We Are Responding to this Crisis—Thanks to You

The Food Bank provides an essential human service, and, as a result, we are exempt from the Governor’s stay-at-home order. At the same time, the well-being of our staff, volunteers, partners and clients is vitally important to us and we are taking precautions to keep our people safe.

We remain passionate about our mission and assure you that your trust and investment in us is well placed. We value your commitment to the welfare of your neighbors and promise we will continue to serve those in need throughout these challenging times.

To read our response to the COVID-19 crisis, visit our website at www.brafb.org/covid-19/

Join CEO Michael McKee in a live, online update, April 28. Details at www.brafb.org/CEOtalking
Achievements and Updates as of April 10:

- Thanks to volunteers, 14,000 boxes of food and countless bags of produce have been pre-packed in Food Bank warehouses to support low-touch and no-touch distributions. Almost 500 new volunteers have signed-up to lend a hand where needed.
- All 9 Mobile Food Pantry sites (10 distributions each month) remain operational to meet the need in rural communities.
- Thanks to donor support, so far we’ve purchased almost $600,000 worth of food since mid-March.
- We’ve already seen evidence of growing demand:
  - Pantry visits have increased by 33%-50% in many locations.
  - We distributed 400,000 more pounds of food in March 2020 than March 2019.
  - Usage of the Pantry Locator tool (brafb.org/find-help) has grown by 280% in one month.

We are focused on these priorities:
1. providing food to our network of 205 food pantries, soup kitchens, and shelters and established program partners;
2. emphasizing outreach to seniors who may become more isolated during the outbreak;
3. responding as we can to requests from new partners to help feed seniors and children.

Thank you, Food Pantry and Program Partners
The vast majority remain open and are serving their neighbors in need, even though adaptations are required.

“We don’t have the strength or the financial capacity to hoard. We only have money for groceries for the next two days. When someone asked me to open my trunk and you start filling it up with groceries, I started to cry. Thank you for helping us even though you don’t know us.”

Most updates like this are sent via email. If you want to stay current about the work and needs of the Food Bank, please subscribe to “Come to the Table” on our website at www.brafb.org/newslettersignup.