healthy North Texas.

Gratefully,



Trisha Cunningham
NTFB President and
Chief Executive
Officer



Jerri Garison
NTFB Board Chair,
FY23-FY24

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Trisha Cunningham".

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jerri Garison".



Mary retired just as the cost of groceries skyrocketed and she says she struggled to pay for nutritious food alongside other necessities, like housing and medication. Fortunately, an NTFB partner pantry now provides her with produce and dry goods to supplement the groceries she buys each month. The food ensures she can eat healthy while managing her diabetes and also allows her to provide for her granddaughter, who often stays with her.

“I appreciate it very much. It’s a blessing.”

–Mary



Our Vision

A hunger-free, healthy North Texas.

Our Mission

To close the hunger gap in North Texas by providing access to nutritious food.

FY24 By the Numbers

Nourishing North Texas

Providing Food for Today, Hope for Tomorrow



1 in 7
777,690

People in NTFB's 13-county service area face hunger.



1 in 5
286,860

Children face hunger in North Texas.

40 million

Nutritious physical meals provided to children through 41 school pantry sites, 251 Food 4 Kids sites and NTFB's main Feeding Network distribution program.

4th Highest

NTFB's service area has the 4th highest number of food-insecure individuals in the country.

44 million

Pounds of fresh produce were distributed, an increase of nearly 10 million pounds from the previous year.



106.4 million

Nutritious physical meals were distributed to neighbors.

19.4 million

Meals were enabled through SNAP, for which NTFB staff assist neighbors in applying.

x39

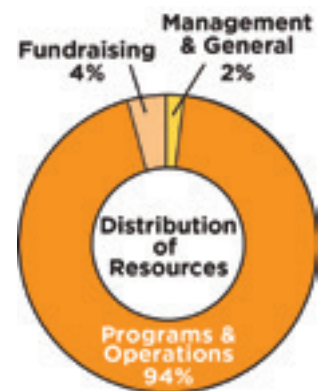
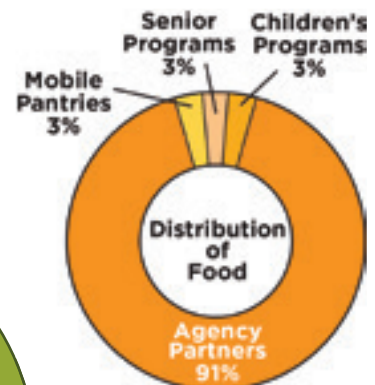
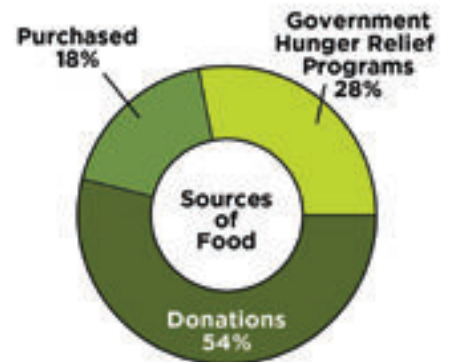
The number of food insecure people in North Texas would fill **American Airlines Center** (home to the Mavericks and Stars) 39 times.

500

Partner pantries and community organizations distributed food alongside NTFB.

14 million

Nutritious physical meals provided to seniors through our dedicated senior program and main program.



NTFB's Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2024 (FY24) reflects the impact made between July 1, 2023 and June 30, 2024.

North Texas Food Bank's latest audited financial statements are available at ntfb.org/financials.

Serving Alongside our Feeding Network

NTFB distributed 106 million meals thanks to the partnership of around 500 pantries and community organizations.

Antoinette admits she used to have a picture in her head of who relied on food pantries. After visiting NTFB partner Good Samaritans of Garland when her family needed a little extra help, she now knows that hunger can impact anyone.

“I feel like there’s a stereotype for coming to the food pantry and through coming I just learned that’s not true,” says Antoinette, a mom of four. She and her husband moved to the Dallas area for a better job opportunity for him just as the cost of living went up and as they welcomed a new baby. With one income, they struggled to purchase the nutritious food they know their kids need. Good Samaritans helps them supplement their groceries by providing produce and other items. “It’s such good quality food and honestly, it’s such a help with how expensive groceries are nowadays,” she says.

