



CFBNJ COMMUNITY
FOODBANK
OF NEW JERSEY



students
CHANGE
hunger

FOOD • HELP • HOPE

2026-2027 Students Change Hunger Toolkit



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FOOD INSECURITY IN NEW JERSEY



The fight against hunger is not over.
CFBNJ's work remains more critical than ever.

JOIN THE CAUSE TODAY!



COMMUNITY FOODBANK OF NEW JERSEY

The Community FoodBank of New Jersey (CFBNJ) is the largest anti-hunger, anti-poverty organization in the state, where nearly 1.1 million neighbors, including 1 in 7 children, struggle with the emptiness caused by hunger. We are the lead source of nourishing food for 800 pantries serving everyone from infants to college students to families and seniors. Our comprehensive approach addresses the root causes of hunger through food benefits and social services, job training and certification, and food policies that nurture all New Jerseyans. By providing food, help, and hope, we are building a food secure future for New Jersey. CFBNJ is a proud member of Feeding America®.



We distributed more than 111 million pounds of food last year, equal to more than 90 million meals provided to neighbors in need.



More than 800 community partners (food pantries, soup kitchens, child nutrition programs, etc.) help us provide food to neighbors in need.



About 32% of all food distributed by CFBNJ is fresh produce. Over 70% is highly nutritious foods to encourage, including fruits and vegetables, lean proteins, whole grains, and dairy.



Nearly 80,000 hours were volunteered this past year, which is equivalent to the work of 38 full-time employees.



ABOUT STUDENTS CHANGE HUNGER

Students Change Hunger (SCH) is a friendly competition where schools and community youth groups host food and/or fund drives at their schools to help New Jersey neighbors in need. Schools compete to donate the most food or funds to fight hunger in our state between September 14, 2026 and January 25, 2027.

During the 2025-2026 SCH campaign, students from CFBNJ's service area collected more than 28,000 pounds of food and raised \$15,000 to provide more than 65,000 meals for our neighbors.

This program not only helps to meet the need in our communities, but also teaches students the power of advocacy and outreach. Students are the next generation of leaders, and when they come together to support their communities, great things are possible!

Congratulations to the 2025/2026 Students Change Hunger Award Winners!

Most Funds Donated

Cavallini Middle School
Upper Saddle River, New Jersey
\$3,250

Most Meals Donated

Cavallini Middle School
Upper Saddle River, New Jersey
9,750 Meals

Most Food Donated

College Achieve Paterson
Paterson, NJ
4,850 Pounds



HOW TO PARTICIPATE

It's easy to get started! Just follow these six simple steps:



STEP 1

Designate a lead parent/teacher/advisor from your school or organization.



STEP 2

Register your school or youth group today at studentschangehunger.org



STEP 3

Set up an online fundraiser at: give.cfbnj.org/SCH2627



STEP 4

Print out your toolkit for tips and marketing materials cfbnj.org/studentschangehunger



STEP 5

Start collecting food and raising funds.



STEP 6

Deliver food donations to CFBNJ or arrange for an end-of-campaign pick up.



FOOD DRIVE PROTOCOLS

Food Storage Protocols

- As you collect food for your food drive, make sure to store donations in a cool, dry space. We recommend that you utilize larger rooms, such as auditoriums and gymnasiums, to hold your food donations until they are ready to be dropped off at CFBNJ.
- If you are hosting an event where donations will be collected off-site (Ex: if you are collecting donations at a school football game), we suggest setting up tables with donation bins/boxes and transporting the food back to the school for safe storage. Food can be transported with school, parent, or teacher vehicles.

Food Donation Drop-Off Protocols

Donations can be dropped off at either CFBNJ facility. See below instructions for each location

Hillside Location

31 Evans Terminal, Hillside, NJ 07205

Donations can be dropped off Monday-Friday, 8:00am-2:30pm

- When you arrive, inform the associates at the front dock that you are dropping off a Students Change Hunger food donation. Please have the poundage receipt (page 10) completed and hand to the associate. We recommend that you ask for a copy for your records. It is very important that you do not leave your donation in the metal bin outside the facility. For your donation to count towards Students Change Hunger, the weight of your donation must be recorded. If you need to coordinate a drop-off outside of normal business hours, contact events@cfbnj.org.

