



2025  
**IMPACT  
REPORT**

# A Resilient California: Hunger-Free for All

As 2025 began, 8.8 million people—more than one in five Californians—faced food insecurity. Wildfires, federal funding delays, and government shutdowns compounded an already dire situation, threatening the very programs that families depend on to put food on the table. **But the California Association of Food Banks was built for moments like these.**

When uncertainty struck, we responded. Our Farm to Family team delivered 321 million pounds of fresh, nutritious food, a 12% increase from the previous year, bringing greater variety and nutrition to communities across the state and beyond. We secured \$80 million in state funding to support California-grown food purchases, strengthening both our food banks and our farmers. And we welcomed two new food bank members into our network, expanding our collective capacity to serve those who need us most.

This resilience didn't happen by accident. It's the result of years of strategic planning, strong partnerships, and a commitment to preparing for the worst while working toward more equitable food systems. Together, with our member food banks, farmers, advocates, supporters, and dedicated team, we kept families fed, farms strong, and California's food safety net intact.

Thank you for standing with us.

**Stacia Levenfeld**  
Chief Executive Officer



## MISSION

To end hunger in California

## VISION

A well-nourished & hunger-free California, where all people have enough food to lead a healthy life.

# Leading California's Effort to End Hunger

CAFB continued to grow its network, welcoming two new food bank members and expanding to **43-member food banks, 5,700 community-based organizations that serve 6 million people each month<sup>1</sup>.**



## Strengthening Our Network

In 2025, we strengthened our network work by hosting discussion groups and CalFresh outreach sessions to help partners navigate food access systems and support families. We also launched the Food ACCESS Speaker Series, expanding learning opportunities across the anti-hunger community.

**21** Discussion Sessions

**29** CalFresh Outreach Sessions

**394** Anti-hunger allies engaged

## Member Food Banks

- Alameda County Community Food Bank
- Food Bank of El Dorado County
- Food Bank of Northern Nevada **NEW!**
- Interfaith Council of Amador County
- North State Food Bank-CAA of Butte County
- The Resource Connection Food Bank
- Food Bank of Contra Costa & Solano
- Family Resource Center of the Redwoods **NEW!**
- Feeding the Foothills
- Central California Food Bank
- Food for People
- Imperial Valley Food Bank
- Inyo Mono Advocates for Community Action (IMACA)
- Community Action Partnership of Kern
- Kings Community Action Organization
- Amador Tuolumne Community Action Agency
- Los Angeles Regional Food Bank
- Westside Food Bank
- Dignity Health Connected Living Food Bank
- SF-Marin Food Bank
- Merced County Food Bank
- Fort Bragg Food Bank - Mendocino Food and Nutrition Program
- Food Bank for Monterey County
- Community Action of Napa Valley Food Bank
- Food Share of Ventura County
- Orange County Food Bank
- Second Harvest Food Bank Orange County
- Feeding America Riverside San Bernardino
- FIND Food Bank
- Sacramento Food Bank and Family Services
- Community Food Bank of San Benito County
- Community Action Partnership of San Bernardino County
- Feeding San Diego
- The Jacobs & Cushman San Diego Food Bank
- Emergency Food Bank (Stockton)
- Second Harvest of the Greater Valley
- SLO Food Bank
- Second Harvest of Silicon Valley
- Food Bank of Santa Barbara County
- Second Harvest Food Bank Santa Cruz County
- Redwood Empire Food Bank
- Yuba-Sutter Food Bank
- Yolo Food Bank

Footnote 1: Based on CAFB 2024 Member Survey Data

# Farm to Family

## Farm Partnerships Drive Statewide Impact

Across the state, trucks move California-grown food from farms to food banks, delivering fresh produce, shelf stable items, and proteins to communities in need.

We delivered **12% more produce than in 2024**, serving California food banks, 27 out-of-state food banks, and 11 regional food bank distribution cooperatives.



## Partnership at Work

Since 2014, Durant Distributing in Santa Maria, California has donated fresh-picked produce—including broccoli, lettuce, bok choy, and more.

*“The CAFB Farm to Family Program is a no-brainer. Not only are you limiting our losses, but you’re also allowing our company to continue to operate and harvest without a hiccup. Furthermore, the produce that would have been wasted or thrown away will now be distributed to families in need.”*

— Tom Cline,  
Durant Distribution

## Strengthen Local Food Systems

CAFB purchased food through the USDA’s Local Food Purchase Assistance program, investing over **\$77 million** in high quality, culturally relevant foods from more than 800 local, under-resourced farmers and ranchers.

Of this total, **\$70 million** supported food banks directly, and **\$7 million** was invested on behalf of community-based organizations statewide.

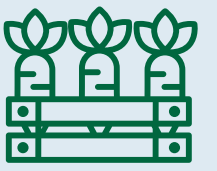
## Lodi Mixing Expands Access

CAFB continued operating a small loads mixing center at a Farm to Family donor facility, Cache Produce, in Lodi that allows us to offer less than truckload, “mixed” loads to small, remotely located members with a subsidy for inbound freight.

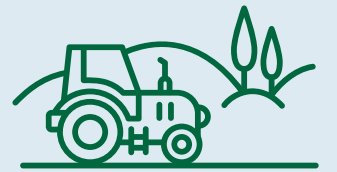
Twenty-five food banks utilized the mixing center and received 4.9 million pounds of fresh produce from Farm to Family; this was an **88% increase in volume from the 2.6 million pounds of fresh produce distributed in 2024.**



Footnote 2: The Local Food Purchase Assistance Cooperative Agreement Program (LFPA) is a USDA-funded initiative that enables state, tribal, and territorial governments to purchase locally produced food for distribution at food banks and other community based organizations.

