

LEAVE A LASTING LEGACY

Planned giving to the Food Bank of South Jersey offers a powerful way to create a lasting impact on your community. By including FBSJ in your estate plans, you ensure that your generosity continues to provide essential support to families facing hunger.

One straightforward option is to name the Food Bank of South Jersey as a beneficiary in your retirement plan, life insurance policy, or bank account. This type of beneficiary designation is easy to arrange and can significantly impact our ability to deliver nutritious food to those who need it most. Another effective way to give is through gifts of stock. Donating appreciated securities not only helps FBSJ but also offers you significant tax advantages, such as avoiding capital gains tax while receiving a charitable deduction.

Bequests are a popular planned giving option, allowing you to designate a specific amount or a percentage of your estate to FBSJ in your will or living trust. This method ensures that your legacy of compassion continues well beyond your lifetime. Additionally, charitable gift annuities and charitable remainder trusts offer ways to give that provide you with income during your lifetime while making a future impact on the Food Bank of South Jersey.

By including the Food Bank in your planned giving, you join a community of dedicated supporters committed to fighting hunger and fostering hope. Your thoughtful contributions can make a significant difference, ensuring that no one in South Jersey goes hungry. Together, we can create a future where every family has access to the nutritious food they need to thrive.

Discover how you can leave a legacy by contacting your financial advisor. For more information, visit [foodbanksj.org/plannedgiving](https://www.foodbanksj.org/plannedgiving) or contact Lavinia Awosanya, Chief Development Officer, at lawosanya@foodbanksj.org or 856.662.4884 ext. 119.



September is **Hunger Action Month**[®]

This September, you can take action. **Volunteer. Donate. Organize a food drive. Host a Virtual Food Drive.** Small steps can make BIG strides. Stay tuned for more on how you can help change hunger in South Jersey.



OUR MISSION: The Food Bank of South Jersey exists to provide an immediate solution to the urgent problem of hunger by providing food to people in need, teaching them to eat nutritiously, and helping them to find sustainable ways to improve their lives.

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A Taste of Compassion

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Building Better To Meet Growing Needs

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BUILDING BETTER TO INCREASE IMPACT

There is a lot I get excited about in the summer. Opportunities to go outside for a hike. Warm summer evenings. Going on bike rides. And do you know what else I am excited about this summer? Our improved Summer Meals program.

This summer, we will deliver close to 225,000 breakfasts, lunches, and snacks to children all over South Jersey who don't have access to the same free and reduced meals they receive during the school year.

We've carefully upgraded Summer Meals to reduce barriers to participation, provide better meal options, and increase our distribution capabilities. Children in our program will enjoy all the fun of summer, with less concern about being hungry.

Unfortunately, the challenge of summer hunger has only increased in recent years, with new statistics showing that 1 in 7 children in South Jersey are facing food insecurity.

There is nothing acceptable about this reality. But that's why we are always looking to improve how we serve our youth and how we can reach



even more children. We remain committed to our most vulnerable population, working hard to ensure kids have enough food to thrive 365 days a year – during the school year on the weekends and after school and during these long summer days.

We are immensely grateful to tackle this challenge with continued support from our Food Bank family, partners like Wawa, our elected officials, and everyone whose generosity is helping us ensure kids have what they need to flourish.

Fred C. Wasiak
President & CEO
Food Bank of
South Jersey



SUMMER MEALS 2024: MORE OPTIONS, LESS WASTE, GREATER IMPACT

This summer, our revitalized Summer Meals program is making a significant impact in our communities, thanks to the generosity of our donors who have funded the initiative.

“Once the school year is finished, kids don't have access to the meals they'd be getting in school,” said Christopher Luebbe, Senior Manager of Programs and Services at the Food Bank of South Jersey. “So we try to step in so they can have healthy, nutritious meals all year long!”

The new streamlined approach reduces the administrative burden on our partners, enabling them to focus on meeting community needs more effectively. With multiple distribution models and simplifying eligibility criteria and assessments, the program can now serve a greater number of children, ensuring more families have access to nutritious meals during the summer months.

“The waste is nonexistent. The kids are loving the food and freshness of the food. It makes lunch for us so much easier in the summer,” said Margaret Kent, Principal at Holy Name School in Camden.

Flexible meal service times and menu options allows us to partner with more locations as well as increase meal satisfaction among children. The program also emphasizes efficiency and sustainability, resulting in increased distribution and reduced food waste.



SUPPORTING AGENCIES TO MEET THE NEED

Reaching more neighbors who are food insecure brings many challenges. Operational efficiency in our warehouse. A creative food sourcing operation to maximize financial resources. And an agency network that is fully equipped and capable to meet that need.

Our more than 200 agency partners are the centerpiece of providing food to neighbors in need. Which is why, with support from New Jersey's Food and Hunger grant, we were excited to provide \$387,000 to 23 agencies, enabling significant improvements to their infrastructure and operational capacity.

These grants to our partners have improved and expanded storage, enhanced warehouse operations, and improved technology to better manage inventory.



Oaks Integrated Care Director of Food Access Nicky Huryn (right) and Food Pantry Assistant Jake Mitchell in front of their new kitchen equipment.

“This equipment grant has greatly helped Mighty Writers Camden. It has completely changed the entire look and capacity of our pantry. We are able to store more cold and frozen food and also have places to put our dry and non-food products,” said Derrick Gallashaw from Mighty Writers. “We don't have to carry as much, and it has made our day-to-day operations run so much easier and smoother. We would like to express our profound gratitude for this grant, it has done wonders for our team.”

