

2011-12 Oregon Food Bank Messages

Hunger in Oregon and southwest Washington, 2010-11

Causes

- Poverty has increased significantly in Oregon.
 - From 11.7% in 2007-08 to 13.8% in 2009-10 (U.S. Census data).
 - 25,000 more Oregonians fell into poverty from 2009 to 2010.
 - 535,000 Oregonians lived below the poverty rate in 2010.
- Growing levels of long-term unemployment forced more people to seek food.
 - Hiring has stalled, keeping Oregon's unemployment rate at 9.6%.
 - 13% of Oregon children have at least one unemployed parent, ranking the state third-worst nationally.
- Low wages and limited benefits forced more people with jobs to seek food.
- People in our area will feel the impact of the Great Recession for years to come.

Effects

- Hunger hurts families, children, seniors and those who are disabled.
- Hunger negatively impacts learning, health, productivity and potential for children and adults.
- Children experience hunger and poverty at disproportionately high rates.
 - Oregon was the state with the highest rate of child food insecurity in 2009, according to Feeding America's Map the Food Gap study. 29.2% of Oregon's kids – 252,510 children – aren't always sure where their next meal is coming from.
 - 50% of school-age kids in Oregon now qualify for free-and reduced-price meals.
- Children who are hungry have more trouble learning in school.
- Childhood hunger and malnutrition can result in irreversible health problems.
 - New studies show that children who went hungry at least once in their lives were 2-1/2 times more likely to have poor overall health 10 to 15 years later.

Our Actions

- Oregon Food Bank provided 45 million pounds of nutritious food and more than \$2 million in grants and equipment to the OFB Network.
- The OFB Network provided 81 million pounds of food and, for the first time ever, distributed **more than 1 million food boxes** to families in need, a 12% increase over last year.
- OFB also works to eliminate the root causes of hunger through advocacy, nutrition education, garden education and helping communities strengthen local food systems.
- In tough economic times, helping those in need is more important than ever.
- Working together to fight hunger, our network, individuals, groups, businesses, public agencies and elected officials were able to hold the line on hunger in Oregon at 6.1% of the population.

Oregon Food Bank

Oregon Food Bank believes *no one should be hungry*. With sufficient public will and support of the entire community, we believe it is possible to eliminate hunger and its root causes.

Since 1982, Oregon Food Bank has been leading the fight against hunger in Oregon and southwest Washington by collecting and distributing food through a network of four OFB branches and 16 independent regional food banks. The OFB Network helps nearly 1 in 5 households fend off hunger. OFB also leads statewide efforts to increase resources for hungry families and to eliminate the root causes of hunger through advocacy, nutrition education, garden education, and helping communities strengthen local food systems. For ways to help, visit www.oregonfoodbank.org.

Supporting messages

Impact

- Your \$10 donation enables OFB to move more than 40 pounds of food throughout the OFB Network. That's equivalent to about 30 meals.
- 94% of every dollar donated supports food and education programs.
- Your support enabled OFB to deliver 45 million pounds of food to 20 regional food banks and 923 partner agencies in Oregon and southwest Washington and to provide them with \$2.1 million in grants and equipment.
- Your support enables OFB to advocate on root cause issues, to provide nutrition and garden education programs to those in need, and to help communities strengthen local food systems.

Root causes

- With the help of citizen involvement, OFB advocates policies and programs to reduce and prevent the root causes of hunger.
- OFB's Nutrition Education program teaches people how to get the most nutrition from their scarce food dollar.
- OFB's Learning Gardens teach people to grow a portion of their own nutritious food from seed.
- Bringing communities together through FEAST* helps strengthen local food systems and food security. (*Food, Education, Agriculture, Solutions Together)

How to help

- With sufficient public will and support of the entire community, we believe it is possible to eliminate hunger and its root causes.
- Your neighbors need your help. You can make a difference.
- Invest in our mission: Give time. Give food. Give money. Give voice.
- To make a donation or get involved, visit us at www.oregonfoodbank.org.

