

NewsFeed



“THIS DISTRIBUTION HAS HONESTLY FED US — THAT’S NOT AN UNDERSTATEMENT”

The holidays are supposed to be a time of togetherness and joy, but this year is different. Beginning in March, a health crisis became an economic crisis, an education crisis, and a food crisis. The COVID-19 pandemic has shown us how fragile the world is and exposed how vulnerable we are. Thousands of people across San Diego County have lost their jobs and are in need of food assistance. Many people like Greg have turned to Feeding San Diego for the first time.

Greg and his 8-year-old daughter have attended a number of our food distributions since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic earlier this year. “My food bill has tripled. I’m a single Dad and normally I just cook dinner and my daughter’s school takes care of breakfast and lunch. But since the pandemic, I’ve been cooking breakfast, lunch, and dinner. I can’t afford the increase in expenses, so this distribution has been invaluable for us. We’ve come to depend on it this summer. It’s honestly fed us, that’s not an understatement”, he shared. Greg is a retired military man and an ICU nurse by trade, he’s a cancer survivor and a disabled vet. Through it all, he commented with a smile, “We keep going. This program is 100% to the good. There’s no negative about this. We’re surviving off this stuff a little bit. It’s a plus-plus, win-win. Tell your people, it’s making a difference.”

2020 has been a devastating year, but it has also shown us the power of solidarity and unity. The solution to addressing the pandemic and ending hunger across San Diego County will take all of us. We need to do it together.

LETTER FROM THE CEO

Over the last four months, I had the privilege of being Feeding San Diego’s Interim CEO. During this time, I witnessed first-hand the devastating effects of hunger on people’s lives. The pandemic has exacerbated the hunger crisis. Thousands of people are living on the brink of hunger, many for the first time. With so much at stake, I must tell you how proud I have been to see our community step-up to meet the rising need for food assistance. Our staff, board of directors, partners, volunteers, and donors have risen to the occasion. We could not have achieved what we have without them — without you.



My experience with Feeding San Diego has been so inspiring it is an honor to announce that I have accepted the position of CEO — I am excited to lead this incredible organization now and into the future. I am in this for the long-term and hope you will join me as we continue to grow, build and scale our impact.

July 1 was the start of our new fiscal year. We announced that last fiscal, we provided over 31.2 million meals to the community, 92 percent of which was rescued food. By diverting more than 27 million pounds of good food from the landfill, we averted more than 24,578 metric tons of CO₂ equivalent from going into the atmosphere. When the pandemic hit in March, we launched emergency food distributions and expanded many of the hundreds of distributions we were already hosting across the county. We distributed three million more meals in April, May and June 2020, than we did in the same period in 2019. With an estimated 50 percent increase in need and uncertain market conditions, children, families, and seniors need our help, now and for the foreseeable future.

We could not do the work that we do, day in and day out, without your support. We are filled with gratitude for what you have made possible this past year. We are proud of the impact you helped us achieve in a truly unimaginable time. The road ahead is long, but we will continue to work tirelessly until we can fulfill our vision of a hunger-free and healthy San Diego. Feeding San Diego is committed to connecting every person facing hunger with nutritious food — especially in times of crisis. We believe that food is a basic human right. No one should go hungry, during a pandemic or otherwise.

With gratitude,

Dan Shea
CEO, Feeding San Diego



GIVE HOPE
SHARE JOY

GIVE TODAY

Children, families, and seniors across San Diego County need your help, now more than ever. This holiday season, give the gift of full plates and fuller hearts.

feedingsandiego.org | 858.452.3663

THANK YOU TO
OUR SPONSORS:



WAYS YOU CAN GET INVOLVED THIS HOLIDAY SEASON



Month of a Million Meals | November 23 to December 31, 2020

Hosted by ABC10 News, the 8th annual Month of a Million Meals campaign includes two virtual days of giving: Monday, November 23, and Tuesday, December 1 (GivingTuesday). Tune in to ABC10 to hear stories of the people we serve and interviews with local celebrities, Feeding San Diego staff and supporters. Visit 10news.com/mmm to learn more.



Barons Market | December 1 to 31, 2020

All Barons Market locations in San Diego County will be rounding up and collecting donations at the register in support of Feeding San Diego.



Crate & Barrel | Through December 31, 2020

All funds raised at the register will support Feeding San Diego.



Target Circle | Through December 31, 2020

Vote for Feeding San Diego after each purchase and help direct Target's giving to benefit Feeding San Diego. For full program details and restrictions, visit target.com/circle.



CVS Pharmacy | November 22 to December 31, 2020

All CVS stores in San Diego County will be rounding up at the register in support of Feeding San Diego.



Ralphs & Food 4 Less | November 23 to December 24, 2020

Ralphs and Food 4 Less will be rounding up and taking donations at the register to help provide nutritious meals for families this holiday season.



GoMacro | All year round

GoMacro donates 0.5% of net proceeds from their Everlasting Joy MacroBar sales to Feeding San Diego.



