

Food Recovery Network

Annual Report

Fiscal Year 2025



foodrecoverynetwork.org



@foodrecovery



“It always makes me smile when I hear stories of our members delivering food and how the families look forward to eating the food we bring. It is an honor to be part of this organization and to help people in need.”

—Anna Kelly, Northeastern University

Our journey has been remarkable. For the past 14 years, Food Recovery Network (FRN) has been tapping into the incredible power of community. We have built a vibrant network of 200+ college and university student-led chapters, all dedicated to making a meaningful impact. With the support of businesses and local communities, we've mobilized over 8,000 college student leaders and food system partners who share our vision of a sustainable and equitable food system.

People are committed to ensuring their neighbors have food all across the U.S. We've recovered over 23 million pounds of nutritious food, translating to 19.8 million meals to feed hungry families, while also preventing nearly 8,000 metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent emissions from polluting our atmosphere, helping our living environment by decreasing the very substance that is warming our world. Our work is not just about numbers; it's about people, communities, and the planet.

Over the past year alone, our dedicated volunteers have poured more than 25,000 hours into this cause, recovering 1.7 million pounds of food and supporting around 330 local hunger-fighting partner agencies across the U.S., infusing \$900,000 in human capital back into our communities, showcasing the profound local and national impact we can achieve together. If you were one of those volunteers, we are grateful to you.

By leveraging data and collaborating with local partners, we strategically address areas of greater need, tailoring effective food recovery and access programs to suit each community. We are feeding more people—faster.

Join us on this inspiring journey as we harness the power of community to fight against food waste and hunger. Together, we can create lasting change and support a healthier planet for future generations, ensuring a brighter future for everyone. This is your invitation from us.

In the following pages, you will hear directly from some of our student leaders about the impact they have made through their College Chapters in their college communities and how volunteering has defined their leadership path.

We will highlight the success of our Community College initiative, which accounted for 20% of the total chapter pounds we collected this past year.

Additionally, we will showcase our Elementary School Free Produce Markets, including the successful transition of our Georgia pilot program to local partners and our efforts in the St. Paul and Baltimore communities.

We will also emphasize the importance of our large-scale event recoveries, such as our recovery from two Super Bowl tailgate parties in New Orleans, which was our largest event recovery this past year. Our Food Recovery Verified event-based work is helping make food recovery a household norm, raising consumer awareness of our mission.

Thank you. Through your support, we have the forward momentum to tackle systemic inequalities and end hunger in the U.S. With 47 million individuals, including 14 million children living in food-insecure households, every ounce of food we can provide for hungry people makes a difference. Every pound you've helped recover gets us closer to ending hunger permanently.

Gratefully,

Regina Harmon
Chief Executive Officer



Dr. Jessica Lautz,
Board President



Fight food waste. Feed people.

Board of Directors

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Mission

Food Recovery Network (FRN) unites 8,000+ college students, food suppliers, farmers, and local businesses across the U.S. in the fight against climate change and hunger by recovering surplus food from across the supply chain and donating it to local nonprofit organizations that feed people experiencing hunger.

Acknowledgement

Food Recovery Network recognizes that food security, economic security, and climate justice are inextricably linked to racial equity, and achieving progress in any of these areas depends on addressing the root causes of these inequities. FRN is committed to racial equity and inclusion through all aspects of our organizational development and programming. We welcome, respect, and encourage the contributions of all individuals, celebrating diversity of race, color, ethnicity, ancestry, national origin, religion, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, marital and familial status, language, mental or physical impairments and disabilities, military status, economic class, immigration status, foster care status, body size, criminal history, and other characteristics that are often used to marginalize individuals and communities.

We acknowledge that the land on which our headquarters office resides is inhabited by the Kinwaw Paskestikweya Clan, also known as the Piscataway Conoy Clan, who were the traditional inhabitants of these lands and waters long before we arrived, and continue to reside here. To learn more about the tribal lands on which our chapters reside, please see <https://native-land.ca>. We ask you to honor this beautiful land by joining us and committing to sustainability and promoting environmental well-being for everyone to thrive.