More than 90% of the food distributed by NTFB in FY24 went to our 500 partner pantries and community organizations that provide groceries to neighbors in the

communities where they work and live. Our partners prioritize the dignity and respect of neighbors like Antoinette, with many inviting them to shop in neighbor choice-style pantries that mimic the experience they would have at a grocery store. Along with food, several offer additional services or referrals to support neighbors in achieving financial stability, independence and health.

Metrocrest Services (pictured right) is one of those partners. Their neighbor choice pantry is a starting point in supporting neighbors and building relationships so they can partner with them in their growth. Metrocrest offers financial literacy classes, workforce coaching and SNAP application assistance from an NTFB staff member who’s on-site.

“The pantry really is that starting point for people and our ultimate goal is to give them the tools and the resources they need to where they no longer need the support of the pantry,” says Caitlin Hardegree, Metrocrest’s Marketing and Communications Director.



“It’s such good quality food and honestly, it’s such a help with how expensive groceries are nowadays.”

Data-Driven Decisions

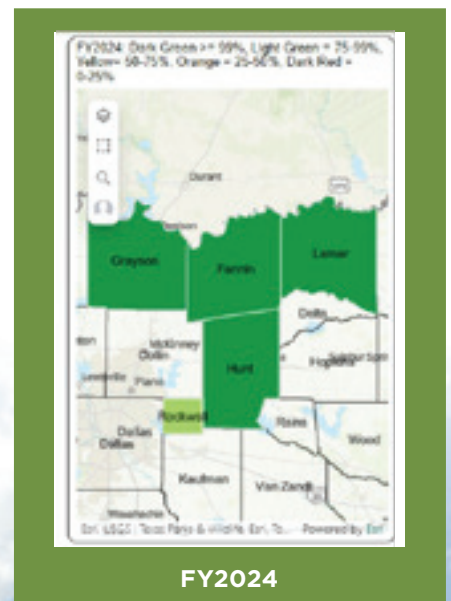
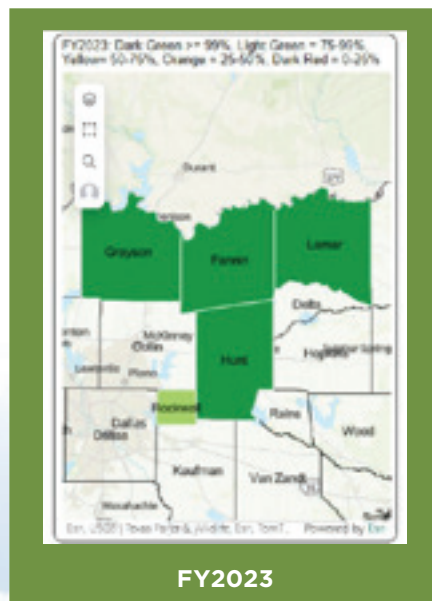
Ensuring the right amount of food is distributed to the neighborhoods where it's needed most.

Understanding where neighbors facing hunger live is critical so that the NTFB can strive to ensure they have access to food. NTFB relies on Feeding America's annual *Map the Meal Gap* data to identify food insecure communities in North Texas. With that data, we work in partnership with our Feeding Network to ensure zip codes with high unmet needs have access to nutritious food. In Dallas County, for example, the data shows that nearly 20% of those who are food insecure live in just 10 Southern Dallas ZIP codes. Knowing that, we worked with our partners and redistribution hubs to meet that need by providing more than 30 million physical meals over the last three fiscal years, as well as 23 million meals that were accessed through SNAP.

To determine the efficacy of our efforts, NTFB

employs the Hunger Index, a tool developed in partnership with Bain & Co., that shows the meal fulfillment rate for each ZIP code. An example of how that tool is being used to look at progress in five of our counties is below.

NTFB has also developed a Hunger Action Map, which takes that data a step further to guide us in suggesting sustainable, actionable strategies at the ZIP code level. For example, the data can tell us if NTFB should be seeking new partner pantries in an area, focusing on supporting wraparound services or growing the amount of food distributed in a certain ZIP code. In essence, we are determining where each strategy should be applied in order to achieve the greatest impact in the most resource-efficient manner.



Hope for Tomorrow

NTFB aims to support more connected, self-sufficient, food-secure communities through four main pillars: Adding food, equipping our partners, supporting our neighbors and advocating for anti-hunger policy.



