



Food for People

The Food Bank for Humboldt County



2020-2021
Annual Report





Food for People

The Food Bank for Humboldt County

OUR MISSION

Food for People is a non-profit organization working to eliminate hunger and improve the health and well-being of our community through access to healthy and nutritious foods, community education, and advocacy.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Fiscal Year 2020-2021

- Martha Spencer, President
- Carol Vander Meer, Vice President
- Joan Levy, Secretary
- Lew Litzky, Treasurer
- Bill Daniel
- Dean Hart
- Dorina Espinoza
- Bruce Wayne
- May Patino
- Gary Bird
- Melanie Bettenhausen
- Amber Madrone

OUR VISION

We envision a community where everyone has access to good quality, nutritious food, understands the consequences of hunger and poor nutrition, and is committed to creating a stronger, healthier Humboldt County.

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Food for People, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit as referenced by EIN 94-2772549.

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Executive Director's Message

Navigating change...

We are pleased to be able to share the details of all that Food for People has accomplished over the past year, incorporating colorful pictures and graphs that help tell the story. When I wrote my message for last year's annual report, we had just navigated several months of massive disruptions in our operations caused by the now infamous sewer disaster that forced us out of our main facility, followed closely by the onset of the Covid pandemic and shelter in place orders. As those of you who read our newsletter or follow us on social media know, we had to secure several alternate locations to house our Eureka Choice Pantry, warehouse operations and staff. And then we had to completely change all of our food distribution protocols to keep our staff, clients and a pared down volunteer pool safe. We were definitely a "work in progress" on any given day, but thanks to our amazing team we made it work!

The creativity and adaptability that everyone brought to the table, along with a strong commitment to providing services to some of the most vulnerable members of our community, helped to ensure that each one of our programs continued with minimal disruption. Drive through food distributions were added wherever possible and we built on the collaborative relationships we've nurtured over the years to reach many new people whose financial circumstances changed during the pandemic. New state and federal funding streams triggered by the pandemic helped keep the food flowing despite supply chain disruptions, and community donations remained strong as everyone rallied to make sure the necessary resources were in place to keep Humboldt healthy.

And then new challenges arose when wildfires threatened the eastern parts of our county and we had to shift into disaster response mode. This was also new territory for us in some respects, because most of our disaster response prep to date had been focused on the possibility of earthquakes and tsunamis, and the deadly fires that had been devastating other parts of the state had so far spared Humboldt. It quickly became clear that this will be an ongoing part of our new reality so we secured the funding to create a part time Emergency and Community Food Response position to lead our re-



sponse efforts. Partnering with great organizations like Pay It Forward Humboldt to serve those who may have lost their homes or had to evacuate for extended periods of time has been humbling and reminds us once again that the course of our lives can change in an instant.

As we wrap up the 2020-2021 fiscal year, I'd like to note that one of the most exciting developments during this time has been the progress on the rebuilding of our new facility. We hope to be able to move back in January of 2023 and we look forward to the new, state of the art facility that will provide almost triple the refrigeration space, a larger on site pantry area, expanded warehouse capacity and a welcoming environment for those in need of food assistance. We've missed having our "mother ship", which was our base of operations for serving more than 16,000 people of all ages countywide every month through our 18 programs, and we're counting down the days! We hope you will join us in celebrating this major accomplishment because we wouldn't have been able to get here without you. Be sure to watch for details!

With gratitude,

Anne Holcomb,
Executive Director

Food for People, Inc.
Statement of Financial Position
 As of September 30, 2021

Sep 30, '21

ASSETS

Current Assets

| | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Cash and Cash Equivalents | 1,534,124.00 |
| Accounts Receivable | 503,497.00 |
| Campaign Pledges Receivable, Current | 101,388.00 |
| Food Inventory | 186,952.00 |
| Deposits and Prepaid Expenses | 23,238.00 |
| Total Current Assets | 2,349,199.00 |

Non-Current Assets

| | |
|--|---------------------|
| Capital Pledges Receivable, Non-Current | 113,556.00 |
| Restricted Cash for Capital Campaign Contributions | 3,430,710.00 |
| Property, Equipment, Depreciation and Improvements | 1,508,288.00 |
| Total Non-Current Assets | 5,052,554.00 |