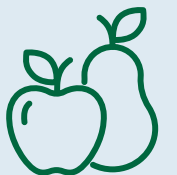


**321**  
**Million Pounds**  
of food distributed



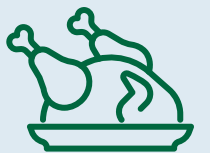
**Partnered with**  
**117**

California farm donors  
through Farm to Family  
program



**Donated**  
**56**

varieties of fruit and  
vegetables, including  
hard-to-find items



**Provided**  
**14**

types of proteins and pantry  
staples such as eggs,  
dairy, poultry, and pasta



# Research & Strategic Initiatives

## Turning Data Into Action

Our **Economic Indicators Dashboard** page became a key educational tool, offering clear insights on food insecurity, unemployment, housing burden, and neighborhood-level poverty. Utilized by food banks, community leaders, and the media to understand the impact of the government shutdown, it drew more than **8,000 views** last year. We also undertook our own research projects to further strengthen our advocacy, outreach, and network.

## Research Impact at a Glance

- **Evaluated the impacts of SB 1383 on food banks**, highlighting their role in food recovery and the need for sustainable funding—findings that helped secure CARES Foundation support.
- **Worked with UCANR<sup>3</sup> researchers on a rapid assessment of food banks'** responses to the November 2025 CalFresh benefit delay, caused by the government shutdown.
- **Developed a new method for estimating community-level food assistance** needs based on income and local costs of living; results will be released in 2026.

# Advocacy & Policy

## Policy Powering a Hunger-Free California

Ending hunger in California requires more than food—it demands policies that make nutritious food affordable, accessible, and reliable for everyone.

Through our **Policy & Advocacy Program**, CAFB works with member food banks to advance state and federal solutions to strengthen the nutrition safety net and address the root causes of hunger.

### State

- **\$80M for CA Food Banks**  
Helped CA food banks buy CA-grown and produced food
- **\$43.8M for SUN Bucks**  
Funded summer EBT federal food assistance, nourishing ~6M children
- **\$90.7M for School Meals for All**  
Funded free school meals for all K–12 students
- **+70 legislative meetings** during our annual Capitol Action Day

### Federal

- Advocated for the **Farm Bill** extension in the Continuing Resolution (H.R. 10545) through September 30, 2025
- Provided timely updates to network and media during government shutdown, while advocating that the state **fully fund SNAP and CalFresh**



Footnote 3: University of California Agriculture and Natural Resources

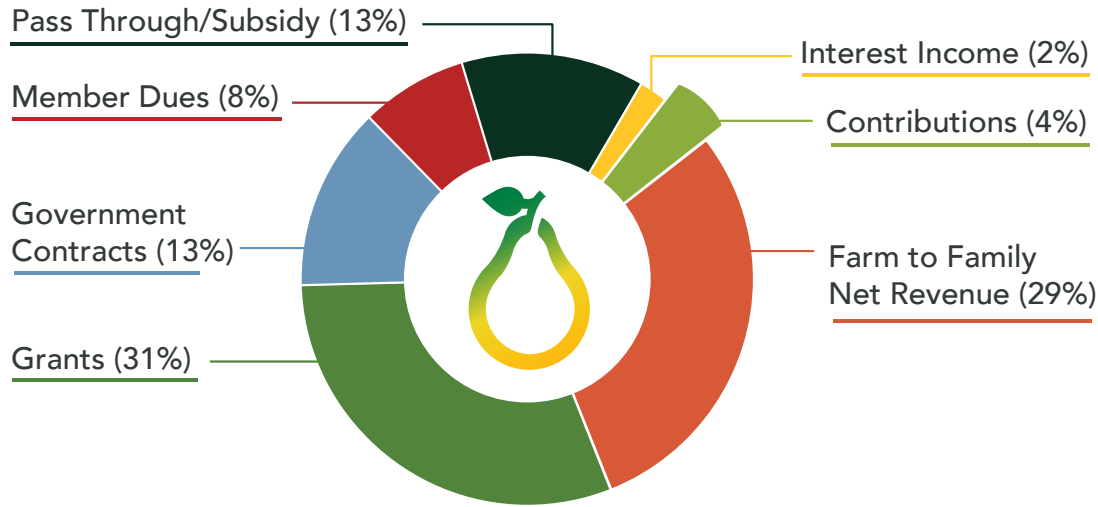
*“The Indicators Dashboard allows us to access and compare key public data sources in one place, making it easier for our team to communicate data-driven insights to leadership, partners, and policymakers and advocate for resources that address the root causes of hunger.”*

— Patrick Okoh, Data Analyst, Alameda County Community Food Bank

# Your Support Keeps Food Reaching Communities

In a year marked by uncertainty and reduced public funding, CAFB provided the stability our 43 member food banks depend on to serve communities across California. We are deeply grateful to the donors, partners, sponsors, and supporters whose investments in our mission bring us closer to a hunger-free California.

## 2025 CAFB Revenue Sources



The California Association of Food Banks Founded April 11, 1996

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 Danielle D. Volunteer at Sacramento Food Bank & Family Services