Amazon Smile | All year round

Shop at bit.ly/FSDAmazonSmile and Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of eligible AmazonSmile purchases to Feeding San Diego.

PARTNER SPOTLIGHT

BARONS MARKET PARTNERS WITH FEEDING SAN DIEGO

"We're proud to partner with Feeding San Diego. Participating in *Give Hope, Share Joy* is a great way to make a difference. Feeding San Diego's mission to fight food insecurity is essential to our community and we are so grateful for everything they do," shared Rachel Shemirani, Senior Vice President at Barons Market. In addition to being a sponsor, Barons Market will be raising awareness on the issue of hunger in San Diego County by hosting their 3rd annual register round-up and donation drive. Stop by any Barons Market in San Diego County to make a gift. Give hope and share joy with a family facing hunger this holiday season.





GIVING TUESDAY

**Double your impact on Tuesday,
December 1, 2020!**

Thanks to a generous challenge match from The David C. Copley Foundation, your gift to Feeding San Diego will be matched dollar-for-dollar on Tuesday, December 1, 2020, up to \$50,000.

Visit [feedingsandiego.org](https://www.feedingsandiego.org) to make your contribution and help us end hunger across San Diego County.



CLIENT SPOTLIGHT

MEET YASUYO - MILITARY HERO



Yasuyo has been in the Navy since 2006. She recently returned from deployment and has been spending this precious time with her 11-year-old daughter.

“My daughter has been very emotional the past few months because she hasn’t been able to hang out with her friends. This distribution helps keep her well-fed and healthy. She would usually eat at school, but now that kids are at home, I need to make sure she’s eating nutritious food. It’s great that Feeding San Diego is helping the Armed Services. Thank you so much for supporting us during this difficult time.”

MEET FLOR - MOTHER OF TWO



Flor and her two kids, Ruby (6) and Nathan (2), recently started attending Feeding San Diego’s food distribution at Porter North Elementary. As a single-income household, Flor and her husband have struggled to put food on the table, especially amidst the current pandemic.

“Sometimes when we don’t have enough food at home, this distribution feeds us,” shared Flor. “My husband and I have been extra careful in the past few months to make sure our kids are safe during this pandemic. I live two blocks away so I just walk to this distribution. The food is really good here. Ruby loves the juices, yogurt, and snacks. She used to get the same juice in school and I think she misses it. I come every day because my kids love everything we get here, they could eat everything in a single day! I don’t know what we would do without this distribution. Thank you for your help.”

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

“I GIVE BECAUSE PEOPLE ARE HUNGRY ALL THE TIME...”

Carmelle Remillard has been a volunteer at Feeding San Diego for 13 years, investing an incredible 630 hours of her time since 2012. When the COVID-19 pandemic struck, she began to volunteer an average of three days a week. “When I learned that 1 out of 8 people in San Diego County face hunger, I was a little bit surprised,” Carmelle says. “It’s a hidden fact, you don’t realize it, but there are a lot of kids who go hungry without eating breakfast and depend on their schools for lunch. There are a lot of people who need an extra hand. I think this pandemic has opened the eyes of a lot of people that resources like Feeding San Diego exist and that they are available no matter what neighborhood you live in.”

Despite working on the front lines of COVID-19, as a medical writer for a biotech company, Carmelle has not stopped fighting for those who face food insecurity. “The biggest message I would like to share with the San Diego community is that people are hungry all the time,” Carmelle says. “I have noticed in the past years that there are



“It’s a hidden fact, you don’t realize it, but there are a lot of kids who go hungry without eating breakfast and depend on their schools for lunch.”

a lot of donations that happen around the holidays. But when the pandemic hit, I think it really highlighted that these people need the assistance not just during the major holidays—they are always in need.”

It is thanks to the amazing network of donors, community partners, food donors, and volunteers like Carmelle that we are able to fulfill our mission and support those in need through such unprecedented times.

AMBASSADOR SPOTLIGHT

LOCAL CHEF ANGELO SOSA CHOOSES FEEDING SAN DIEGO AS FEATURED CHARITY ON SELENA + CHEF EPISODE

Feeding San Diego is proud to be a highlighted charity on the new HBO Max show Selena + Chef, which stars Selena Gomez in conversation with master chefs. Longtime Feeding San Diego supporter Angelo Sosa, who was runner-up on season seven of the Bravo reality television show Top Chef and recently appeared on the Top Chef All Stars spinoff series, selected Feeding San Diego as the food-related charity for his episode. During the show, the charismatic chef whips up a dish with actress and award-winning recording artist, culminating in the announcement of a \$10,000 donation to Feeding San Diego.

“Since I moved to San Diego, it has been a priority for me to integrate myself within the community. My job is to care for people, to feed and nourish them. I consider fighting hunger part of my job now,” said Chef Angelo Sosa. “It’s an incredible opportunity for me to bring new awareness to Feeding San Diego’s extremely worthwhile mission to end hunger.”