Student and Alumni Board

FRN's Student and Alumni Advisory Board makes a substantial impact in the fight against food waste and hunger. They provide insight, serve as advocates, and mentor rising chapter leadership.



Deheeraj Bandaru
Executive Chair
Georgia Tech



Gal Yovel
Executive Vice Chair
University of Pittsburgh



Charlotte Cai
Mount Holyoke
College



Gwen Casey
Carleton College



Selina Chiang
University of
Pittsburgh



Michael DeJoseph
Springfield College



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Hamilton Hawkins
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J Hoggan
Rensselaer
Polytechnic Institute



Lauren Klann
University of
Wisconsin-Madison



Eunheh (Grace) Koh
Augusta University



Emmanuel Kraft
Pennsylvania State
University



Mary Lazaris
University of
Pittsburgh



Aleena Malik
University of Michigan



Kahlil Mitchell-Smith
Ohio Wesleyan
University



Anacapri Neill
Brown University



Ibraheem Qureshi
University of Virginia



Rachel Raineri
North Carolina State
University



Francesca Bambara
Providence College



Kelsey Rogers
Roger Williams
University



Sophia Samantaroy
University of
Rochester



Chloe Selby
University of
California, Irvine



Brandon Sia
University of
Pittsburgh



Jenny Snyder
University of
Pittsburgh



Erica Szymanski
University of Virginia



Cory Tompkins
Northern Arizona
University



Alivia Turner
Radford University



Jesse Van Maanen
New Mexico State
University

Not Pictured

Grace Cipollone
University of Massachusetts
Amherst

Anastasia Pogrebchchikov
University of Illinois at Chicago



Lydia Vulich
University of Illinois
Chicago



Natalie Walton
University of Michigan

- “I want to emphasize the importance of bridging local action with systemic change.”

—**Grace Cipollone**, SAAB Member

Staff

“FRN has helped me grow as they provided me with an outlet to speak about diverse solutions to some of the problems that our organization struggled with. Everyone was always so kind, approachable, understanding, and I knew that if I ever had any issues, I could count on FRN to help me!”

—Dani Doncevic
St. Louis University



Regina Harmon
Chief Executive Officer



Katie Jones
Chief Operating Officer



Katie Aguila
Director of Programs



Fran Alvarado
Program Associate



Hannah Ankenbauer
Program & Operations Associate



Sarah Corbin
Director of Communications



Stephen Dorsey
Sr. Manager Program Operations & Internal Systems



Julia Gerard
Program Manager



Cassie Herzog
Director of Development



Kimmy Kutzler
Development Manager



Bella Petruccione
Communications Associate



Erin Price
Director of Stakeholder Engagement



Snapshot!

July 2024 - June 2025 FY25



meals
donated to feed people



In the past year, FRN redirected

1,712,261

total pounds of surplus food to local nonprofits that feed community members experiencing hunger.