TOTAL ASSETS

7,401,753.00

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

Liabilities

| | |
|--------------------------|-------------------|
| Accounts Payable | 95,889.00 |
| Accrued Expenses | 46,282.00 |
| Total Liabilities | 142,171.00 |

Net Assets

| | |
|-------------------------|---------------------|
| Unrestricted Net Assets | 4,839,679.00 |
| Temporarily Restricted | 2,419,903.00 |
| Total Net Assets | 7,259,582.00 |

TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

7,401,753.00



Food for People's CalFresh Outreach & Policy Advocacy Coordinator Heidi packs produce bags at a drive-thru distribution in Eureka, CA.

History of Food for People, Inc.

Food for People first opened its doors in 1979 as a small food closet. Our programs and services have grown over the past four decades, thanks to the generous support of the local community.



Hundreds of cars line up during one of Food for People's emergency drive-thru food distributions amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

Federal and state contracts specific to the distribution of USDA and other purchased or donated foods, combined with grants and generous local donations, make it possible for us to provide food for more than **16,000 low-income children, seniors, people with disabilities, and other individuals each month.**

According to data provided through the California Health Interview Survey, Humboldt County has one of the highest rates of hunger and food insecurity statewide.

Food for People is a member of the California Association of Food Banks and is designated as a partner distribution organization by Feeding America, a nationwide network of food banks. We are also members of the Northern California Association of Nonprofits, which helps to build and strengthen our focus on local partnerships and collaborations.

The programs offered by Food for People are intended to serve as a safety net for those whose circumstances have left them at risk for hunger and food insecurity. Our goal is to provide individuals and households with the emergency and supplemental food they need while working to address the root causes of hunger in our county.

Meeting the Need in Humboldt County

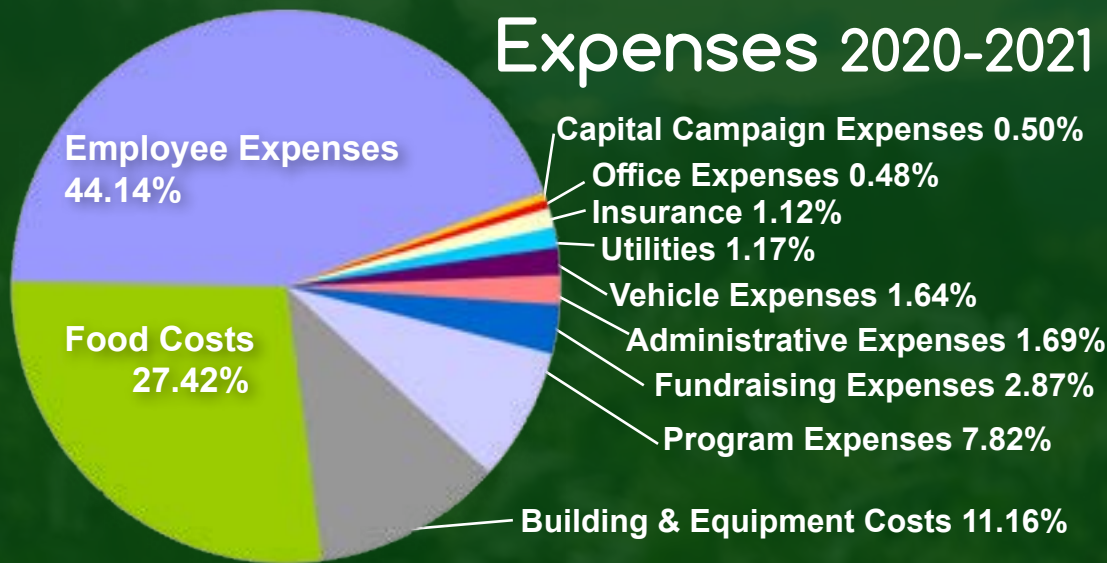
Food for People currently operates a total of 18 programs designed to address the needs of those who are experiencing hunger and food insecurity.

