Providing Southern California's Most Vulnerable with Fresh, Free Produce!

Empowering people to connect abundance with need, Food Forward recovers millions of pounds of surplus produce annually to fight hunger and food waste.

FoodForward.org
DEAR FOOD FORWARD FRIENDS,

Another year has come to pass in Food Forward’s amazing eight-year journey of Fruitanthropy. Through our efforts, millions of people in need have benefitted, while thousands of Southern Californians have connected with their community through civic engagement.

In 2016, our staff and diverse corps of volunteers recovered nearly 15 million pounds of surplus produce. These fresh fruits and vegetables helped feed over 1.25 million people in need across eight counties.

Through Food Forward’s innovative programs, this nutritious food was intercepted before it needlessly found its way to a landfill. The resulting environmental benefit of our work earned us a 2016 National Food Recovery Challenge Award from the Environmental Protection Agency.

We are just at the beginning of our journey. Even so, it’s wonderful to behold that Food Forward, currently rescuing 300,000+ pounds each week, is now considered a national leader in this movement. Healthy food is a human right, essential for survival, dignity, and growth. We believe food is our greatest tool to further social justice.

Whether you’ve recently hopped on board or been along for the ride since year one, you all are part of our trip to come.

With gratitude-

Rick Nahmias
Founder / Executive Director
2016 WORLD OF FOOD FORWARD

Over 1.25 million people fed

Delivered all produce within 48 hours of recovery

21,000 hours of volunteer labor

160 volunteer-powered events per month

All produce is donated to hunger relief agencies free of charge

18 staff

270 farmers and vendors donated to the Farmers Market Recovery Program

Volunteers harvested from 766 unique backyard properties

Gleaned from 19 farmers markets across LA and Ventura Counties

Piloted a Youth Education Program about food waste for 5th graders

Farmers Market Recovery Program won the National EPA Food Recovery Challenge for Innovation

Fruits and vegetables provided to over 300 hunger relief agencies in 8 counties

283,000 pounds of fresh produce recovered each week, on average

Average cost per pound to recover and donate: 9¢
BACKYARD HARVEST PROGRAM
The Backyard Harvest Program works across Los Angeles, Ventura, and Santa Barbara counties, relying almost entirely on volunteer power. Fresh, surplus fruit and vegetables are collected from backyard fruit trees, orchards, farms, and public parks and are donated to hunger relief agencies across the region. In 2016, this program hosted 943 volunteer-powered produce recovery events.

RECOVERED AND DONATED 444,721 POUNDS IN 2016!

“When I was a kid, all I could dream of was having my own fruit trees. Now that I do, it fills my heart with joy knowing that people in need get to enjoy this fresh picked produce instead of it wasting on the trees. As long as I have fruit trees, my home is open to Food Forward.”

JANET, BACKYARD FRUIT DONOR

PHOTO CREDIT: JEN SERENA
FARMERS MARKET RECOVERY

Food Forward's growing Farmers Market Recovery Program added two additional markets in 2016, Long Beach and Thousand Oaks, bringing the total to 19 weekly farmers market locations. This program relies on volunteer time and the generosity of farmers who are willing to donate their excess fresh produce at the end of each market. All of the farm-fresh fruits and vegetables are distributed to hunger relief agencies within the communities of each market. The Farmers Market Recovery Program received produce from 270 unique vendors in 2016 and distributed over 575,000 pounds of produce to 92 partner agencies.

GLEANED FRESH PRODUCE FROM 19 WEEKLY FARMERS MARKETS!

“As a team we can donate just a few hours of our time and make such a difference in the daily lives of the people that need the most help. That is what inspires me to be a Food Forward volunteer.”

ASHTON, FARMERS MARKET RECOVERY VOLUNTEER
WHOLESALE RECOVERY PROGRAM

Food Forward’s Wholesale Recovery Program operates out of the downtown Los Angeles Wholesale Produce District five days a week. In 2016, a staff of three, along with two 24’ trucks, recovered nearly 13.7 million pounds of fresh produce from wholesale distributors. One truckload can hold as much as 15,000 pounds, and it is not uncommon for the Wholesale Recovery staff to do multiple loads in one day. These massive quantities of fresh fruits and vegetables are shared with large agencies who in turn distribute to clients and smaller hunger relief agencies.