1064.80

metric tons of CO2 emissions prevented

40,321

pounds collected from Washington D.C. area hotels



41

new student chapters



60,369

pounds of produce distributed to Title I elementary schools



189,556

pounds recovered by first community college cohort

52

produce pop-ups hosted at Title I elementary schools



119,705

pounds recovered from big events



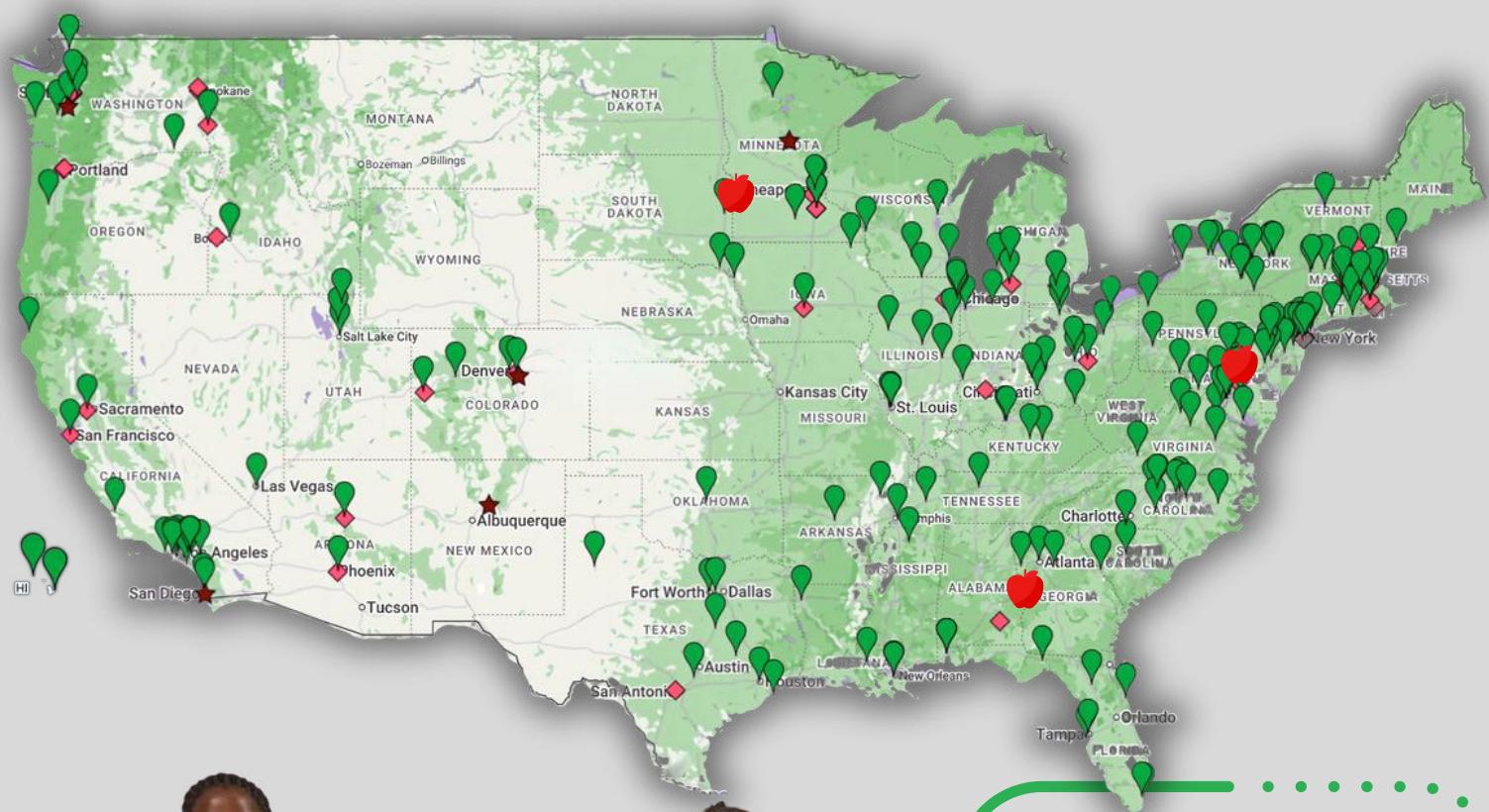
928,802

pounds recovered by college and university chapters

Where We Are

FRN leverages data to enhance our impact in the areas where it is needed most. We strategically focus our efforts in regions with heightened demand for food access and greater potential for our food recovery programs, resulting in significantly more effective impact.

By harnessing data and collaborating with college students and local partners, we develop and implement targeted food recovery and food access programs that are specifically tailored to the needs of each community.



“FRN has helped me grow as a leader by showing me the power of coming together and working towards a common cause that helps both the environment and the local community we live in.”
—Allison Brown, Weber State University

- 🍎 Elementary School Product Distribution
- ♦ FRV Business Partners
- 📍 College and University Chapters
- ⭐ First Community College Cohort

Produce Distribution

FY25 Impact

Baltimore, Maryland



St. Paul, Minnesota



- 19,250 pounds of fresh produce dist.
- 16,042 meals (equivalent)
- 0.53 metric tons of CO2e prevented
- 148,703 gallons of water saved



- 21,389 pounds of fresh produce dist.
- 17,824 meals (equivalent)
- 0.59 metric tons of CO2e prevented
- 165,227 gallons of water saved



FRN hosts produce distribution programs at Title I Elementary Schools in priority areas to provide surplus produce to students and their families facing hunger. All produce is sourced from local farmers and distributors to minimize waste.