As part of our commitment to equip our partners, NTFB offers education opportunities, including Network Engagement Services courses that cover everything from marketing and fundraising to managing volunteers. More than 1,500 individuals took advantage of these learnings in FY24. NTFB's grant program is also a key component of our partner support. In FY24, NTFB awarded more than \$1.2 million in grants to 50 partners. Three of those were Hope for Tomorrow grants, which support partners in adding or establishing wraparound services meant to target the underlying barriers to food security, such as job training, financial literacy and healthcare.

“We’re here with them to get them through thick and thin with their help.”

Meet a Grant Recipient

Jewish Family Service of Greater Dallas was NTFB's first-ever Hope for Tomorrow grant recipient and the fruits of that grant were evident in FY24 when they opened Northpoint Health Center.

A community clinic offering primary care, chronic disease management, pediatric care and behavioral/mental health care, Northpoint operates in an area of Dallas where JFS research shows that nearly 800,000 neighbors lack a medical home. Instead, many of those individuals rely on urgent care.

Along with seeing neighbors referred from the JFS pantry, Northpoint treated neighbors from several other NTFB partner pantries, knowing that consistent medical care is necessary for self-sufficiency, particularly for those managing diabetes or hypertension.

“Healing doesn't really happen on a set timeline,” says Deizel Sarte, JFS Chief Operations Officer. “We're here with them to get them through thick and thin with their help.”

Food is Medicine

Supporting our neighbors' health journeys.



FoodRx

We know that nutritious food choices lead to healthier lives. However, we also know that many of our neighbors—including those with chronic conditions like diabetes—lack access to the types of food that will support their long-term health. FoodRx, which launched in late FY24, works to close that gap.

Through the initiative, NTFB partners with medical clinics that are screening patients for food insecurity. Those facing hunger are provided with shelf-stable food at their appointment as well as a food prescription that they can redeem regularly for produce and other nutritious food at one of NTFB's partner pantries operating as a Food Pharmacy. The first participating pantry, Local Good Center, offers a client choice market where fresh fruits and vegetables are a centerpiece and staff also connect neighbors with nutrition education classes and information to support their long-term health. We expect this program to continue growing as healthcare providers look to focus on nonmedical drivers of health.

Elevating Produce

When the cost of groceries increase, fresh produce is often one of the first things to go. NTFB works to make sure fruits and vegetables are readily available for neighbors and in FY24 distributed 44 million pounds of fresh produce—an increase of nearly 10 million pounds from FY23.

To equip partner agencies in storing and distributing fresh fruits and veggies, NTFB introduced four Produce Pods in FY24, which are stand-alone, refrigerated storage trailers stationed at partner agencies that previously only had capacity to store shelf-stable dry goods. Each pod can store four pallets of produce, which is the equivalent of 20,000 meals. "I love the fresh

fruits," says Baba, a neighbor who received bananas, apples and other produce from a partner with a Produce Pod. "I appreciate it. Thank you."

Nutrition Matters

Direct nutrition education is also crucial for equipping our neighbors to make healthy eating choices. In FY24, NTFB's Nutrition team provided nutrition education to 1,633 children and adults across NTFB's service area. They also helped 19 partners establish Nudge Pantries, bringing the total to 83. Nudge Pantries are those that are equipped with signs, recipe cards, shelf tags and other materials meant to provide subtle cues, or nudges, that make the healthier choice the easy choice when selecting groceries.

At our Perot Family Campus in Plano, Jan's Garden also plays a role in increasing access to fresh foods. The learning and production garden named for our late CEO, Jan Pruitt, grows produce that is harvested and donated each week to Seven Loaves Food Pantry at The Storehouse Community Center. Knowing many of the neighbors served there are from Venezuela, Garden Specialist Karen Gilboux shifted what she was planting so her team of volunteers could provide foods that fit the recipes their neighbors are used to cooking. "We always are trying to plant crops that are culturally relevant and that neighbors want to eat," she says.



Nourishing the Future

NTFB's child programs ensure the 1 in 5 children facing hunger in North Texas have access to the nutritious food they need to learn and grow.