PROVIDED FRESH FRUITS AND VEGETABLES TO EIGHT SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA COUNTIES!

“We surveyed our recipients and the thing they wanted most was fresh fruit and vegetables… If we didn’t have Food Forward’s produce, we wouldn’t have a budget to replace that food in the boxes we give to families.”

RICHARD WEINROTH, FOODBANK DIRECTOR, MEND POVERTY
2016 FINANCIAL SUPPORTERS

$250,000 AND ABOVE
New Argosy Foundation

$100,000 AND ABOVE
The Durfee Foundation • Anonymous

$75,000 AND ABOVE
The Ahmanson Foundation • Annenberg Foundation • The Ralph M. Parsons Foundation • Rosenthal Family Foundation • Weingart Foundation

$50,000 AND ABOVE
The Angell Foundation • The SAM Initiative • Flora L. Thornton Foundation

$25,000 AND ABOVE
David Bohnett Foundation • Flora Family Foundation • The Green Foundation • Marisla Fund of the Orange County Community Foundation • The Plum Foundation • Dwight Stuart Youth Fund • Anonymous

$10,000 AND ABOVE
The Philip & Muriel Berman Foundation • Albert & Elaine Borchard Foundation, Inc. • The Louis L. Borick Foundation • Caldwell Leslie & Proctor, PC • California Wellness Foundation • The Carl & Roberta Deutsch Foundation • Carrie Estelle Doheny Foundation • The David Geffen Foundation • Carla and Thomas Heer • George Hoag Family Foundation • Bob and Dolores Hope Charitable Foundation • Scott & Rebecca Jarus • Scott Litt • Ralph’s & Food 4 Less • The Reiter Family • UCLA Foundation

$5,000 AND ABOVE
Clif Bar Family Foundation • Deluxe Corporation Foundation • Haltrecht Family • The Ernest G. Herman Foundation • The Audrey & Sydney Irmas Charitable Foundation • Laemmle Charitable Foundation • Dora F. Levit Fund for People • Cynthia and George Mitchell Foundation • Sony Pictures Entertainment

$1,000 AND ABOVE
Banana Bank • Deborah Barak • Bolton & Co. • Brady-Cashill Foundation • Dave and Jennifer Broering • Carl Buratti and Kathy Buratti • Anne and Paul Burmeister • Challah for Hunger at Occidental College • The Charitable Foundation - Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices • Craig and Lisa Cooper • Andrew and Keri Crowell • Daphne Dennis and John Given • Joan Egrie • Christopher and Margaret Forman • Foster Care Counts • Amy Friend • James W. Gibson & Diana S. Lowe • Goldrey Capital • Gordy Goldsmith • Sue and Ken Greathouse • Marion Holzwarth-Mangis, in memory of Jim • Steve Kadel and Rick Nahmias • Pam and Evan Kaizer • Cathy Kay • Leonard Merrill Kurz Foundation • Eitan Chaim Milgrom, MD, MS • Alan and Traci Nahmias • Pandol Bros., Inc. • Perkins+Will • Phantosos Fund • Beth and Jim Preminger • Pobladores Fund of the Liberty Hill Foundation • Bill Resnick and Michael J. Stubbs • Richard J. Riordan Fund • Alina Sanchez and George Bryson • E. Randol and Pamela Schoenberg • Alan Sieroty • Squishnarf, et al. • Starbucks Community Investments • Sidney Stern Memorial Trust • Yael and Daniel Tenenbaum • Andrea Weiss and Jerry Whitman • Westmount Asset Management • Anonymous (8)

2016 INCOME: $1,721,275
2016 EXPENSES: $1,306,848

Note: Does not include in-kind. 2016 produce recovered/donated is valued at $24,676,169.