Thank you

- Oregon was able to hold the line on food hunger rates in 2010, thanks to the collaborative efforts of the OFB Network, state agencies, nonprofits and community volunteers to enroll eligible families in critical federal food and nutrition programs,

- We were only able to meet the staggering demand for food due to record levels of USDA commodities and the tremendous generosity of the entire community: individuals, groups, and businesses.
- Thanks to you, OFB and its network distributed a record 81 million pounds of nutritious food.
- Thank you for caring about your neighbors in need. You make a difference.

2011-12 Oregon Food Bank Backgrounder

Mission * Vision * Values ***2008-12 Strategic Plan Goals * History***

Our mission: To eliminate hunger and its root causes ... *because no one should be hungry.*

Our vision: Everyone should have ready access to an ample, nutritious, affordable and appropriate food supply through traditional, nonemergency channels.

Our values:

- We believe *no one should be hungry*. This belief **inspires** and **directs every aspect of our work**.
- We believe **participation of the entire community** is essential to eliminate hunger and its causes.
- To achieve our goals, our mission must stand upon a strong foundation of **shared values, consistently expressed toward all of our stakeholders**.
- Therefore, we **keep our promises**, are **accountable** and **display a positive attitude**.
- We act with **respect, fairness** and **integrity**.

This is our commitment to agencies, donors, people with low incomes, staff and volunteers.

2008-12 Strategic Plan Goals

- Increase by 15% (8.4 million pounds) the nutritious food distributed by the OFB Network.
 - Reduce and prevent hunger through policies, programs, education and outreach.
 - Strengthen and build the capacity of our equitable, efficient distribution system network-wide.
 - Improve OFB's capacity to handle and process food.
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History in a nutshell

- **1970s:** Food banks spring up around the nation to address hunger and eliminate food waste.
- **1975:** Portland-area nonprofits create Interagency Food Bank.
- **1982:** Oregon Food Share incorporated to distribute food statewide.
- **1988:** Interagency Food Bank and Oregon Food Share merge to become Oregon Food Bank.
- **1993:** OFB creates Advocacy Department to focus on public policy issues affecting hunger and poverty.

- **2001:** OFB moves into new warehouse in NE Portland, expanding its ability to distribute more food statewide.
- **2002:** OFB begins Fresh Alliance to work with the retail food industry to increase donations of nutritious perishable food such as meat, eggs, dairy and produce. OFB creates two Learning Gardens, one in Portland and another in Washington County.
- **2005:** OFB establishes Southeast Oregon Regional Food Bank to increase services to Malheur and Harney counties.
- **2007:** OFB assumes responsibility for services in Tillamook County.
- **2010:** OFB moves Washington County Services – now OFB West – to a renovated warehouse in Beaverton to better meet the growing demand in that county.
- **2011:** OFB formalized its sponsorship of the Childhood Hunger Coalition as a program of OFB

Oregon Food Bank and the Oregon Food Bank Network Facts and Stats (2010-11)

Oregon Food Bank by the numbers (2010-11)

- **OFB received for distribution: 45 million pounds of food**
 - **Volunteers donated: 117,000 hours = 56 FT employees = \$2 million**
 - **# employees: 130**
 - **Operates 4 Regional Food Banks: OFB – Metro Services** (Clackamas, Clark, Multnomah counties); **OFB – Washington County Services** (Washington County); **OFB – Southeast Oregon** (Harney, Malheur counties); **OFB – Tillamook County.**
 - **# OFB local partners (all four branches): 323**
 - **Source of food: 40% USDA, 38% food industry donations, 18% purchased, 4% food drives.**
 - **30,000 donors contributed 71,000 gifts to help fight hunger. Average gift of typical donor: \$88**
 - **Provided \$2.1 million in grants and equipment to the OFB Network**
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Revenue and Expenses (2010-11)

Total revenue: \$56.8 million (includes value of food)
Operating Fund Revenue from private sources: 89%
Total Revenue from private sources (including food): 80%
Administrative and fundraising costs: 5.6%
Operating fund revenue: \$15.1 million
Support provided to the OFB Network: \$2.1 million

Thanks for helping to fight hunger (2010-11 data)

You helped OFB and the OFB Network of Regional Food Banks improve food supply and quality.

