

2020

ANNUAL REPORT





ABOUT FIND FOOD BANK

Founded in 1983, FIND Food Bank is The Desert's Regional Food Bank serving a 5,000-square-mile area that spans eastern Riverside County and southern San Bernardino County – from the high desert and Morongo Basin, across the Coachella Valley, to the Salton Sea, up to Anza, and on to Blythe at the California/Arizona border. FIND Food Bank is the desert's Feeding America Food Bank, holds the region's USDA TEFAP contract, and is a member of the California Association of Food Banks.

FIND Food Bank's mission is to relieve hunger, the causes of hunger, and the problems associated with hunger through awareness, education, and mobilization of resources and community involvement. FIND Food Bank feeds people of all ages, all ethnicities, all races, all religions, all orientations, abled and disabled...anyone who is hungry...39% of whom are children.

In addition to alleviating hunger today, tomorrow, and into the future, FIND's initiatives also include targeted programs to reach at-risk populations such as FIND's Mobile Markets, Children's Nutrition Programming, and Senior Farmers Markets.

In FY 2019/20, FIND distributed more than 19 million pounds of food annually (nearly 50% in fresh fruits and vegetables) through 150+ distribution sites, which currently include 43 FIND Mobile Markets and FIND's network of 88 agencies. Together, we feed an average of 190,000 people every month across FIND's vast service area. Of these 190,000 people, 39% or 74,100 are children, 17% or 32,300 are seniors, and 44% or 83,600, are adults. Overall, 1% or 1,900 are homebound, and 2% or 3,800 are homeless.

THE COVID-19 CRISIS

On March 1, 2020, the President of the United States declared that the COVID-19 outbreak in the United States constituted a national emergency. Deemed an “Essential Need” by the state of California, FIND Food Bank immediately responded to this emergency across 3 counties: Riverside, San Bernardino and Imperial.

The COVID-19 crisis marked a precipitous and intense upsurge in the need for food. In our service area, unemployment spiked at a startling 32%, schools closed, businesses were shuttered...many permanently, and unprecedented need engulfed our community.

The COVID pandemic affected not only those who had already been receiving food assistance from FIND, but also a massive new group of individuals who were suddenly facing food insecurity – including homebound and isolated seniors, adults who had lost stable jobs, and more than 55,000 local children who lost access to the federal Free and Reduced-Price Meals due to school closures.

THE NUMBERS

Prior to the advent of COVID-19, FIND Food Bank had been serving 90,000 people monthly. Since COVID-19, FIND now provides free food to 190,000 people monthly – a 110% increase.

In 2019, FIND Food Bank distributed 14,208,754 pounds of food. In 2020, from January through December, FIND distributed 24,764,021 pounds of food – representing an astounding 74% increase over last year. Always committed to healthy food banking, nearly 40% of the food distributed is in the form of fresh fruits and vegetables.

Since the COVID-19 pandemic, FIND Food Bank’s food donations are now significantly less than the food that is needed by our community. For the first time, FIND Food Bank is purchasing large amounts of shelf stable foods for the people in need. Since COVID-19, FIND Food Bank has purchased more than \$2.5 million of food for distribution to our community. This extraordinary expense represents an increase of more than 600% over prior years.

MORE MOBILE MARKETS



In response to this emergency, FIND immediately launched 22 additional Mobile Markets augmenting the existing 21 Mobile Markets. FIND's Mobile Markets can quickly bring food assistance to remote areas and reach the desert's most isolated and needy communities. FIND's free Mobile Markets are specialized, refrigerated trucks filled with up to 10,000 pounds of fresh produce, frozen meat, refrigerated products, dairy, bakery, and shelf stable goods destined for distribution.

FIND has also tailored the Mobile Market distributions to observe the COVID-19 social distancing mandates. For example, FIND utilizes open air parking lots where FIND can monitor the number of people in the distribution line and where people may remain in their cars until they are called in small groups to receive food. FIND also has piloted "drive through" food distributions where lines of cars wait and food is distributed "contact free" by FIND staff and volunteers.

The lines of people waiting for food at FIND Food Bank distributions have required the support of the National Guard, the California Conservation Corps, the Civil Air Patrol and local law enforcement. FIND Food Bank staff and volunteers now don masks, gloves, and vests, and deploy COVID distribution signage, traffic cones, pop-up tents, tables, etc., to preserve the safety of our clients, to meet the requirements for social distancing, and to help manage the ever-increasing lines of people in need.

NEW SUPERSITES

To further serve the unprecedented increase in clients, FIND also designed new “Supersites” that can accommodate more than 1,000 households at each food distribution. FIND’s largest Supersite to date is the Palm Springs Convention Center site, currently distributing to well over 1,000 households every other week. Currently, FIND manages 3 Supersites: Our Lady of Guadalupe Church, in Mecca; Mathis Brothers Furniture, in Indio; and, the Palm Springs Convention Center, in Palm Springs.