What began in 2022 as a pilot project with 5 markets at 1 school in Atlanta has expanded into a nationwide program, hosting over 60 markets before the close of FY25 and distributing more than 94,350 pounds of fresh produce across 10 schools in Atlanta, Baltimore, and St. Paul.



[FIND OUT ABOUT PRODUCE DISTRIBUTION](#)



Student Chapters

“Every time someone tells me that they wouldn't have eaten if it weren't for FRN drops, it makes my heart swell with joy and pride. I believe that I would not feel as accomplished or ready for what's next without the skills and confidence that I have gained throughout my time with FRN.”

—Ethan Nabong,
Northland
College

The largest student-driven movement recovering surplus food to end hunger in the U.S.

90%

1960
meals

357
hunger fighting
partners

90% of chapter leaders said FRN helped them grow as a leader.

2352 pounds is the MEDIAN amount of food recovered by a chapter this year, the equivalent of 1960 meals.

Student chapters recovered food from 517 food donor businesses to provide food for 357 hunger fighting partners.

45% of chapters donate food on campus.





10+ Years

The following chapters have been a source of inspiration for over a decade, starting with our founding chapter, the University of Maryland in College Park, in 2011.

Allegheny College
Bellarmine University
Beloit College
Boise State University
Bowling Green State University
Brandeis University
Brown University
Calvin University
Carleton College
Case Western Reserve University
Colorado Mountain College
Cornell University
Denison University
Drake University
Duke University
Florida State University
George Washington University
Goucher College
High Point University
Illinois State University
Kalamazoo College
Knox College
Lawrence University
Lehigh University
Loyola Marymount University
Macalester College
Millersville University of Pennsylvania
New York University
North Carolina A&T State University
Northern Arizona University
Occidental College
Ohio Wesleyan University
Pennsylvania State University
Pomona College
Providence College
Rhodes College
Russell Sage College
Saint Mary's College

Southern Connecticut State University
St. Mary's College of Maryland
St. Olaf College
SUNY Binghamton
Syracuse University / SUNY ESF
Texas A&M University
Texas State University
Towson University
Tulane University
University of California, Davis
University of California, Los Angeles
University of Central Arkansas
University of Central Oklahoma
University of Dayton
University of Denver
University of Hawaii - Manoa
University of Illinois at Chicago
University of Mary Washington
University of Maryland, College Park
University of Massachusetts Amherst
University of Minnesota, Twin Cities
University of New England
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
University of North Carolina at Greensboro
University of Pittsburgh
University of Rochester
University of San Francisco
University of South Carolina, Columbia
University of Toledo
University of Utah
Utah State University
Villanova University
Wagner College
Weber State University
Western Washington University



 *Founding Chapter*

[START A CHAPTER](#)



New Student Chapters

July 2024 - June 2025 FY25



“We are proud to now be donating recovered food straight back to students on campus!”

—Rose Olson,
University of Dayton

** indicates community college chapter

Baylor University
Berea College
Brandeis University
California State Polytechnic University, Humboldt
Central Lakes College **
Colorado Mesa University Tech
Colorado School of Mines
Connecticut College
Drew University
Hamilton College
Hobart and Williams Smith
Hood College
Indiana State University
Indiana University Northwest
Iona University
Ithaca College
James Madison University
Keene State College
Minnesota State University, Mankato
Montgomery Community College **
North Carolina A&T State University
North Carolina State University
Ohio Wesleyan University
Providence College
Rutgers University-New Brunswick
Saint Louis University
Scripps College
Shawnee State University
Southern New Hampshire University
Texas A&M University
Texas Tech University
The College of Wooster
University of California, Los Angeles
University of Connecticut
University of Hawaii at Hilo
University of Idaho
University of Nevada, Las Vegas
Vanderbilt University
Western Colorado University
Whitman College
Winthrop University

Community Colleges

The inaugural cohort's results were striking. With FRN's increased financial and technical support, 100% of cohort members recovered food, and the median pounds recovered per community college partner was 2,500, slightly more than a chapter at a four-year institution. This means the five cohort members, who recovered a total of 189,556 pounds, supplied nearly 20% of all pounds recovered by our college-based chapters.



