



## 2023 ANNUAL REPORT

# YOUR IMPACT

## Reflecting on Our Journey & Embracing Opportunities Ahead



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## BOARD

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*Chief Financial Officer*

It is both an honor and a humbling experience to introduce myself as the new CEO of Food Bank of Alaska. Born and raised in Alaska and having been a part of this remarkable organization for 11 years, I approach this new chapter with a deep commitment to our crucial work in addressing food insecurity. I am eager to build upon the strong foundation laid by my predecessors and, together with our dedicated team, chart a course towards even greater impact.

The past year was a challenging one for Food Bank of Alaska, our partner agencies, and our neighbors in need. It was marked by high inflation, decreased donations, declining federal commodities, and a significant backlog of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) cases. The demand for food assistance soared, with many of our partners statewide seeing record numbers of people coming through their doors. The dual challenges of high demand and escalating costs strained our resources, pushing us to navigate uncharted territories with resilience and determination.

Your generosity, whether in the form of financial contributions, volunteer hours, or collaborative efforts, has been the cornerstone of our ability to provide nourishment and hope to those in need.

Looking ahead, we recognize that challenges persist, but within challenges lie opportunities. And we have many exciting projects in the works.

One exciting opportunity we are leaning into is our work to expand and transform our warehouse space. Thanks to generous support from the State of Alaska, we have procured an adjacent piece of our main facility. This additional space will allow us to pursue creative and sustainable solutions to help meet our mission. One feature we are committed to is the establishment of an on-site "food pantry of the gaps," which seeks to complement the services our Anchorage partner agencies are already doing.

Additionally, Food Bank of Alaska, in partnership with the Knik Tribal Council, opened our Wasilla Branch warehouse to better serve our 18 Mat-Su Valley agency partners by providing the region with local, dedicated access to Food Bank of Alaska's resources, bolstering local food systems, and encouraging growth in local donations.

Advocacy continues to be a powerful force in propelling our mission forward. Last year the legislature provided \$1.68 million to Alaska's food bank network for food purchase, which was critical assistance in helping to fill what was becoming an increasingly large gap in food assistance. We are thrilled to see Governor Dunleavy put forward a \$4.5 million request for food purchase again this year, which would provide a transformational infusion of resources into the anti-hunger network.

We have been deeply involved in efforts to streamline and improve the SNAP program, which is a critical resource for low-income Alaskans. As a member of the Food Strategy Task Force, we have dove into addressing issues important to statewide food security, such as infrastructure and transportation challenges. And we are partnering with the State of Alaska Department of Education and Early Development to pilot a new child nutrition program called Meals To You (M2Y), which will ship summer meals directly to eligible children. This program has the potential to greatly expand summer meal service, which is a critical step in closing the summer hunger gap for Alaskan children.

As we reflect on this exciting work ahead, I want to express my deepest gratitude to our volunteers, advocates, donors, and partner agencies. Your unwavering support has been the backbone of Food Bank of Alaska's success, enabling us to make a real difference in the lives of individuals and families facing food insecurity. Thank you for continuing to support us in this work, whether by giving your time, your voice, food or funds. I look forward to collaborating with each of you and witnessing the positive impact we can achieve together.

With Gratitude,

  
**Cara Durr**  
 Chief Executive Officer

# FEEDING OUR NEIGHBORS

## Our Mission

Food Bank of Alaska is dedicated to eliminating hunger in Alaska by obtaining and providing food to partner agencies feeding hungry people and through anti-hunger leadership. We believe that no one deserves to be hungry.