Last year, Food for People distributed nearly 2 million pounds of food.

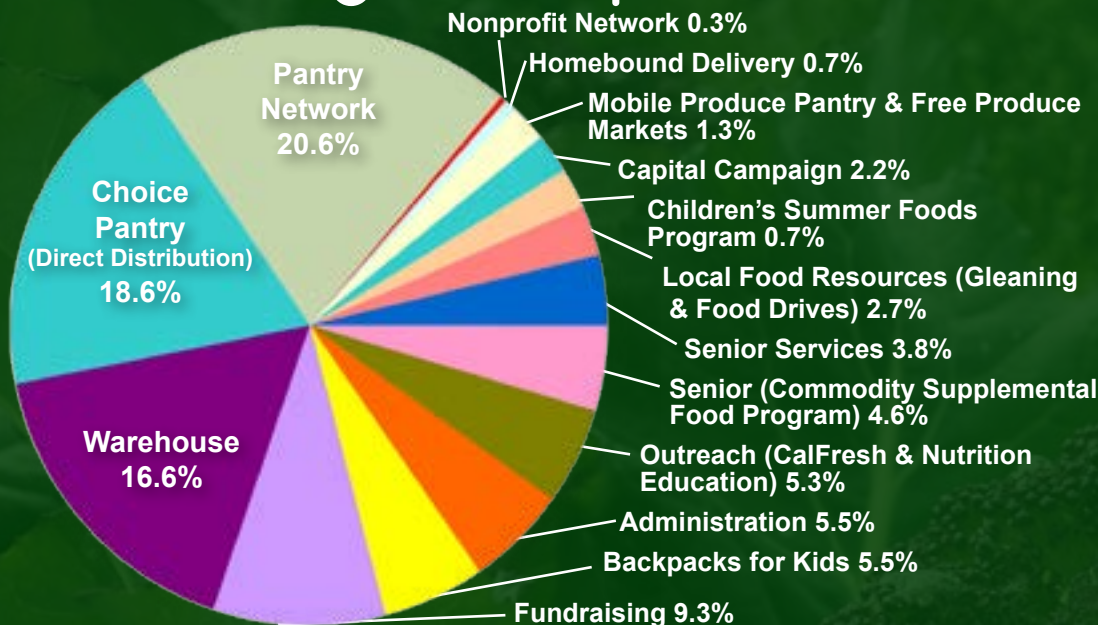


Food for People staff and volunteers load food into cars at a drive-thru distribution.

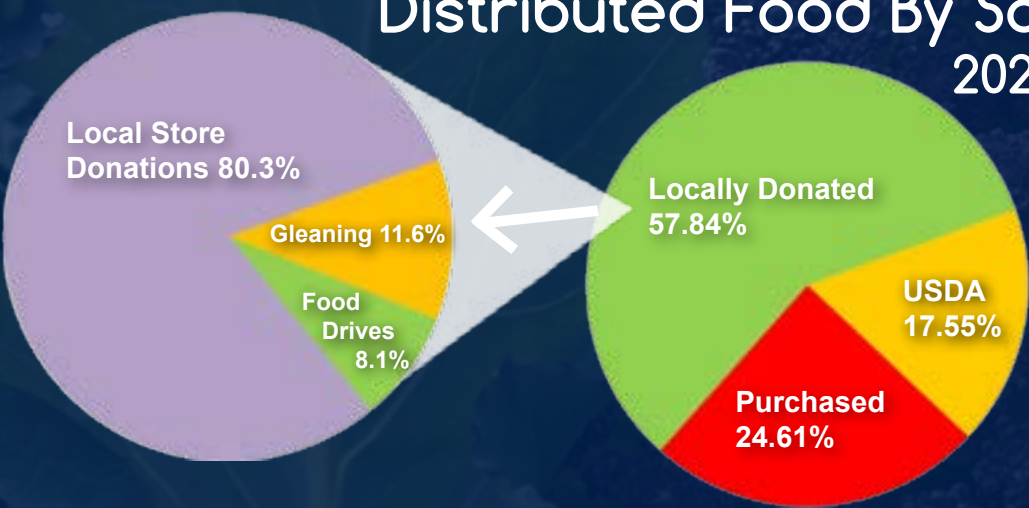
Expenses 2020-2021



Program Expenses 2020-2021



Distributed Food By Source 2020-2021



634,464 lbs of fresh produce was distributed in the 2020-2021 year.