NEW HOMEBOUND DELIVERY

In 2020, FIND also piloted a new home delivery program in response to countless phone calls from seniors, the disabled, and homebound individuals in need of food as a result of COVID-19. Partnering with a local third party company, Cardiff Limousine and Transportation, FIND pre-screened seniors ensuring that they were homebound, provided a list to Cardiff, and within a week, launched a new homebound delivery service for seniors in need. The new Homebound Delivery Program was the first of 9 new Homebound Delivery programs and includes diverse distributions with Desert Oasis Healthcare, Alianza Coachella Valley, the City of La Quinta, and other agencies. Currently, more than 120 low-income, immuno-compromised individuals, seniors, disabled or homebound individuals in need receive food deliveries to their homes, twice per month, from FIND Food Bank.



THE HOLIDAYS

Every year, FIND Food Bank experiences an increase of clients and families during the holiday months of November and December. Correspondingly, FIND always increases food supplies to FIND's distribution sites during those months by approximately 10%; however, the COVID-19 pandemic has more than doubled FIND's food distribution lines and FIND Food Bank has been increasing food distributions accordingly.

This year, FIND provided holiday meals foods that included turkeys, stuffing, hams, whole chickens, mashed potatoes, mixed vegetables, and abundant fresh produce.

In addition, FIND utilized CARES (The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security) Act funding to provide food gift cards for people in need. More than 9,000 gift cards, each valued at \$50, totaling more than \$450,000 were given to food insecure households in November and December.

FIND OUTREACH ASSISTANCE

FIND provides additional Outreach Assistance to individuals experiencing food insecurity. Many people who are food insecure also face multiple financial, health and living challenges including poverty, medical/health concerns, unemployment, legal issues, housing/shelter, etc. Since COVID-19, the most prevalent Outreach Assistance provided, not surprisingly, has been in the area of Economic Stability, with unemployment assistance representing the greatest need. The request for assistance with unemployment increased an astounding 1,100% since the COVID-19 crisis. The second most needed assistance the FIND Outreach Team provided was in the area of Healthcare.



FINANCIALS

FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2020

2020 TOTAL REVENUE

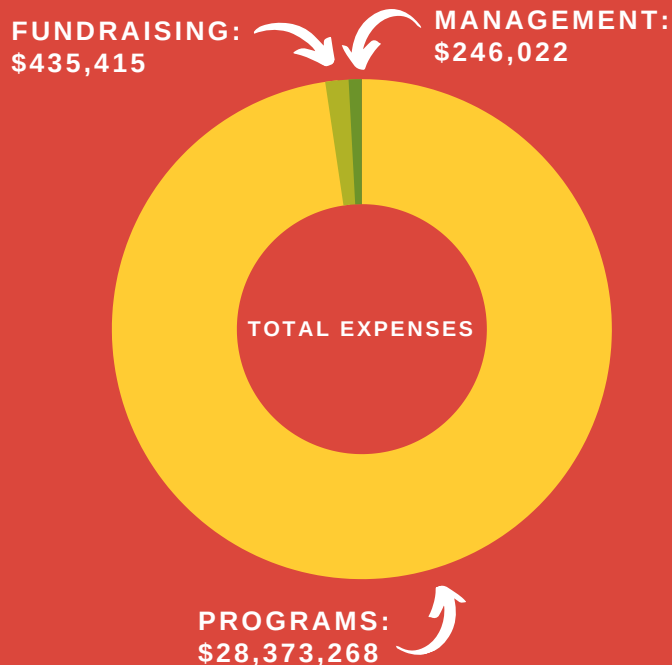
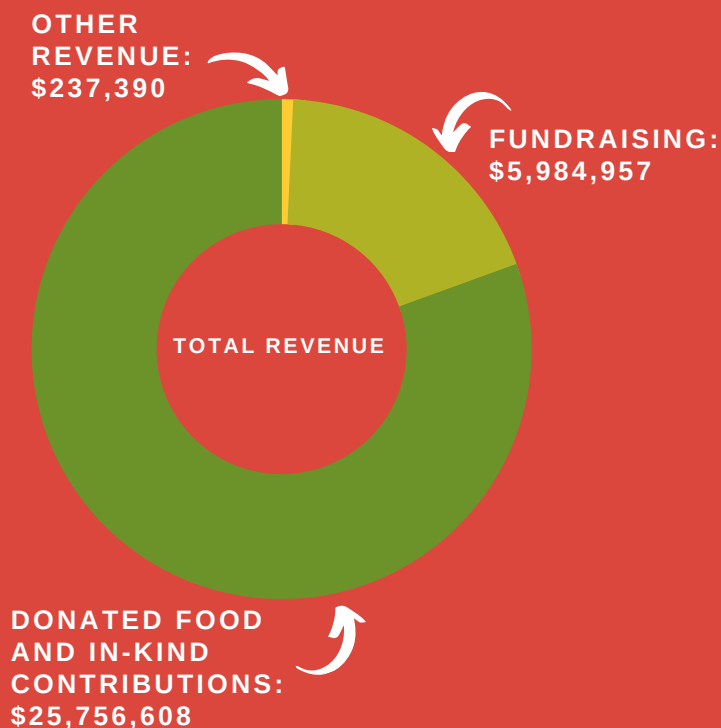
\$31,978,955

2020 TOTAL EXPENSES

\$29,054,705

ENDING NET ASSETS

\$11,255,912



LEADERSHIP

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