Food Finders
Food Bank, Inc.
fighting hunger, giving hope

PARTNER FOOD BANK OF FEEDING AMERICA®



2025 ANNUAL REPORT

Food Finders Food Bank, Inc.

CEO Message



Kier Crites Muller

Food Finders President/CEO

Dear Friends,

This year marks 45 years of service for Food Finders Food Bank. I am humbled to lead this incredible organization and grateful to stand on the shoulders of the leaders who came before me — for their vision and tenacity in building something that has touched countless lives across our region. You can expect to hear stories and history from these leaders throughout 2026, and we hope you'll celebrate this milestone with us.

That legacy of service feels especially meaningful right now. Last fall brought significant challenges when cuts to the SNAP program during the government shutdown created uncertainty and hardship for so many families across our 16-county service area. What followed moved us profoundly, as our community showed up with an outpouring of generosity. Volunteers stepped forward, donations increased in that moment, and our partner organizations rallied alongside us. Because of you, we were able to meet the surge in demand. As we move into the new year, it is important to note that the challenges of last fall have not passed. The road ahead calls for continued solidarity, and recent state legislation is shaping the landscape in ways that will directly affect the neighbors we serve. Federal legislation continues to put SNAP benefits at risk, threatening the food access that nearly 600,000 Hoosiers depend on. At the same time, SB 285 — as passed by the Indiana Senate on January 28 — takes a punishing approach to homelessness that concerns us deeply.

This is not a partisan issue. It is a human one. Food insecurity and homelessness touch families across every community. We believe — and the evidence supports — that punitive approaches do not reduce homelessness or hunger. What does work is connection: to food, to shelter, to services, to one another. At this moment, the need for strong, well-resourced social services has never been clearer. We are committed to advocating for policies that reflect the dignity of every neighbor, and we are grateful to walk that road alongside you.

Even amid these challenges, there is much to celebrate within our own walls. Food Finders kicked the year off with an all-staff retreat at Camp Tecumseh. This retreat was a first for Food Finders and a nod to the importance of investing in our team in addition to those we serve. Our work is challenging, never-ending, and emotionally taxing. Bringing all 34 staff together, taking a pause, and learning from one another was truly inspiring. As one team member said, "I got to see my strength that I didn't know I had and doing it in a group setting was so fun."

Looking ahead, we are proud to share our 2026–2029 Strategic Plan Framework, built around four core goals: focused and accessible programs, an empowered and cohesive team, balanced and sustainable finances, and storytelling that advances advocacy and the voices of our neighbors. This plan reflects our deep commitment to serving every neighbor with dignity and excellence. It is ambitious, and we believe it is right for this moment.

None of this is possible without you. Your trust, your generosity, and your partnership inspire us every single day. Thank you for standing with Food Finders and for believing, as we do, that no neighbor should experience food insecurity.

In gratitude,

Kier Crites Muller

COMMITMENT TO COMMUNITY

We believe nourishing food is central to life; therefore, we seek like-minded supporters to help us ensure basic needs are met.

OUR MISSION

We provide food and connections to life-stabilizing resources when our neighbors need us most.

OUR VISION

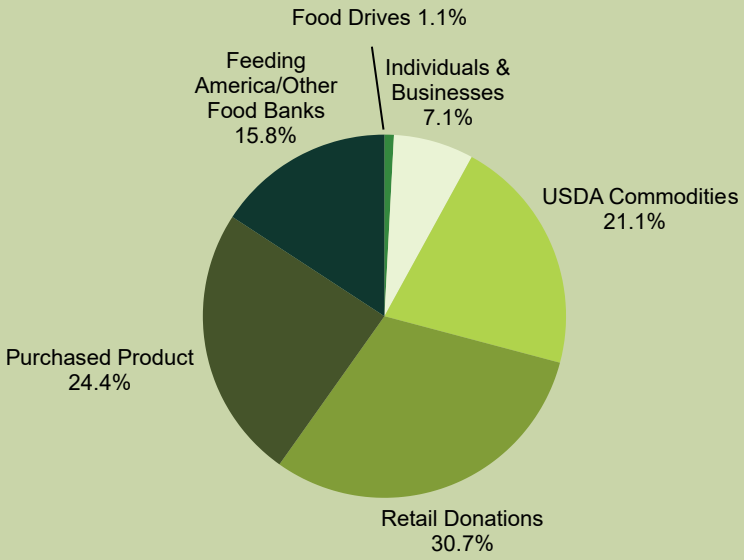
By eliminating food insecurity, we provide a pathway to empowerment, hope, and self-sufficiency.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Melissa Albrecht
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Rita Clifford
Dr. Anne Edwards, *Secretary*
Morgan Gold
Rosie Gonzalez, *Chair*
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Melissa Prochnau, *Treasurer*
Michelle Samuel
Stephanie Scherer
Dennis Schlott, *Vice Chair*