REBUILDING FOOD FOR PEOPLE

Food for People's aging building went from useable and overcrowded to requiring evacuation due to failed infrastructure amid a sewer inundation on February 28, 2020. This disaster struck a tough blow to Food for People's facility and operations, but services not only continued but increased and adapted to meet the evolving need in our community.

To continue to fight local hunger, it is vital that Food for People rebuild now. The new planned facility will be a flexible space with height maximized storage to allow us to adapt our operations to help our community - be it responding to the evolving needs for local food assistance, a natural disaster, or pandemic. The new building will offer:



EXPANDED SERVICES

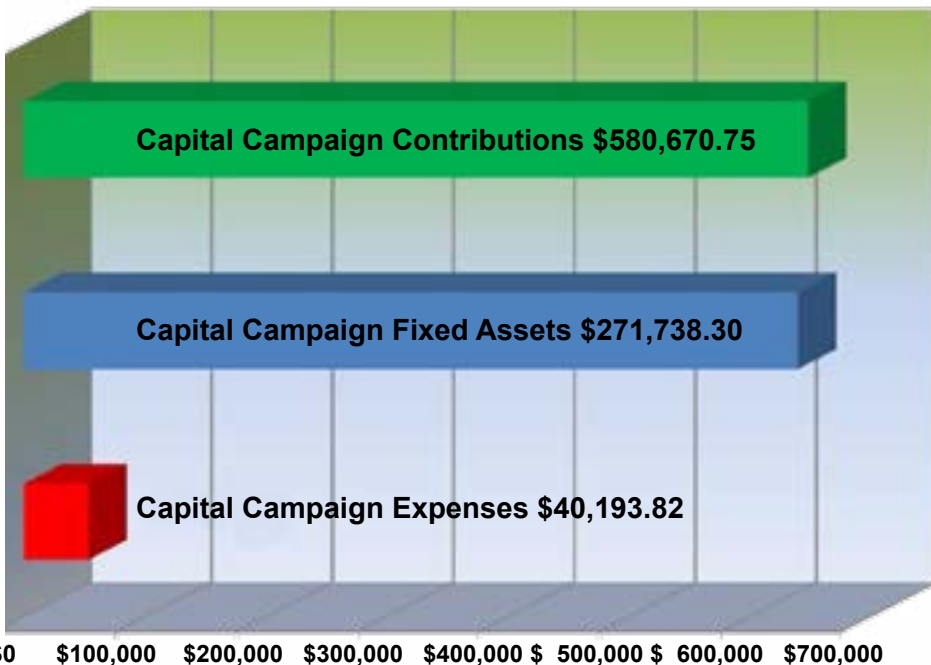
DISASTER RESILIENCY

ADDED WAREHOUSE SPACE

LARGER FOOD PANTRY

MORE COLD STORAGE

Capital Campaign Contributions & Expenditures Fiscal Year 2020-2021



To realize our vision we have undertaken a Capital Campaign to raise \$6.1 million to **Rebuild Food for People.**

COUNTYWIDE FOOD ASSISTANCE

Food for People's **Countywide Food Pantry Network** provides food for 17 pantries and two congregate meal programs (soup kitchens) located throughout Humboldt County. 22,494 households were served through our network of pantries last year, representing 45,112 individuals. Food for People monitors each site and provides technical assistance as needed.

In addition, we coordinate the direct distribution of food through our **Eureka Choice Pantry**. The Choice Pantry style of food distribution invites people to select the foods they want and need, so none goes to waste. In response to the COVID pandemic, a pre-bagged food distribution model was temporarily enacted for safety reasons. Last year the Choice Pantry provided a total of 7,045 households with shopping trips, representing 13,673 individuals, and an additional 453 Emergency Food Boxes.



