FOOD • HELP • HOPE

## A LOOK AT HOW THE COMMUNITY FOODBANK OF NEW JERSEY HELPS NEIGHBORS IN NEED

#### FY24 FACT SHEET

**CFBN** 

## THE PROBLEM

#### Hunger Exists in Every New Jersey County

33 million Americans are food insecure. They don't know if they'll have enough nutritious food for themselves and their families. More than 725,000 of them are in New Jersey, including more than 175,000 children.

Over 530,000 neighbors in need reside in CFBNJ's 15-county service area, including 130,000 children. They are our neighbors, coworkers, family, and friends.

The majority of households that CFBNJ serves have at least one member with a paying job. Some of our neighbors in need work multiple jobs but still struggle to make ends meet. They often make tough choices – deciding between food and other necessities.

People of color, as well as LGBTQ+ individuals, are disproportionately impacted by hunger, facing barriers to economic stability. Black and Latino New Jerseyans are food insecure at an astonishing four times the rate of white neighbors - 16% and 15%, respectively vs. 4%.

College students, seniors, and residents of resort towns also face unique challenges that make them more susceptible to food insecurity.

Hunger is a major concern for those affected by emergencies, as well. Recently, we have seen pandemics, natural disasters, government shutdowns, and economic downturns increase need.

## **THE SOLUTION**

### Providing Food, Help and Hope – Together

The Community FoodBank of New Jersey started in the back of our founder's station wagon and is now the largest anti-hunger and anti-poverty organization in New Jersey. It has provided people across the state with food, help and hope for nearly 50 years.

Today, CFBNJ has over 250 employees who fight hunger every day. We package food orders for local soup kitchens and food pantries, purchase and collect food for distribution, help people in need through resource access initiatives, reach communities with limited resources via mobile pantries, and encourage others to get involved.

Our warehouses – in Hillside and Egg Harbor Township – are the size of five football fields (total) and act as the hubs that bring in and distribute food.

CFBNJ PROVIDES FOOD TO MORE THAN 800 COMMUNITY PARTNERS – LIKE LOCAL SOUP KITCHENS, FOOD PANTRIES AND SHELTERS – THAT SERVE PEOPLE IN NEED IN THEIR NEIGHBORHOODS.

Last year, CFBNJ distributed more than 90 million meals, 34-percent of which was fresh produce. We address hunger as a health issue - providing fruits and vegetables, nutrition education, and medical screenings to inspire positive lifestyles.

#### SCAN TO LEARN MORE



92% Program Services

8% Administration and Fundraising

## WE'RE PROUD OF THE WAY WE MANAGE OUR FUNDS

At the Community FoodBank of New Jersey, we dedicate a remarkable 92-percent of our expenses to programs, and only 8-percent to administration and fundraising. We want you to know that when you support CFBNJ, more of the money goes to help fight hunger and poverty in New Jersey.

## WHERE OUR FOOD COMES FROM



#### In addition to working with its community partners, CFBNJ has an array of programs that help meet the need.

#### **PROVIDE NUTRITIOUS FOODS EDUCATION & RESOURCES Food for Youth & College Students**

We ensure that kids and young adults at risk of hunger have access to nutritious meals all year long. We fill the nutrition gap by providing nutritious food yearround and outside school hours. Our Food for Youth and College Students programs include after-school meals at Kids Cafes, Family Packs for the weekend, the Summer Food Service Program, and the College Food Pantry Program.

#### Food for Older Adults

Older adults are especially prone to hunger and its health implications. We distribute boxes packed with nutritious food to thousands of seniors every month to help them eat well.

#### **Health Partnerships**

In our work to address hunger as a health issue, we continue to expand our innovative programs that provide our hungry neighbors with more fresh and nutritious food, nutrition education, and medical screenings.

#### **Grocery Food Rescue**

In America, about 108 billion pounds of food is wasted each year. We rescue millions of pounds of perfectly good, nutritious food through our supermarket gleaning program and work with state lawmakers to find long-term solutions to food waste in New Jersev.

#### **Mobile Pantries**

We bring food directly to areas in South Jersey where there are not enough food pantries and soup kitchens to meet the need.

# **Nutrition Education**

Through NJ SNAP-Ed, we support our partners in adopting and implementing health and wellness practices, strategies, and changes to make healthier choices readily available and easily accessible. We offer free health and wellness support, hands on nutrition education classes, health promotional resources, and linkages to additional supportive programs.

#### **Job Training**

We offer no-cost, "on-the-job" culinary and warehouse logistics training programs to provide students with interpersonal and professional skills that will help them earn a livable wage.

#### **SNAP** Assistance for Neighbors

Our multi-lingual team is dedicated to ensuring New Jersey families get the assistance they need for their households to thrive. CFBNJ's SNAP Navigators provide free, in-person SNAP application assistance, as well as support with other food benefits such as WIC and school meals, to your community.

#### **Diapers & Hygiene Programs**

Families that struggle to afford food often lack access to hygiene supplies as well. We offer a range of hygiene programs in NJ that are designed specifically for schools and communities in need. Our programs promote best hygiene practices, helping individuals build healthy habits that will last a lifetime.

## **KEY TO SOLVING HUNGER** SUPPORT FROM THE COMMUNITY

#### **Donate Funds**

Every \$1 donated helps CFBNJ provide 3 meals for people in need.

#### Donate Food

Fight hunger and reduce waste by donating food as a retailer or individual. You can also start a traditional or virtual food drive and encourage others to get involved.

#### Volunteers

Volunteers are the lifeblood of CFBNJ. Last year, they donated nearly 88,000 hours - equivalent to about 42 full-time employees.

#### **DIY Fundraisers**

Host your own event to benefit CFBNJ (i.e. run a marathon or host dressdown day at work, etc.).

#### Advocate

Hunger is a 365-day-a-year issue that impacts us all. Share information about hunger and the work of CFBNJ through vour social channels.