FY2025 Impact*

Sources of Food



Meals Served

10.1 Million

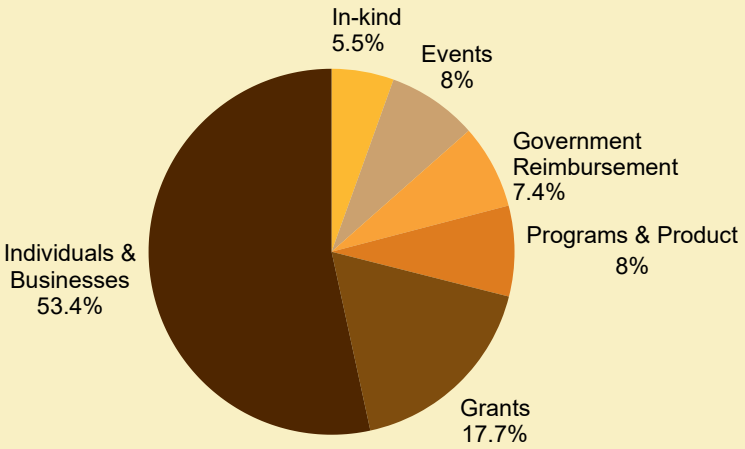
Pounds Distributed

12.1 Million

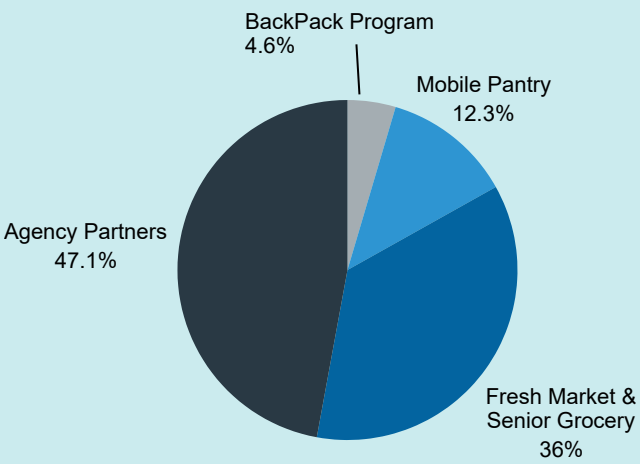
Expenses

Programs	**93%**
Admin/Development	**7%**

Sources of Funds



Distribution of Food



Volunteer Hours

39,854 Hours

Ending Net Assets: $11,675,018

*Numbers are unaudited

Fighting Hunger Today, Ending Hunger Tomorrow

Our goal is to solve the immediate needs of our clients with food while teaching skills and making connections that increase self-sufficiency.



Mobile Pantry

Mobile pantries deliver at least one truckload of food monthly to counties served by Food Finders Food Bank to supplement the work of our agency partners.



Agency Partners

We work directly with more than 100 agency partners across the 16 counties served by Food Finders Food Bank. These partners distribute food quickly, efficiently, and effectively to the nearly 90,000 residents facing food insecurity.



BackPack Program

A backpack filled with supplemental, nutritious food is sent home with more than 2,600 children each weekend during the school year in over 70 schools.



Fighting hunger in *your* community



Fresh Market

Fresh Market is a low-barrier, grocery store style pantry in Tippecanoe County that provides fresh produce, protein, dairy, and dry goods. It is open 5 days a week.



Resource Coordination

Resource Coordinators help connect neighbors to local resources, such as healthcare, childcare assistance, job training, employment, and more.



Education Program

Classes provide ongoing learning on topics including meal preparation, finance, job readiness, budgeting, and wise shopping to maximize SNAP and all available food resources.



Senior Grocery Delivery

Food Finders offers free home grocery delivery to qualifying seniors in select counties. This program provides groceries; including protein, dairy, and fresh produce options.



SNAP Outreach

The SNAP Outreach program sends coordinators to strategically selected community centers, faith-based organizations, and residential housing facilities to help eligible Hoosiers sign up for SNAP benefits.



Meeting You Where You Are: Food Finders Conducts Neighbor-Focused Listening Sessions

Food Finders Food Bank has always known that ending food insecurity in our 16-county service area means consistently working to understand the changing needs of our community. That commitment is driving a series of listening sessions that has taken Food Finders' staff to Benton, Howard, Warren, Carroll, Jasper, and Pulaski counties and is already seeing meaningful results.