Catherine, a Dallas ISD school counselor who facilitates an elementary school NTFB pantry, says monthly food distributions are critical for student success. “I feel they come happier and pay attention better and aren’t so worried about where their next meal will come from (after a distribution),” she says.

Without consistent access to nutritious food, children cannot adequately learn and grow. NTFB distributed 40 million physical meals last fiscal year to children in North Texas. That was done through our partner agencies as well as 41 School Pantry sites, including 10 established in FY24. It also includes our Food 4 Kids program, which provides chronically hungry students at 251 campuses with bags of non-perishable, kid-friendly food to take home each weekend.

Those programs are crucial for parents like Tinita. A veteran who lives with PTSD, Tinita receives disability but says even with the income she makes as a notary, she doesn’t have enough to pay for rent, utilities and groceries. “There have been times when I haven’t eaten or have eaten the bare minimum so that he can eat,” she says, of her 5-year-old son. She’s pursuing a bachelor’s degree so her family will have more stability, but says she is grateful NTFB is there to help for now. “I’m so thankful. I’m just really thankful,” she says.

Advocating for Anti-Hunger Policies

NTFB partners with government officials at all levels in the fight against hunger.



Without support for the NTFB, partners like Aunt Bette's Community Pantry would not have the groceries they need to provide for their neighbors facing hunger.

That was the message Kelvin Browning and Angelyn Page, the director of community pantry and food pantry coordinator at Aunt Bette's, shared with lawmakers when they joined NTFB for Feeding America's Farm Bill Fly-In visit to Washington, D.C. in March. NTFB's group was among the 176 Feeding America network members that spent two days in D.C. advocating for a strong Farm Bill and continued support of TEFAP, SNAP and other programs (pictured above).

Mayor Day 2024

Nearly 20 mayors from around the region gathered at NTFB's Perot Family Campus in May for our fourth annual Mayor Day. The event gave officials the chance to hear about the latest food insecurity statistics from Feeding America and to gain an understanding of how NTFB is working to meet the needs in their cities. Several mayors also participated in a short volunteer experience (pictured right).

Celebrating 1.3 Million DoorDash Meals for Seniors

U.S. Rep. Marc Veasey (TX-

33) joined DoorDash at NTFB in June to celebrate 1.3 million meals delivered to North Texas seniors through Project DASH. Launched in 2020 with NTFB, Project DASH has since expanded across the U.S. and Canada. At NTFB, DoorDash's Project DASH delivers up to 2,000 senior (CSFP) meal boxes each week to individuals who are homebound due to health or mobility issues. The deliveries are sponsored by Plano Super Bowl. "In Congress, I'm dedicated to ensuring our community has the resources it needs to address hunger," Veasey said. "This partnership is a game changer ensuring North Texans get the food they need regardless of their circumstances."

"This partnership is a game changer ensuring North Texans get the food they need regardless of their circumstances."





An Expanded Fleet

With its new vehicles, NTFB is distributing an additional 2.4 million meals annually.



It's just after 8 a.m. but driver Jose Zuniga is already well into his day. He arrived at NTFB's warehouse at 5 a.m., along with the other drivers, and loaded up a long-haul semi-trailer with food for delivery to multiple partner agencies. Throughout his days, he and the other drivers also pick up food donations from retailers, all in the name of serving their neighbors. Says dispatch coordinator Joe Crawford, "We love helping people."

Jose and the other drivers spent the bulk of this fiscal year driving the new fleet NTFB purchased with the use of The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) funds, replacing the previous fleet that was leased and allowing NTFB to distribute an additional 2.4 million meals each year at the same cost due to the increased efficiency.

"Our new fleet of vehicles provides the North Texas Food Bank with the tools we need to help close the hunger gap in North Texas and provide children, adults, and seniors a hunger-free future," Trisha Cunningham said, speaking during a February event celebrating the new fleet. "We are so grateful for the generous and critical support the community provides to further our mission."

The new fleet includes 12 Model 579 long-haul semi-trucks, eight Model 548 refrigerated box trucks, 11 53-foot refrigerated trailers, four Container Pantries, four Produce Pods and the SNAP Mobile, which is an office on wheels that allows NTFB staff to assist neighbors in rural communities with SNAP application assistance.



Support for the Next Generation

Through its endowment and planned giving program, NTFB aims to be equipped to serve for generations to come.

