



Blue Ridge Area  
**FOOD BANK**  
Everyone should have enough to eat.

PARTNER  
FOOD BANK OF  
**FEEDING  
AMERICA**



# Join Us: Let's Nourish Our Communities, Together

Imagine a future where no one goes hungry. It's a future where access to nutritious food is readily available for all, and where financial stability for households is achievable. It's a future where every one of our neighbors has enough to eat.

Just imagine.

We can do it. With 200+ partner food pantries, the Blue Ridge Area Food Bank's charitable food network already forms a mighty force, with a collective impact that nourishes more

than just bodies. We strengthen the safety net, nourish the body and spirit, and weave together the very fabric of our communities.

**Join us in this mission by applying to become a partner food pantry.** See for yourself that through strong collaboration, coordination, and support, we can transform lives. To learn more, reach out to us at [partner@brafb.org](mailto:partner@brafb.org).

Our vision is nourishing food and good health—for everyone, every day.



**Would you  
like to  
learn more?**

[brafb.org/get-involved/partner](https://brafb.org/get-involved/partner)

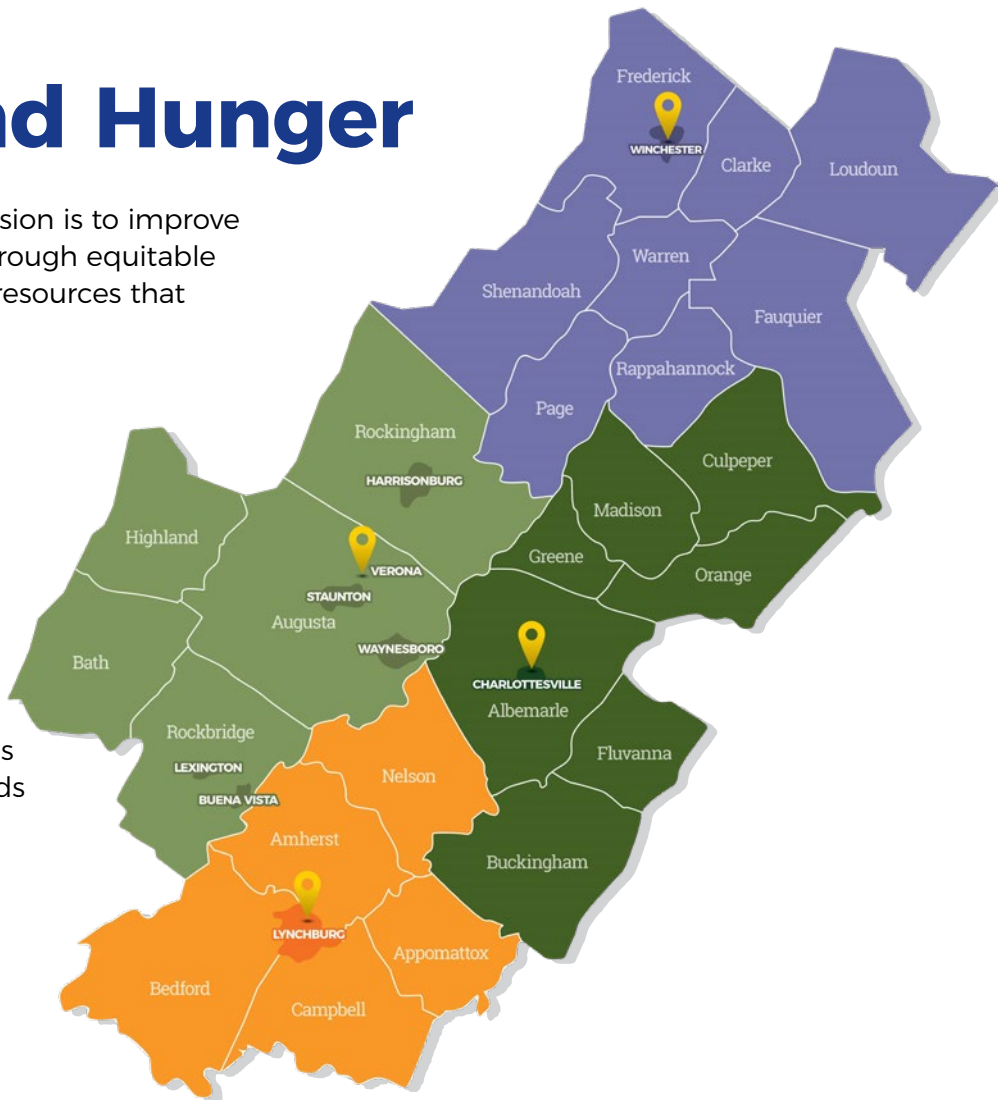
# Together, We Can End Hunger

Alongside many partners, our mission is to improve food security for our neighbors through equitable access to good nutrition and the resources that support health and well-being.

## Why do we do it?

Food insecurity affects neighbors living in every zip code within the Blue Ridge Area Food Bank's 25-county service area. In recent years, the Food Bank and our partners have responded to unprecedented demand for charitable food assistance, and it is difficult to know when those trends will improve.