## Sources of Food



**Over 5 Million Meals**  
Served to Our Neighbors in Need

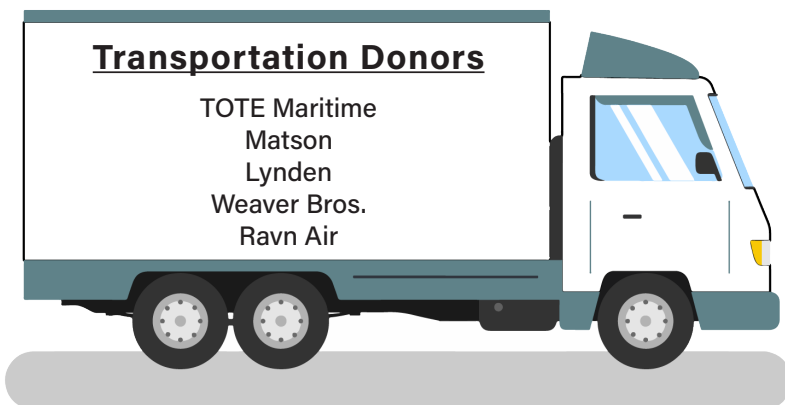
**154 Partner Agencies**  
Across Alaska

**1,064 Volunteers**  
Helped Fight Hunger

**50,119 Children's Meals**  
Helped Nourish Futures

**9,997 Families**  
Provided a Holiday Meal at Thanksgiving Blessing

**22,998 Senior Food Boxes**  
Delivered Statewide



### Top 5 Food Drives

- ConocoPhillips Alaska
- CANstruction
- Bear Valley Elementary
- North Star Gas
- Midas Alaska

### Top 5 Food Donors

- Carrs-Safeway
- Walmart
- Costco
- Target
- Charlie's Produce



The POWIFB shipping container is relocated to its new site.

# A Beacon Of *Hope*

Prince of Wales Island Food Bank

In the remote landscape of Alaska's Prince of Wales Island, a beacon of hope and community service emerged with the inception of the Prince of Wales Island Food Bank (POWIFB). Founded by Debbie Fehr and fueled by a heartfelt mission, this non-profit organization has not only bridged the gap of hunger but has also become a testament to resilience, community support, and the transformative power of giving.

The roots of POWIFB trace back to a family's love for Alaska. Debbie Fehr's sons, captivated by the allure of the state, made it their home. Tragedy struck when her younger son, Thomas, fell ill and shortly after passed away. The Fehr family found solace and purpose in creating a food bank to honor his memory. What began as a personal journey of healing, transformed into a community-driven initiative.



The food bank started small with only 30 clients in Naukati Bay. However, by collaborating with local entities such as fire departments, churches, and stores, the organization was able to quickly expand their reach to

500 families within the first 8 months. With pass-through grant funds facilitated by Food Bank of Alaska, it became a significant distribution center in the southeast region, servicing nearly 700 families in winter and 900 in summer across seven island communities.

Navigating the challenges of shipping logistics, especially during harsh weather conditions, POWIFB still manages to distribute food efficiently. In the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, they played a crucial role in disbursing additional food for those caught in Alaska's SNAP backlog.

Looking ahead, POWIFB continues to grow, partnering with more communities like Kasaan and enhancing its services. The organization aims to involve more churches and expand its distribution network while maintaining a commitment to serving the community on a personal level.

POWIFB not only provides vital support to their partners, but also offers an opportunity for neighbors to engage in community service. The organization's training programs empower partners to efficiently manage food distribution, ensuring that those in need receive timely assistance.

Debbie emphasizes the non-monetary value of their partnerships, highlighting the importance of community involvement. The food bank acts as a lifeline for remote islanders, addressing various challenges, from providing emergency food to facilitating first-aid assistance.

The POW Island Food Bank stands as a beacon of compassion and resilience, turning grief into a force for good. Debbie's journey, fueled by a commitment to community service and honoring her son's memory, showcases the transformative power of individuals coming together to make a positive impact on the lives of others.





## A Flight Attendant's Experience with Food Insecurity

Growing up in rural Alaska, Thesia had a passion for travel and aspired to become a flight attendant. After years of hard work and dedication, she joined a major airline as a cabin crew member.

However, she faced financial difficulties due to low entry wages and the high cost of living in Alaska. Food insecurity slowly crept into her life, forcing her to rely on food pantries and SNAP (food stamps). Thesia recognized that there was no shame in seeking help and that food insecurity was a reality that could affect anyone.