“Community colleges are uniquely situated to implement effective food recovery programs that resonate within their communities. We’re excited to support these institutions as they leverage their local connections and student engagement to build sustainable food recovery practices.”

—Regina Harmon, CEO

Our inaugural cohort included:

- Central Lakes College (Brainerd, MN)
- Green River College (Auburn, WA)
- Montgomery County Community College (Blue Bell, PA)
- San Diego College of Continuing Education (San Diego, CA)
- State Board for Community Colleges and Occupational Education and Community College of Aurora (Aurora, CO)



LEARN MORE



Food Recovery Verified

Thanks to our FRV Event Partners for investing in sustainability and helping end hunger for local communities by making food recovery a priority.

- American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA)
- Ben Hill Griffin Stadium
- Bullseye Event Group
- ButcherBox
- Chainfest
- CSI DMCI
- Gillette Stadium
- Hosts Global
- Independent College Bookstore Association (ICBA)
- Kansas Association of REALTORS®
- Lucas Oil Stadium
- Marriott Marquis
- Medium Rare
- National Association of REALTORS®
- Occasion's Catering
- Operation BBQ
- Papa John's
- Sanford Stadium
- SECU Stadium
- Sheraton Grand Chicago Riverwalk



"I want to extend a heartfelt thank you for the incredible work Food Recovery Network continues to do and for the meaningful partnership we share. It's such a feel-good moment for us to be able to share the impact of your efforts with our clients – the dedication, compassion, and drive your team brings to addressing food insecurity is truly remarkable and Hosts Global is honored to be able to incorporate your efforts into our events whenever we can."

—Katy Collins,
Regional Director of Operations, North Central, Hosts Global

Super Bowl Tailgates 2025

Hellmann's Mayonnaise continued its commitment to reducing food waste at the Big Game by partnering with FRN for the second year. We doubled our efforts with two tailgates—The Players Tailgate and Guy Fieri's Flavortown Tailgate—redirecting high-quality surplus food to the New Orleans Mission, Louisiana's largest emergency shelter provider.

One Day Impact



- 12,348 pounds
- 10,290 meals
- 7.95 metric tons of CO₂e



yahoo!



Waste 360



"Here in New Orleans there is a lot of need, especially for food. It's a basic necessity. That's what really started my passion for food recovery."

—Caroline Krause, Tulane University Student



[FIND OUT ABOUT FRV](#)



FRV provides resources and expertise to help businesses, hotels, and large-scale events donate surplus food instead of wasting it. As of the close of FY25, FRV has assisted over 500 partners and events, serving more than 340 hunger-fighting organizations nationwide.

Advocacy

For the past 14 years, FRN has cultivated a community of young leaders committed to reducing food waste, combating climate change, and ending hunger in the U.S. They focus on immediate food recovery and long-term policy improvements, partnering with like-minded organizations to advocate for effective regulations and practices.

In FY25 FRN staff attended, hosted, and participated in over

45

advocacy events and meetings with elected officials.

62%

of chapters participate in advocacy related events on or off campus.

“One major way FRN has helped to shape my leadership style is by encouraging me to look at the bigger picture. This has mainly been through increased political action. We make a big difference in the lives of the people we help serve meals to, but there is much to be done on an institutional/systematic level.”
—Madison Mizon,
Loyola University Chicago

Thank you to our Advocacy Partners for helping build political will to end hunger and food waste.