Egg Harbor Township Location

6735 E Black Horse Pike, Egg Harbor Township, NJ 08234

Donations can be dropped off Monday-Friday, 8:00am-2:30pm

- When you pull into the parking lot, continue straight, park your vehicle by the side door (the big blue door), and ring the doorbell. Please have the top portion of the poundage receipt (page 10) completed to be given to the associate. We recommend that you ask for a copy for your records. It is very important that you do not leave your donation outside the facility. For your donation to count towards Students Change Hunger, the weight of your donation must be recorded and signed for by a CFBNJ staff member. Please notify ehvents@cfbnj.org via email when you plan to bring a food donation to this location. If you need to coordinate a drop-off outside of normal business hours, contact events@cfbnj.org for assistance.

Food Donation Pick-Up Protocols

If either warehouse is more than 30 minutes away from your location or your school/organization is unable to transport the food, contact NAME and include the following information in your request:

- School name
- School location
- Size of donation
- Preferred pick-up date and time (provide several options)

Note: pick-ups are only available for donations 1,000 pounds or more. (On average, each plastic shopping bag or small box is around 10 pounds)



MOST WANTED FOOD ITEMS



Canned proteins (tuna, chicken, ham)



Shelf-stable milk



Boxed meals (pasta, cereal, rice, potatoes)



Canned & packaged meals (chili, soups, mac & cheese)



Peanut butter (plastic jars only)



Canned fruits & vegetables

**NO GLASS, CELLOPHANE, BOTTLED WATER, SODA, OR BABY FOOD.
TURKEY DONATIONS DO NOT COUNT TOWARDS STUDENTS CHANGE HUNGER.**





POUNDAGE RECEIPT FORM

THIS FORM MUST BE FILLED OUT IN ITS ENTIRETY PRIOR TO DELIVERY

School Name:	Date of Delivery:
Town:	County:
School Level (select all that apply): <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Kindergarten <input type="checkbox"/> Kindergarten <input type="checkbox"/> Elementary <input type="checkbox"/> Middle <input type="checkbox"/> High <input type="checkbox"/> College	Division (check one): <input type="checkbox"/> Division 1 (1-50 students) <input type="checkbox"/> Division 2 (51-150 students) <input type="checkbox"/> Division 3 (151-400 students) <input type="checkbox"/> Division 4 (401-800 students) <input type="checkbox"/> Division 5 (801-1500 students) <input type="checkbox"/> Division 6 (1501+ students)
Delivered By (print name):	
Phone Number:	Email:
Signature: *By signing, you verify that no turkeys or bottled water are included in this delivery.	

TO BE COMPLETED BY COMMUNITY FOODBANK OF NEW JERSEY

Weight:	10% bonus weight: for food delivered prior to Nov. 1st
Total Weight:	FoodBank Signature:



FUNDRAISER PROTOCOLS

Fundraising is a powerful way for students to make an impact in their communities while learning how to advocate for social change. For every \$1 donated, 3 meals will be added to your school/group's Students Change Hunger's campaign total.



In-Person Fundraising

Students can host in-person fundraisers at their schools or at special events, or you can host a fundraiser online. See below for more details.

Checks can be made out to "Community FoodBank of New Jersey" and mailed to 31 Evans Terminal, Hillside, New Jersey, 07205 for North Jersey Schools and 6735 Black Horse Pike, Egg Harbor Township, New Jersey, 08234 for South Jersey schools. Please add in the memo: School Name and Students Change Hunger Donation.



Online Fundraising

Create a custom online fundraiser and invite friends, family, and peers to visit your page and make donations. For every \$1 donated, CFBNJ can provide 3 meals to neighbors in need.

Visit give.cfbnj.org/SCH2627 to start fundraising. If you need help getting started, the Online Fundraiser User Guide on the homepage will walk you through the steps to create an individual page, join an existing team, or start a new team.

Check out email templates on pages 13-15 to start promoting your fundraiser!



MARKETING & PROMOTION IDEAS

There are several ways you can promote your school's own unique Students Change Hunger food drive! Whether it's posting to social media, circulating information on your food drive in your school newspaper or on your website, getting the word out is integral to your campaign's success.

Friendly Rivalries



Tap into the competitive nature of sports teams, clubs, and school organizations and create sub-competitions in your school. For example, see who can collect the most food donations, the football team or the soccer team.

Specific Drive



Students run different drives to collect specific items. For example, each week of the campaign can be focused on a "much needed food item" category (see page 9). Soups, cereals, and canned proteins are always great options for these types of food drives.

Sales



Students can sell items and donate the proceeds towards their Students Change Hunger campaign. For example, students can host an after school baked goods sale or create pottery goods to sell.

In-School Promotion



Create an ad or an article to promote through your school newspaper, social media, PTA website, etc. Add SCH to your morning announcements to increase participation and spread awareness.