The listening sessions are part of a broader, national conversation happening across the Feeding America network, which recognizes the people best positioned to help food banks stay ahead of community changes are the community leaders, partner organizations, and neighbors who live and work there every day.

Food Finders brings a cross-functional team to each session, with staff representing programs, development, resource coordination, and executive leadership sitting down together with neighbors, social service providers, faith leaders, educators, and community partners. The conversations are candid, grounded in local knowledge, and a natural extension of the relationships Food Finders has been building for more than four decades.

Throughout our 16-county service area, community relationships continue to grow. In Benton County, a connection formed during a listening session led to the establishment of a new partner agency in Ambia, the Corner Cupboard located in the United Methodist Church. This agency partner now serves an underserved area where Food Finders was working to deepen its reach. It's the kind of outcome that comes from showing up, listening, and following through.

"Food Finders has always been about more than distributing food," said President and CEO Kier Crites Muller.

> **"At the heart of everything we do are real people – families, seniors, and children."**

These sessions allow us to reflect on the meaningful work already underway and ask how we can go even further by deepening our partnerships and sharpening the strategies that help us show up even better for every community we serve, across every county."

A Closer Look: Jasper County

A recent listening session in Jasper County brought together community leaders, agency partners, and local volunteers for an open conversation about hunger in their backyard. Today, roughly 1 in 8 Jasper County residents experience food insecurity – among children, the rate is even higher, with 1 in 7 kids not always knowing where their next meal is coming from.

Food Finders came to the table not just with data, but with questions. Which populations are most vulnerable and least visible? What is the community seeing that doesn't show up in a spreadsheet? The goal was to deepen the conversation, ensuring that the people closest to the issue have a hand in shaping the response.

The Jasper County session also celebrated the deep network of partners that continues to make this work possible, including the Jasper County Community Foundation, mobile pantry distribution sites, volunteers, and local agency partners who serve on the front lines of food access in their communities. Vice Chair of Food Finders' Board of Directors, Dennis Schlott, attended the Jasper County session, explaining: "I attended the Jasper County listening session and was glad I did. The Food Finders staff did an excellent job presenting what they do and how they serve the community, while leaving plenty of room for questions and open dialogue. Attendees were genuinely engaged — asking questions, taking notes, and sharing the specific challenges their communities face.

> **“Everyone had a voice, and everyone was heard.”**

These sessions feel like the beginning of stronger working relationships, and I left encouraged by what Food Finders and local communities can accomplish together."

The Road Ahead

Each listening session will directly inform Food Finders' strategic plan for 2026–2029, as well as a service area assessment being conducted in partnership with the Feeding America network. That assessment will result in an operational response plan that will provide a concrete, actionable commitment to meeting the community's evolving needs.

Each session is both a relationship-building opportunity and a chance to ensure that Food Finders' work continues to reflect the real, lived experiences of the neighbors it serves.

If you are a community leader, partner organization, or resident who would like to be part of an upcoming listening session, we'd love to hear from you. Contact: Chief Operating Officer, Julie Smart, jsmart@food-finders.org.

More Ways to Make an Impact



Volunteer Your Time

Volunteers are the heart of Food Finders. Each year, thousands of community members roll up their sleeves to sort food, pack BackPack meals for children, distribute groceries at the Fresh Market, and support special events. Volunteers help us move millions of pounds of food through our warehouse and into the hands of neighbors who need it most. Individuals, families, corporate teams, and civic groups are all welcome. Just a few hours of your time can help provide hundreds of meals for local families.

Join the 365 Society

The 365 Society is a special group of supporters who commit to giving every month. Recurring gifts provide steady, reliable funding that allows Food Finders to save on administrative costs and plan ahead or respond quickly when need increases. Even a modest monthly gift adds up to make a big difference over the course of a year—helping ensure that nutritious food is available for neighbors every single day.



Leave a Legacy

Members of the Legacy Society have made a powerful commitment to the future by including Food Finders in their estate plans. Bequests in a will, beneficiary designations, or other legacy arrangements help ensure that future generations in our community will always have access to the food they need. These gifts reflect a lasting dedication to building a stronger, hunger-free community.

At Food Finders Food Bank, the generosity of our community powers everything we do. Whether you give your time, make a financial contribution, or plan a future gift, there are many meaningful ways to help ensure our neighbors have reliable access to nutritious food.