The show is billed as an “unapologetically authentic cookalong” and features Selena Gomez being joined remotely by a different



master chef in each episode. Together, they tackle cuisines of every variety, share invaluable tips and tricks, and deal with everything from smoking ovens to missing ingredients.

“Chef Sosa is an incredible supporter of Feeding San Diego, both with his time and funds. We are grateful for his dedication to our mission during a time when hunger is at an all-time high due to the pandemic,” said Gavon Morris, Feeding San Diego Chief Philanthropy Officer.

All episodes of Selena + Chef can be downloaded now on HBO Max.

HOLIDAY SPOTLIGHT

CRITTER DRIVE-IN WITH HELEN WOODWARD ANIMAL CENTER

This holiday season, in partnership with Feeding San Diego, Helen Woodward Animal Center is hosting a Critter Drive-in. On December 23, from 10 AM to 1 PM, clients will pull into a parking lot at the Center and will be greeted by alpacas, horses, goats, dogs, and other dressed up little critters. In addition to receiving pet food and a holiday food basket, Helen Woodward will distribute toys for pets and small gifts to children.

Helen Woodward, established in 1972, is an organization where “people help animals and animals help people.” This unique nonprofit organization benefits the community by providing educational and therapeutic programs for people, as well as humane care and adoption for homeless animals. At the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, Helen Woodward expanded their AniMeals program, delivering pet food to not only homebound and low-income seniors, but to anyone who was struggling to purchase food for their pets as unemployment surged. The response was enormous. Shortly thereafter, a partnership with Feeding San Diego was born. Through this partnership, Helen Woodward began providing homes with both pet and human food. “A few months ago, we had a woman who was a substitute school teacher and she was just absolutely blown away. She was so grateful and so emotional about



receiving not only the pet food but human food as well, that she just burst into tears. She was just so amazed by what was happening. So, I think for her, for the people that are coming, they feel grateful for the pet food. And then when they find out, oh, my gosh, I’m going to get the human food too, they’re just really, really grateful,” shared Renee Resko, Vice President of Development at Helen Woodward.

Renee noted, “This partnership is a real win-win situation for sure. Right now, we’re seeing about 200 people coming here every week. The Center is just so grateful for this partnership and this opportunity to not only help people who are struggling right now, but also to ensure that they are able to keep their best friends when they need them the most.”

A MESSAGE FROM WHEELZ & THE NUCREW

Congratulations to the winners of the Hunger Action Month Art Challenge in partnership with the Pop Culture Hero Coalition! Thank you for sharing your vision of a hunger-free and healthy San Diego!



From left to right:
Natalia, age 10, Village Elementary, Coronado
Calpurnia, age 10, St. Francis of Assisi, Oceanside
Ada, age 8, La Jolla Elementary School



Wheelz & the NUcrew



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Feeding San Diego extends our thanks to generous supporters who made gifts of \$2,500 or more, from July 1 through September 30, 2020

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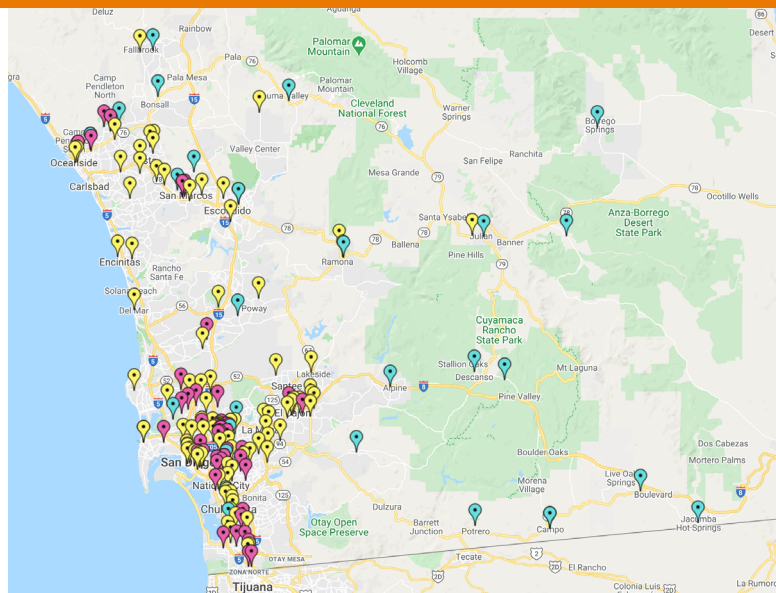


FIND FOOD MAP

Thousands of people across San Diego County are facing hunger, many for the first time. If you or someone you know needs food assistance, visit our Find Food map at feedingsandiego.org/get-help.

Feeding San Diego hosts hundreds of food distributions across San Diego County. Thank you for your continued support.

-  Call first (possible eligibility requirements)
-  No need to call (no eligibility requirements)
-  Youth meals (eligibility requirements)



Stay connected @FeedingSanDiego