NTFB is in the final year of its Nourish North Texas Strategic Plan, which began to move us toward providing our neighbors with Food for Today and Hope for Tomorrow, through programs and partnerships that focus on holistic supports targeting the underlying barriers to food security. Planning for the future was also a major component of this plan. After the pandemic and now record inflation, we know that we must be equipped to serve not just the needs of today but also those of the future.

We set a goal of \$50 million in commitments to our Feeding North Texas Foundation, and in FY24, NTFB surpassed the \$43 million mark. Individuals who make the ultimate commitment of including NTFB in their wills and/or estate plan are invited to participate in the Full Plate Society. Members are acknowledged for their

crucial partnership and invited to special events, such as NTFB's inaugural bus tour (learn more about that on page 16).

Building a Legacy

Anurag Jain, chairman and CEO of Access Healthcare and Chair Emeritus at NTFB, along with Ross Perot Jr., founder of the real estate development company Hillwood and a longtime NTFB supporter, spoke about the importance of creating a legacy during the Nov. 14 Full Plate Society Luncheon (pictured above).

"Just as my parents taught me, we need to be intentional about what we are teaching our children because instilling legacy into future generations is paramount," Anurag said. "Children are like sponges and if you don't teach them, they will only glean information from their environment."

"Just as my parents taught me, we need to be intentional about what we are teaching our children because instilling legacy into future generations is paramount."

For more information and a full list of the Full Plate Society, visit ntfb.org/full-plate-society.

The Gift of Time

NTFB volunteers donated more than 98,000 hours in FY24.

Each of NTFB's volunteer shifts is led by a Volunteer Kernel, or a regular volunteer who's trained to lead other volunteers. In FY24, NTFB had 43 kernels who donated 11,912 hours, plus a group of student Junior Kernels who gave more than 2,000 hours over the summer. There were also 10 garden Kernels who gave 569 hours in Jan's Garden.

"I've lived a life of abundance and so it's important to me to try to help others."

Kernel Mark Orland not only gives time in NTFB's warehouse, but he also volunteers regularly during Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP) senior box distributions. A retired IT professional, Mark says he's found a new calling.

"It really kind of brings it all home when you see people receiving the food. That's what always touches me. There are so many people, especially in the senior program, who live very close to the line and

the food is very important to them and they're just very appreciative," he says. "I've lived a life of abundance and so it's important to me to try to help others."

Repack Room

A project developed by NTFB's 2022 Emerging Leaders class, the Repack Room opened in FY24 and ensures NTFB can maximize its resources by purchasing large quantities of rice, beans and other goods. It also prevents the Food Bank from ever having to turn away bulk donations of dry goods.

Inside the clean room (pictured above), up to 12 volunteers take large quantities of dry goods, such as rice, pinto beans or pasta, and repackage them into 1-pound bags that can be ordered by NTFB's feeding partners and provided to neighbors. Once packed into smaller bags, volunteers seal and label them before placing them into boxes for distribution.



Kernel Mark Orland



Meet NTFB's Affinity Groups

These volunteer organizations are significant NTFB supporters.

In April, NTFB introduced its newest cultural affinity group: Nakayoshi, which roughly translates to good friend. The group is working to bring the Japanese community in North Texas together to fight hunger. It joins NTFB's other cultural affinity groups—SinHambre, HungerMitao and Nihao. In FY24, the groups together served 2,018 hours with NTFB, raised \$382,155 and donated 617,603 pounds of food, the bulk of which came through Om Produce—a retailer that HungerMitao connected to NTFB.

A Network for Change

The Young Professionals affinity group supports NTFB with volunteer hours and fundraising, including their inaugural Pickleball Tournament, which launched in FY24. By volunteering and raising critical funds, these professionals are not just supporting NTFB, they are leading the way for the next generation of hunger fighters.

Equipping Future Hunger Fighters

Solving hunger will take the work of the next generation, which is why NTFB engages students at every level to understand the importance of supporting their neighbors. We offer field trips of our Perot Family Campus, a *Hunger Bugs*

“This organization showed me that even the smallest actions can help a community in a large way.”

Me! book that teaches young kids about food insecurity and a summer Kids Camp, which includes lessons on hunger and nutrition as well as a special volunteer opportunity.