Food for People's Eureka Choice Pantry offers a variety of nutritionally balanced food items to meet individual needs.



Food for People's Mobile Produce Pantry visits our rural distribution sites in rural areas of the county with monthly pop-up distributions

FRESH FOODS

Food for People's **Free Produce Markets** distributed 119,104 lbs of fresh fruits and vegetables at 4 locations monthly, May through October, which served 2,546 households in the 2021 season.

The **Mobile Produce Pantry** served 6,849 households, representing 18,675 individuals, providing fresh fruits and vegetables in remote communities of Humboldt County that lack access to fresh produce.

CHILD NUTRITION

While many central school districts continue to offer meals to local children during the summer, children in the more rural areas of our county do not have opportunities to access these resources. To help meet this need, Food for People operates the **Children's Summer Food Program** to help kids age 18 and younger in underserved areas of our rural county. From June through September 2021, we provided children with 2,973 bags of pantry staples and fresh produce purchased from local farmers.



Food for People's Child Nutrition Programs provide food to children on weekends and during the summer when school and school food assistance programs are on break.

Food for People's **Backpacks for Kids Program** provided 15,372 bags filled with kid-friendly food to local school children. Food was delivered every Friday during the school year for children who are considered at risk for hunger over the weekend. Last year, the program served 525 children at 34 sites.

SENIOR NUTRITION

Food for People's **Senior Brown Bag Program** provided 4,320 bags of groceries for up to 392 low-income senior households countywide each month. Volunteer drivers deliver bags to those who are unable to pick up. The **Commodity Supplemental Food Program for seniors** provided 4,065 boxes of nutritious food weighing 30-40 lbs for up to 360 seniors. Our **Homebound Delivery Program** provided 434 bags of groceries to adults who are unable to pick up. Some recipients are recovering from surgery, while others may be coping with a terminal illness. Referrals come from hospital discharge planners, social workers, home health workers, etc.



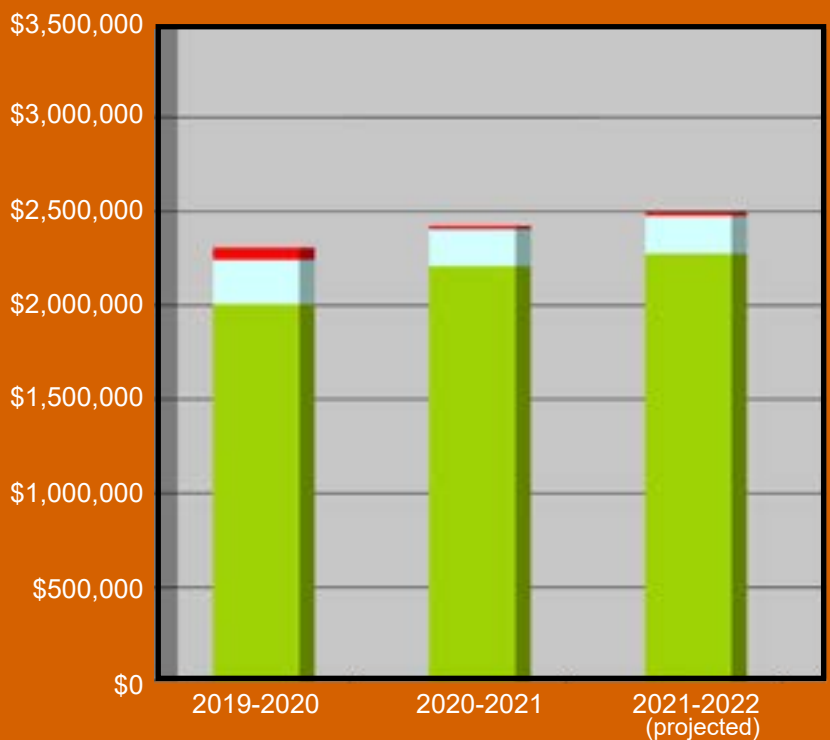
Volunteers help deliver food to homebound individuals and seniors throughout the county.