Donor-Advised Funds

Many supporters choose to give through Donor-Advised Funds (DAFs), a convenient and tax-efficient way to recommend charitable grants to Food Finders. Another option for eligible donors age 70½ and older is a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) from an IRA. QCDs allow donors to direct funds from their retirement account straight to charity, potentially reducing taxable income while supporting programs that fight hunger across our region.





New Tax Opportunities

Recent updates to federal tax laws have created additional incentives for charitable giving. Some taxpayers may benefit from enhanced deductions for charitable contributions, and individuals who itemize can often deduct gifts up to a higher percentage of their adjusted gross income. These changes can make it even more impactful to support organizations like Food Finders that provide essential services to the community. As always, donors should consult their tax or financial advisor to determine how these provisions apply to their personal situation.

Together we can end hunger

Every act of generosity helps Food Finders provide meals and hope to neighbors across our service area. When our community comes together, we make it possible for everyone to have the nourishment they need to thrive.

To learn more about volunteering or giving, visit www.food-finders.org or contact our development team by emailing Kyle Puetz at kpuetz@food-finders.org.

MAJOR GIFTS

The following individuals, corporations, and organizations supported Food Finders Food Bank with major gifts between October 1, 2024 and September 30, 2025

INDIVIDUALS

James and Marilyn Anderson
Sheilla M. Anderson
Rodney Ball and Linda Corrigan
Gordon and Cynthia Barker
Christena Baugher
Nels and Betty Bergmark
Rebecca Bollinger
Matt and Lisa Burke
Pamela V. Byers
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Ginger Stalcup
Bryan Steffen
Steven Haller and Bridget Kerr
Brandon and Jessica Sturm
Charlene Sullivan
The Gernhardt Family Charitable Fund
Jeff and Elizabeth Vierk

ORGANIZATIONS

American Reformed Church of Demotte
Area Five Agency on Aging & Community Services
Area Four Agency on Aging
Bringhurst Community Church
Brook United Methodist Church
Caston Education Center
Christ United Methodist Church of Lafayette
City of Lafayette
City of West Lafayette
Community Action Program, Inc. of Western Indiana
Delphi Methodist Church
Emergency Food & Shelter Program
Fairfield Township Trustee
Feeding America
Feeding Indiana's Hungry, Inc.
First Christian Church of Kokomo
First Reformed Church of Wheatfield
First United Methodist Church of West Lafayette
Franciscan Alliance Foundation of Mishawaka

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Grace Fellowship Church of Demotte
Indiana Family and Social Services Administration
Indiana State Department of Agriculture
Indiana State Department of Health
Klondike Elementary School
Lewis Cass Buddy Bags, Inc.
Logansport High School
Logansport School Corporation
McGrawsville United Methodist Church of Amboy
Montgomery Co Youth Service Bureau
Northview Church
Rensselaer Area Ministerial Association
Riggs Community Health Center
Rochester Community School Corporation
Rossville Community BacPack Program
Seeger High School
SUMC BackPack Blessings
United Way for Clinton County, Inc.
United Way of Cass County
United Way of Greater Lafayette
United Way of Howard County
United Way of Miami County, Inc.
Warren Central Elementary School
West Lafayette Community Schools
West Street Christian Church of Tipton

FOUNDATIONS

Alfred J. McAllister & Dorothy N. McAllister Foundation
Charities Aid Foundation of America
Community Foundation of White County
Community Foundation Serving Howard, Clinton, and Carroll Counties
Conru Foundation
Healthcare Foundation of Miami County Inc
James K. and Mary Jo Risk Family Foundation, Inc.
Lafayette Life Foundation
Lafayette Rotary Club Foundation
Montgomery County Community Foundation
Negley Flinn Charitable Foundation
Northern Indiana Community Foundation, Inc.
The Community Foundation of Greater Lafayette
UNFI Foundation
Western Indiana Community Foundation

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Walmart Foundation

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Norma C. Bishop+
Gary Davidson+
Ned Derhammer+
Dorothy Fuller+
Lucille Haines+
Deborah and James Knapp
John and Marjorie Martin
John and Prella McBride
Ruthie Shook
Kumares Sinha
Mary Jo and Fredrick Sparrow
Michael Wallpe+

+ deceased

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Lafayette, IN 47904

www.food-finders.org



PARTNER FOOD BANK OF FEEDING AMERICA

LIVE UNITED United Way



Volunteers are vital to our organization and the fight to end hunger, and we would love for you to join our team of compassionate, community-minded volunteers.

To learn more about volunteer opportunities at Food Finders, please visit food-finders.org/volunteer, call us at 765-471-0062, or scan the QR code below.