- **USDA commodities jumped 80 % – from 10 million to 18 million pounds – with the help of stimulus funds, strong support from Oregon’s congressional delegation and USDA efforts to support American farmers and ranchers through bonus buys of agricultural product.**
- **Retailers, along with their customers, struggled during the tough economic year. Yet, retail donations throughout the OFB Network via Fresh Alliance stayed even at 7 million pounds of fresh produce, meat and dairy.**

You helped address the root cause of hunger through advocacy, education and development of community food systems.

Advocacy

- OFB advocated for key food programs on the federal, state and local levels; served on Oregon Legislative Task Force on Hunger; helped develop Multnomah County Food Action Plan Goals for 2011-25; and grew statewide “Hunger Champions.”
- Advocates worked with regional food banks and volunteer champions to ask elected officials to make food a priority.
- OFB formalized its sponsorship of the Childhood Hunger Coalition.
- OFB’s CEO was appointed to the Sen. Wyden Agriculture Committee to advise on the 2012 Farm Bill and to the Feeding America National Policy, Education and Advocacy Committee.

Nutrition Education and Garden Education

- Volunteers helped OFB expand its Nutrition Education Cooking Matters courses in Washington County from eight to 20, four of which were hosted in the new Kaiser Permanente Teaching Kitchen at OFB – West in Beaverton.
- OFB’s Nutrition Education program trained 660 participants through 46 six-week Cooking Matters courses and 17 single-session workshops. In addition, 51 participants participated in six Cooking Matters courses offered by four satellite program partners around the state.
- 451 participants learned how to grow their own food in OFB’s Seed to Supper and Cultivating Community programs, offered in cooperation with 18 different host agencies.
- 180 students and 30 teachers and parents contributed more than 1,300 hours to the Westside Learning Garden – a partnership with Rachel L. Carson Environmental Middle School – now in its second year.

Community Food Systems

- OFB helped develop systems to support community food security. OFB conducted FEAST (Food, Education, Agriculture, Solutions, Together), organizing community food planning events in 10 communities. Three RARE (Research Assistance for Rural Environments) AmeriCorps members completed two multi-county assessments as well a local food guide for Klamath County.

And you contributed:

117,000 volunteer hours, the equivalent of 56 full-time employees, giving \$2 million in labor to OFB’s mission.

The OFB Network by the numbers (*data from 2010-11*)

Our network works collaboratively to support people in need.

- Received for distribution: **81 million pounds**
 - Distributed **1,024,000 efbs** (exceeding 1 million efbs for the first time ever)
 - Est. # people eating from emergency food boxes (efbs) via network in an **average month: 260,000 people**
 - Est. # children eating from efbs via network in an **average month: 85,800**
 - # efbs distributed via network in 2010-11: **1,029,000 efbs**; 12% increase over 2009-10; 30% increase over 2007-08 when the Great Recession began.
 - Network distributed **236,000** more efbs than it did before the Great Recession.
 - # times/per year households receive efb: on average **less than four times**
 - Soup kitchens: **3.9 million meals**
 - Other programs help: **98,000 people**
 - Source of food: **49% food industry, 23% USDA, 15% food drives, 13% purchased,**
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2010 Hunger Factors Survey highlights

More families fall into poverty.

- 73% of recipient households had incomes below the federal poverty level (\$22,050 for a family of four). That compares to 67% in 2008.
- 29% of households had incomes below 50% of the poverty level (\$11,025 for a family of four).

Families worry about next meal

- 30% of households with children report cutting or reducing the size of a child's meals. That compares to 27% in 2008. Of those, 37% do this almost every month.
- 76% of households worry at least sometimes about how they will get their next meal. That compares to 69% in 2008.

Most adult recipients are looking for work, working, retired or disabled

33% of those receiving emergency food are children.

Unemployment forces more people to seek emergency food

- 28% of adult recipients were unemployed and looking for work, compared to 20% in 2008.
- 31% of surveyed households listed long-term unemployment as the reason they sought emergency food. That compares to 22% in 2008 at the beginning of the recession.
- 52% of respondents cite "to be employed" as critical to improving their situation. That compares to 45% in 2008.