More than 75 high school students also participated in Young Advocates Council, raising over \$32,000 through their annual fundraiser and local farmers market events that spread awareness about NTFB (pictured right). “This organization showed me that even the smallest actions can help a community in a large way,” says Alexa, an FY24 NTFB Young Advocate. “I learned that some things may seem small to you, such as volunteering for three hours, but they can have a huge impact on the people around you.”





Special Events

More than 2.6 million meals were supported through money raised at NTFB signature events in FY24.

Taste of the Cowboys, hosted in June with the Dallas Cowboys at their World Headquarters, the Star, in Frisco, celebrated 20 years with gourmet tailgate food and a concert by country legend John Michael Montgomery.

NTFB also introduced a series of bus tours in FY24 to provide Full Plate Society members and other key donors with a first-hand look at how their support of the Food Bank is impacting neighbors. During the tours, NTFB executives and staff joined supporters in visits to partner agencies for tours of their food pantries plus a look

at how they are addressing the underlying barriers to food security.

“It’s with gratitude to the North Texas Food Bank that they continue to say, ‘yes,’ when we say we need more food,” said Network of Community Ministries CEO Abbie Kauffman, who shared during a tour that they continue to distribute record levels of food while also supporting neighbors with ESL and job readiness skills courses, mental health services and companion calls for seniors.



“It’s with gratitude to the North Texas Food Bank that they continue to say, ‘yes,’ when we say we need more food.”

Community Engagement

Getting creative to make a difference.



Introducing 24-Hour Volunteer-a-Thon

Around 200 volunteers gave their time during North Texas Food Bank's first-ever Volunteer-a-Thon, hosted as part of North Texas Giving Day. As volunteers sorted and packed food throughout the day and night, NTFB raised more than \$1.4 million—the most of any nonprofit that participated in the giving day.

Striking Out Hunger

As the Texas Rangers beat the Arizona Diamondbacks to win the 2023 World Series, Rangers fans helped NTFB and Tarrant Area Food Bank "Strike Out Hunger." During a friendly fundraising

competition against the St. Mary's Food Bank in Phoenix, North Texas fans raised more than \$148,000 for their neighbors facing hunger—and NTFB won a design award for the campaign.

Cheers to 10 Years

The teenagers known as the Jingle Bell Mistletoe Crew capped off a decade of fundraising through mistletoe sales in 2024, raising enough money to provide neighbors facing hunger with more than 1.5 million meals. "Don't ever think that you can't make a difference for your community no matter what age you are," said Trisha Cunningham.

"Don't ever think that you can't make a difference for your community no matter what age you are."

NTFB FY24 Leadership

NTFB Leadership

Trisha Cunningham, President and CEO
Erica Yaeger, Chief External Affairs Officer
Bill Garza, Chief Financial Officer
Maurice Wilson II, Chief Operating Officer
Anne Readhimer, Vice President of Community Impact
Renee Anderson, Vice President of People and Culture

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Retta Miller, Jackson Walker, LLP
Mike Preston, Community Volunteer
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Priya Sarjoo, Grant Thornton, LLP

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Chris Barrett, Boston Consulting Group
Edmundo Castañeda, Parkland Health
Kimberly Cockrell, Toyota Motor North America (TMNA)
Carey Davis, Junior League of Dallas*
Diana Flores, Dallas College Board of Trustees
Marcella Foreman, Community Volunteer
Patti Hansen, Capital One
Don Janacek, FreshOne Holdings, LLC
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Kim Kesler, KPMG, LLP
Rev. Dr. Lael C. Melville, The Melville Family Foundation
Tom Nelson, Albertsons/Tom Thumb
Andrew Rosen, Kainos Capital, LP
Tom Walker, Dallas Cowboys Football Club Ltd

*Ex-officio member

General Counsel

Andy Zollinger, DLA Piper LLP (US)

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Tom Black, Community Volunteer
Jerry Ellis, Community Volunteer
Anurag Jain, Access Healthcare
Teresa Phillips, TPHD, LLC
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Ambassador Kathryn Hall, Hall Wines

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Jim Jordan, Munch Hardt Kopf & Harr, P.C

Wan Kim, Smoothie King

Lucian LaBarba, Ben E. Keith

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Jay Pack, The Pack Group

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Food Bank™**

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**FEEDING
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Top 100 Charities

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