**Working *together* to solve hunger—every day—has never been more important.**



## How do we do it?



Secure  
donations



Move food



Prep and  
store food



Distribute food through local  
pantry and program partners



Nourishing food  
for everyone

## Our Collective Impact

With the help of pantry and program partners, we provide food and hope to hundreds of thousands of people.

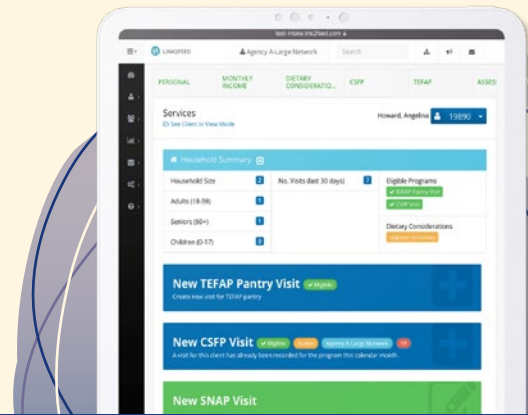
If you decide the time is right to apply for a partnership with us, know that your support comes at a critical time.



*"I felt accepted. The people are so friendly and understanding. I was able to get enough food to feed my kids. A lot has happened in my life recently, and this was the first thing in a while that was good. It made me feel good, and it made me realize this: I am not alone."* —Paulette

# Our Commitment to the Highest Standards

At the Blue Ridge Area Food Bank, we are committed to ensuring the highest standards in the quality and safety of the food sourced and distributed.



## Benefits of partnership

- **Access to free, diverse food resources**—available through the Food Bank, USDA, and local grocery stores
- **25% discount on the cost of purchased food** that the Food Bank buys at lower costs, leveraging economies of scale
- **Capacity support through our Partner Impact & Innovation Grants.** We fund things like cold storage, equipment, language tools, vehicles, community gardens, and making spaces welcoming for guests
- **Opportunity to join the Healthy Pantry Initiative**, which promotes 20 healthy pantry practices to best serve the unique needs of guests
- **Monthly Partner Town Halls** to build connections, share best practices, troubleshoot challenges, and learn from pantry peers
- **Other training and support** to enhance partner capability to best serve their community

## Partner responsibilities

- **Partners must be exempt from taxation under Section 501(c)(3)** of the Internal Revenue Code and demonstrate they serve guests in need who currently are, or are at risk of becoming, food insecure.
- **Pantry leaders receive training to ensure proper food safety.** The health of guests could be compromised if volunteers don't follow the guidelines of safe handling, storage, and distribution of food.
- **Pantry teams use Link2Feed software** to maintain records of guest insights and service distribution.
- **The Food Bank staff visits** partners at least once per year to review food safety/handling, guest eligibility, and how the Food Bank can best support them.
- **Partners agree to attend all mandatory trainings and meetings** presented by the Food Bank, which typically occur once or twice a year.



# Partner Voices

*"Collaboration is essential to addressing hunger in our communities. After all, hunger impacts an entire community, and it takes all of us working together to address it."*

—Michael McKee, Food Bank CEO



Would you like to learn more?

[brafb.org/get-involved/partner](https://brafb.org/get-involved/partner)

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*"The Food Bank gives us extra support so we can focus on serving our community. Everyone on their team is always friendly and helpful, and our area Partner Engagement Manager goes above and beyond in her work. Whether through food distribution, trainings, coalition building, or generous grants, The Food Bank's partnership has been invaluable!"*

**Lindsey Pérez, Executive Director, Rockbridge Area Relief Association, Lexington**



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*"The Blue Ridge Area Food Bank has been a vital partner to the LIFEworks Project as we expanded our mobile food delivery to include a client-choice location in a local food desert. Their quality resources, leadership, funding, and mentorship have enabled us to make a real difference in the fight against food insecurity and food waste. Their collaboration has empowered us to keep families fed and ensure that everyone in our community has access to nutritious food."*

**Adrienne Young, Executive Director, LIFEworks Project/ River City Bread Basket, Waynesboro**



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*"Our partnership with the Blue Ridge Area Food Bank has been phenomenal and vital for the support we provide for our community. Without that support from the Food Bank, it would be impossible to serve and feed the members of our community who need that help. We are forever grateful for the Food Bank's hard work, their endless support, and their encouragement as we continue to help feed our community."*

**Valencia Bailey, Program Director, Good Samaritan Food Pantry and Clothing Closet, Orange**



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*"For over a decade, The Lighthouse has proudly partnered with BRAFB, leveraging their Stop Light Nutrition platform, educational resources, and grants to advance our mission of promoting healthy eating."*

**Martha Brown, Co-founder, The Lighthouse, Lynchburg**



## OUR LOCATIONS

We serve our community through one of four distribution centers:

**Western Region Distribution Center & Headquarters**  
P.O. Box 937  
96 Laurel Hill Road  
Verona, VA 24482-0937  
P: 540.248.3663

**Eastern Region Distribution Center**  
1207 Harris Street  
Charlottesville, VA 22903-5319  
P: 434.296.3663

**Southern Region Distribution Center**  
501 12th Street, Suite B  
Lynchburg, VA 24504-2527  
P: 434.845.4099

**Northern Region Distribution Center**  
1802 Roberts Street  
Winchester, VA 22601-6312  
P: 540.665.0770



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