Volunteers
 donated 13,087
 hours of their time
 last year to Food for
 People —equivalent
 to 8 full-time staff
 positions.

Dollar Value of In-Kind Donations 2020-2021

- Program / Media /
Equipment /
Contractor
- Volunteers
- Food



FOOD RECOVERY & WASTE REDUCTION



Food for People's **Local Food Resources** efforts include:

A **Gleaning Program**, which accessed donations of fresh, local produce and meat from commercial farms, orchards, and ranches and encouraged backyard gardeners to **"Plant a Row for the Hungry."** Last year gleaning brought in 31,431 lbs of healthy local foods for those in need. Community members donated an additional 85,277 lbs of nonperishable food through **Food Drives** last year.

Food for People staff and volunteers will go to local farms and gardens to harvest excess produce for food bank programs.

Through Food for People's **Local Store Food Recovery Program**, area grocery, pharmacy, and health food stores donate excess foods to help those experiencing hunger.

PARTNERSHIPS

Food for People provides food to nearly 100 partner agencies across Humboldt County.

The **Nonprofit Food Network** invites local nonprofit organizations serving low-income individuals to access foods in our warehouse at a low, per pound cost.



Food for People regularly partners with organizations like Pay it Forward Humboldt and the Red Cross to provide food assistance during area wildfires.

