



Community Food Share Talking Points

Ten-Second Soundbite

Community Food Share is a food bank fighting hunger in Boulder and Broomfield Counties by providing access to fresh, nutritious food through our local partners and our onsite and mobile pantries.

General Information

- **Mission Statement:** To eliminate hunger in Boulder and Broomfield Counties through engagement, collaboration, and leadership.
- **Our Vision:** A hunger-free community.
- Community Food Share is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization.
- We are a member of Feeding America, the national network of 200 food banks. We are also a member of Feeding Colorado, the network of five Feeding America affiliated food banks in Colorado. Together, we feed every county in Colorado and the United States.

Hunger in Our Community & Why We're Here

- Hunger is a reality for 1 in 8 people in Boulder and Broomfield Counties.
- That's 43,000 people (12% of the population), including more than 10,000 children (13% of the children in the two-county area).
- **Definition of "Food Insecurity":** Lack of access, at times, to enough food for an active, healthy life for all household members (source: USDA).

Where Does the Food Come From?

We collect food in three main ways:

① Donated Food:

- Through food rescue, we're saving seven tons of food a day that would otherwise go to waste and using it to fight hunger.
 - We rescue food from local grocery stores, food processors and distributors, as well as farms. They donate foods that have damaged packaging, are approaching their sell-by date, "ugly" produce (bruises, wrong size, imperfect color), and seasonal items.
 - Community Food Share rescues 11 tons of food a day that would otherwise go to waste. That's equivalent in weight to 115 baby elephants!
- Community members host food drives to collect non-perishable foods.
- Our Garden Share program collects local, freshly grown food: farmers and home gardeners donate to us directly, and we send volunteers out to farms to harvest produce (also known as "gleaning").

② **Purchased Food:** To supplement donations and ensure we have the variety of foods necessary to meet the nutritional needs of those we serve, we leverage national and local relationships to purchase food at the lowest possible price.

③ **Government Support:** We receive some of our food through federal programs that are overseen by the United States Department of Agriculture.

Where Does the Food Go?

- Community Food Share distributes enough food for 24,000 meals a day.
- There are two ways that Community Food Share gets food to people who need it:
 - ① **Partner Distribution Programs:** Community Food Share partners with more than 40 non-profit organizations to distribute groceries and meals in the community. Partner Agencies receive food from Community Food Share for free, because every dollar a Partner Agency saves on food can be devoted to assistance with housing, healthcare, education, and other basic needs.
 - Partner Agencies include: Boulder Shelter for the Homeless, Bridge House, Broomfield FISH, Emergency Family Assistance Association (EFAA), the OUR Center, Sister Carmen Community Center, and many more.
 - ② **Direct Distribution Programs:** Community Food Share operates several programs that directly serve the local food insecure population.
 - Feeding Families: Our onsite pantry that serves families with children in the free or reduced lunch program.
 - Mobile Pantries: We bring “pantries on wheels” to neighborhoods of greatest need. Mobile pantries deliver fresh produce, dairy, non-perishables, and bakery items.
 - Elder Share: Similar to a mobile pantry, but specifically for seniors.

Commitment to Nutrition

- Accessing fresh, nutritious food isn't always easy or affordable. That's what we're here for. By partnering with local farms and grocery stores, we provide participants with food they feel good about feeding their family.
- Our goal is to distribute 10.4 million pounds of food this year. At least 75% of our distribution will be fresh produce, dairy, or protein.

Volunteering at Community Food Share

- Every hour donated by a volunteer provides 80 meals!
- 6,600 individuals volunteer with us annually — their support is equivalent to 21 full-time staff!
- We offer opportunities for individuals, groups, and families. Be on the front lines (handing out food to participants at our distributions) or behind the scenes in our warehouse (sorting and stocking food).

Funding at Community Food Share

- For every \$1 donated, Community Food Share can distribute 3 meals.
- More than half of Community Food Share's funding comes from individual donors!
- 96% of donations go directly to support hunger relief efforts in Boulder and Broomfield Counties.