Special Events



Offer a discount on a ticket to one of your school's events (sports, dances, etc.) if a patron brings a canned item to support your food drive. You can also choose an event and donate ticket sales to benefit your fundraiser.

Community Collections



Students can contact local businesses and ask to put donation boxes/bins in their lobbies for community members to bring donations. This is a great way to promote your drive and collect more donations. Another option is to leave flyers in your neighbors' mailboxes with information about your food drive, most needed food items, and a date for food donation pick up. Ask them to leave any food donations on their front steps or porch at the designated time to be collected by you or a peer.

*Please ensure all activities adhere to health and safety protocols provided by the State of New Jersey.



EMAIL TEMPLATE

LAUNCH

Dear Family and Friends,

I am launching **Students Change Hunger** food and fund drive to support the Community FoodBank of New Jersey (CFBNJ).

CFBNJ is the largest anti-hunger, anti-poverty organization in New Jersey, where nearly 1.1 million neighbors, including 1 in 7 children, struggle with the emptiness caused by hunger. CFBNJ provides nourishing food for 800 pantries serving everyone from infants to college students to families and seniors.

Changes to food assistance policies and federal funding will affect CFBNJ's ability to meet the needs of our communities. In these uncertain times, our neighbors need our help now more than ever. Together, we can move one step closer to ending hunger in New Jersey.

I am asking you to help by joining my efforts. \$1 = 3 meals. Be a part of the solution.

Best,
NAME



EMAIL TEMPLATE

REMINDER

Hi Family and Friends,

We have collected XX and raised XX so far through our **Students Change Hunger** food and fund drive!

Our goal is to raise a total of GOAL for our neighbors in need by DATE and help support the Community FoodBank of New Jersey to ensure access to nutritious food for vulnerable individuals and families.

Make a donation today: URL. Just \$1 provides 3 nutritious meals. Or bring nonperishable food to the donation boxes located at LOCATIONS. Most-needed items include: canned protein, canned fruits and vegetables, beans, and rice.

Be a part of the solution. It's time to make a difference.

Best,
NAME



EMAIL TEMPLATE

RESULTS

Hi Family and Friends,

I want to thank you for your participation and donation to the **Students Change Hunger** food and fund drive.

We EXCEEDED/ACHIEVED OUR GOAL by raising \$XX and collecting YY pounds of food! That's the equivalent to ZZ meals (apply this formula: \$1 = 3 meals = 3.6 pounds of food) for our hungry neighbors in our state of New Jersey. Thank you.

I look forward to continuing to support the Community FoodBank of New Jersey and encourage you to stay involved. Thank you for all you do.

Best,
NAME



GENERAL FAQ & CONTACT INFORMATION

Who can participate in students change hunger?

Any school (Pre-K through College) or youth community group in New Jersey may participate in the competition, public or private.

Does the donated food stay in my area?

Yes. After the FoodBank receives the food, it gets distributed to local feeding organizations and neighbors in need in your area.

What is a food bank and how does it differ from other food assistance organizations?

A food bank is a large food assistance organization that stores and distributes vast amounts of food to smaller organizations. All federal and state food are first given to your local food bank. The food banks then distribute this government food, along with food from local donors to smaller organizations. Food banks call these smaller organizations community partners. Community partners could be any type of feeding organization such as a food pantry, soup kitchen, shelter, afterschool feeding program, senior feeding program, etc. The food then gets distributed by these organizations to people in need.

How are the Students Change Hunger awards determined?

Three awards will be presented, and participants may be eligible in more than one category. The awards will recognize schools that contribute the highest poundage of food, raise the most funds, and provide the greatest total number of meals.

How can I learn more about hunger in New Jersey and the U.S.?

There are a lot of resources about hunger. One of the best resources is Feeding America's website. You can also see a study that they conduct annually called Map the Meal Gap.

Can I volunteer with CFBNJ?

Yes! CFBNJ's volunteer program offers individuals, families and groups of many sizes a meaningful experience to make a direct impact on hunger in a positive and safe environment. At our Hillside facility, all volunteers must be aged 12 or older. Teens aged 12-15 must be accompanied by an adult. At our Egg Harbor Township facility, all volunteers must be 18 or older. To learn more and to sign up, visit cfbnj.org/volunteer.

Are there other youth opportunities?

CFBNJ offers a variety of innovative programs dedicated to educating children, teens, and young adults about hunger and poverty – and giving them the tools to make meaningful change in their communities. There are many ways for youth to get involved, either on their own or with guidance from their teachers. To learn more, visit cfbnj.org/youth-programs.

Contact Information

For more information, contact events@cfbnj.org.