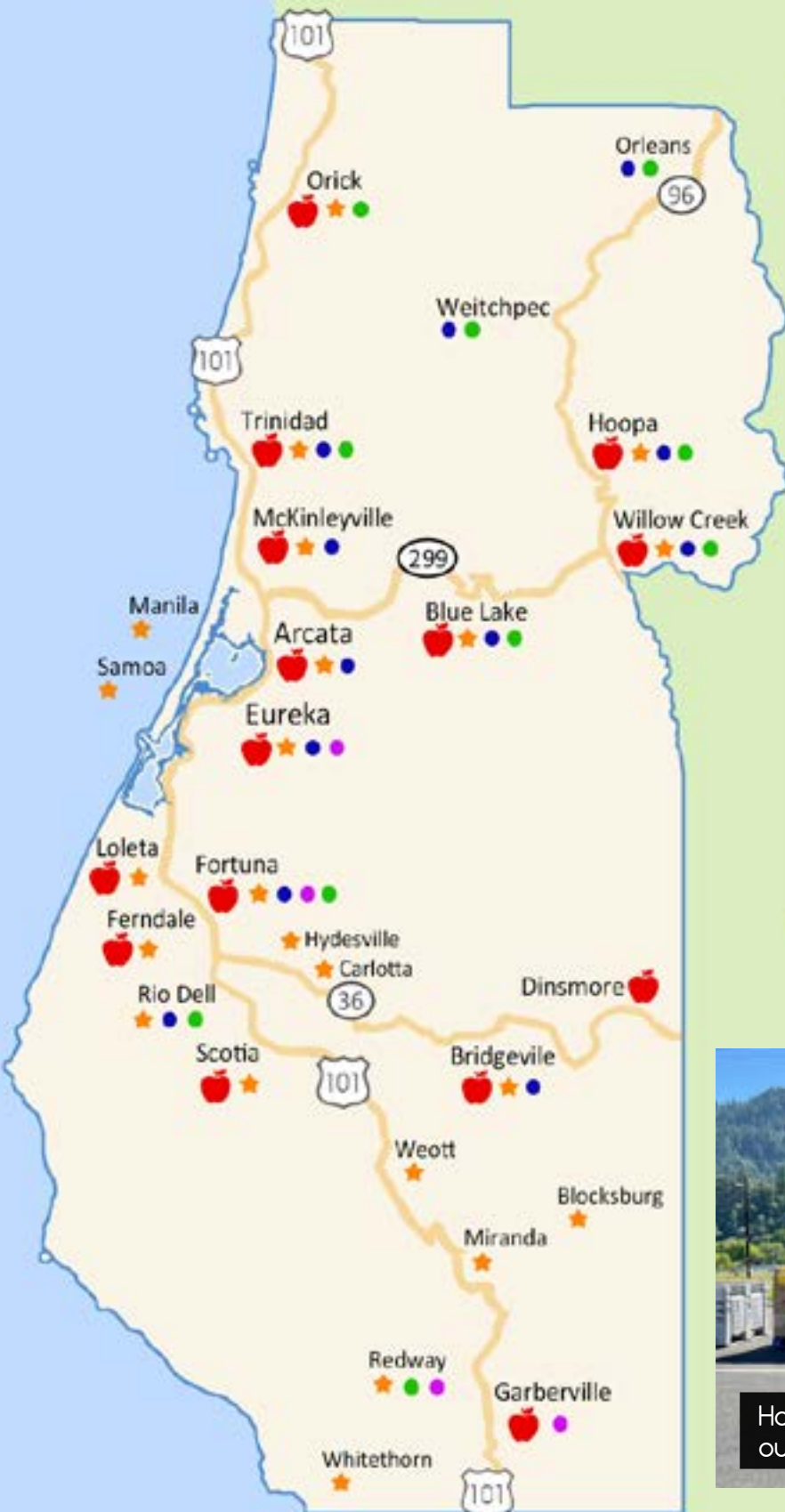
EMERGENCY FOOD RESPONSE

Emergency Food & Disaster Program - when disasters strike Humboldt County, Food for People works with its network of federal, state, and local connections to make food resources available to those experiencing hardship. Food for People is a member of our local chapter of COAD (Community Organizations Active in Disaster) and is part of the NorCal disaster planning with other food banks in the state.

In 2020-2021 Food for People's Emergency Food and Disaster Program responded to emergencies ranging from the COVID **pandemic**, to regional **wildfires** including the Knob fire, River Complex and Monument Fires. Additionally we worked to identify communities that need food access resources to develop new distribution sites, including sites at the Bear River Rancheria and with the Wiyot Tribe.



Food for People's Mobile Produce Pantry Coordinator distributes food amid smoke to the community of Weitchpec during the wildfire season of 2021.



-  **Network of Food Pantries**
-  **Sites with Child Nutrition Programs: Children's Summer Lunch - Backpacks for Kids**
-  **Sites with Senior & Homebound Programs**
-  **Sites with Free Produce Market Distributions**
-  **Sites with Mobile Produce Pantry Distributions**

www.foodforpeople.org



Hoopa is one of the largest rural locations our Mobile Produce Pantry visits monthly.

OUTREACH

Food for People operates varied outreach programs that include:

Nutrition Education efforts provide demos, taste tests, recipes, and cooking videos for children and adults to teach about cooking healthy meals on a budget.

Advocacy - Food for People works to advocate for policies and strategies that reduce poverty and hunger and support access to nutritious foods and good health.



Nutrition Education Coordinator puts together budget-friendly cooking videos showcasing foods distributed by Food for People.



Bilingual CalFresh Outreach Specialist Karina visits distributions across Humboldt County to help connect households with services that address hunger.

CalFresh Outreach efforts offer assistance, including bilingual help, for working families and seniors countywide to help enroll them in CalFresh (formerly food stamps), and connect them with other services to help address the root causes of hunger and poverty.

The **Work Readiness Program** provides training and work experience for folks facing unemployment challenges, so that everyone in our community can build a better life.

Funding Sources 2020-2021





OUR VALUES

Food for People team members distribute fresh foods at a Mobile Produce Pantry Distribution in Orleans, CA.

Integrity — We will demonstrate the highest ethical standards in all interactions.

Stewardship — We will be accountable to all through the efficient and environmentally responsible use of resources.

Teamwork — We will foster cooperation and a sense of empowerment amongst our diverse staff, volunteers, and community partners.

Respect — We will treat all of our relationships with respect.

Innovation — We will continually seek to provide excellent service through the development of new and improved methods to reduce hunger.

Empathy, Passion, Empowerment — We encourage and support the best in ourselves and those we serve and provide opportunities for everyone to participate in fulfilling our mission.

We believe hunger can be eliminated.



Food for People

The Food Bank for Humboldt County

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