Food Systems
Collaborative



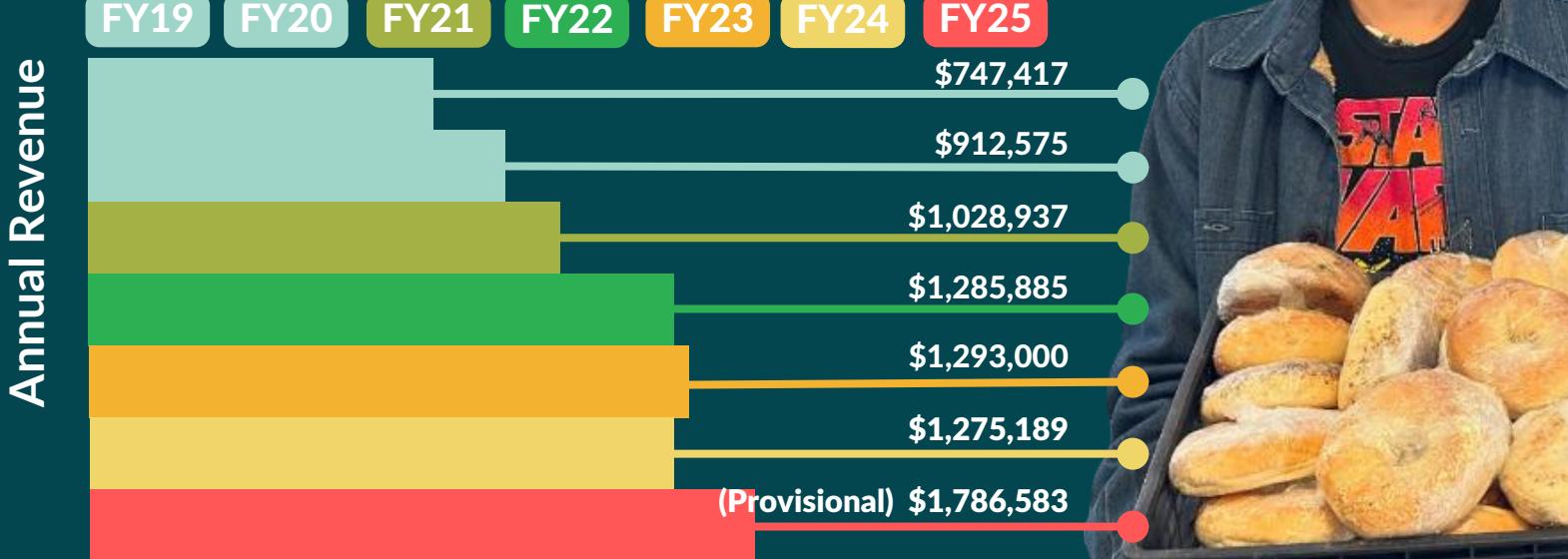
FOOD LAW
and POLICY CLINIC
HARVARD LAW SCHOOL

Financials

Our work is possible because of our generous funders who believe no one should be hungry.
Thank you for your financial support.

Andrew Family Foundation
Aramark
Clif Family Foundation
Crawford Heritage Community Foundation
Dr. Scholl Foundation
EDL Northwest
From Now On Fund
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Hellmann's Mayonnaise
Homestead Foundation
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OXO
Papa Johns Foundation
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The Kroger Co. Zero Hunger | Zero Waste Foundation
The Nancy Peery Marriott Foundation
Toast.org
Wawa Foundation
Western Digital
Whole Foods Market



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Get involved

DONATE



Help us expand our movement so we can fight hunger and food waste in every part of the United States. Your support helps us to reach more people experiencing hunger while combating food waste and fighting climate change.

ADVOCATE



Address the root causes of food waste and fight enduring food insecurity in the United States through policy to create systemic, positive change.

LEARN



Find a variety of information, toolkits, and guides to help explain and encourage food rescue, recovery, and donation across the United States.



“Our group is so supportive of each other, and we work great as a team. One of my favorite memories was when we did a **HUGE** Starbucks pickup in the pouring rain. We had to park our car far from the location so we had to run in the rain with bags of Starbucks. We thought it was so funny that it was raining so hard! We started dancing and singing in the rain. I felt a lot closer to my team after this experience!”

—**Kate Briggs**,
University of South Carolina



For more information about Food Recovery Network, email
info@foodrecoverynetwork.org or visit www.foodrecoverynetwork.org.

FOOD
RECOVERY
NETWORK
FIGHTING WASTE. FEEDING PEOPLE.