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## COVID-19 Update – March 25, 2020

United Food Bank's primary focus has been to feed people in Arizona. Although it's challenging for our staff and volunteers to be on the front lines of this pandemic, we continue to operate by mitigating the risks of exposure by following CDC guidelines. Thank you to all the volunteers that have helped us deliver more food than ever before.

We have never seen so much food go out of our warehouse to our agencies or served at our recent Help Yourself Distributions.

### Updates:

- To date, we have delivered 1.5 million pounds of food for March. Typically, we average 1.6 million pounds of food per month. We believe we will hit approximately 2.2 million pounds at the end of this month and next—a more than 25% increase in just a month.
- At our Help Yourself food distribution on March 20, a record number of nearly 1,200 households and more than 5,400 individuals were served in five hours.

### What We Need:

- 95% of our corporate volunteer groups for March and April have canceled volunteering with us until conditions regarding the virus improve. We need healthy volunteers to help us pack Emergency Food Bags and food boxes.
- We have USDA food, but we had planned nearly 30 food drives this month. All of them have canceled except for a handful. We will lose approximately 20,000 pounds of food without food drives.
- The shelves at grocery stores are being emptied, drastically reducing donations to our Grocery Rescue Program. January and February 2020 average pounds donated was 547,758 pounds of food. For March we've only received 333,000 pounds of food, a nearly 40% reduction.

### How You Can Help Us Respond to COVID-19

#### GIVE

You can make a difference in the fight against hunger by donating at [WeFeedAZ.org](https://www.wefeedaz.org). For every \$25 you donate today can help United Food Bank provide enough food to feed three people for two weeks. Your gift helps provide urgently needed meals during this crisis.

#### SHARE

More people in Arizona are going hungry, especially seniors. Make sure your neighbors know they're not alone. For help finding food assistance, visit [AZFoodBanks.org](https://www.azfoodbanks.org).

#### VOLUNTEER

To sign up for volunteer shifts at United Food Bank, visit [unitedfoodbank.org/volunteer](https://www.unitedfoodbank.org/volunteer).