Motivated by her own hardships and seeing many of her colleagues face similar challenges, Thesia decided to act. She often shares her food and buys colleagues food. She also organizes groups of flight attendants to volunteer at Food Bank of Alaska and local soup kitchens.

Thesia's journey through food insecurity has served as a valuable life lesson, making her more resilient, empathetic, and determined to make a difference in the lives of others. She advocates for more support and awareness within her industry through the Association of Flight Attendants-CWA, addressing the low wages, financial challenges, and food insecurity many flight attendants face.

## Many Faces of Food Insecurity

Kristen found herself dealing with a problem that has become all too common in many Alaskan households: food insecurity. She puts it this way: "It's like not knowing from day to day where food is going to come from and also not having reliable sources of healthy foods."

Kristen's experience with food insecurity began after she lost her SNAP benefits. Many Alaskans, including Kristen, rely on these benefits to provide a majority of their food budget. The consequences of even temporarily losing her benefits were far-reaching, extending beyond the kitchen.

"The cost of suddenly buying food out of pocket put me behind on critical bills—rent and utilities. Months later, I am still trying to catch up on bills and have enough money for other necessities," she admitted.

Kristen makes significant efforts to budget for food and plan meals while navigating the maze of financial stress. However, her battle is much more challenging due to increasing food costs and dietary limitations within her household.



**“I have been able to supplement our grocery bill through the food bank.”**

"The stress of food insecurity has caused other ailments as well, like a stress-induced lupus flare," she explained, revealing the toll it has taken on her health. Physical manifestations of the invisible weight of not knowing where your next meal will come from highlight the connection between food security and general well-being.

Kristen saw a ray of hope in Food Bank of Alaska's Mobile Food Pantries. "I have been able to supplement our grocery bill through the food bank," she said. The food bank became a lifeline for her family, offering not only food but also comfort and support.

Kristen's story is just one of many that serve as a sobering reminder of the real and tangible consequences of food insecurity. It's a story about overcoming misfortune with persistence and finding comfort in the kindness and compassion of organizations like Food Bank of Alaska and our network of partner agencies.



## Food for Alaska's Food Banks

We are excited to see the Governor's inclusion of \$4.5 million in his proposed budget for the statewide anti-hunger network to make direct food purchases. This comes at a time that we have less food in our network due to a decline in donations and federal programs but continue to see elevated levels of need across Alaska. The impact this funding could have was demonstrated by the \$1.68 million distributed last year to Alaska's food bank network. This funding enabled the Food Bank of Alaska to distribute 583,000 pounds of food to more than 80 of our partners from Ketchikan to Bethel to Gambell. This provided food for families our partners wouldn't have had otherwise.

**"This money helped our Valley neighbors in need receive food to supplement their expanding need," said Eddie Ezelle, MatSu Food Bank Executive Director.**

The Governor also included funding for 30 permanent, full-time Eligibility Technician positions within the Department of Health which will grant them greater capacity to process SNAP and other assistance applications in the future. We look forward to including these proposals in our policy priorities this year.

# National Anti-Hunger Policy Conference

Food Bank of Alaska was able to send staff and a few key partners to Washington, D.C. last year to attend the National Anti-Hunger Policy Conference, hosted by Feeding America and the Food Research and Action Center. We had productive meetings with all three offices of our congressional delegation where we gave updates on food insecurity from different regions across the state and discussed ways to strengthen federal programs in the upcoming Farm Bill. These partners included:

- Shoni Evans,  
*Nome Community Center Community Support/Program Manager*
- Greg Meyer,  
*Kenai Peninsula Food Bank Executive Director*
- LouAnne Carroll-Tysdal,  
*Upper Susitna Food Pantry Executive Director & Mat-Su Food Coalition President*
- Elizabeth "Buffy" Pederson,  
*Southeast Alaska Food Bank Board Treasurer*



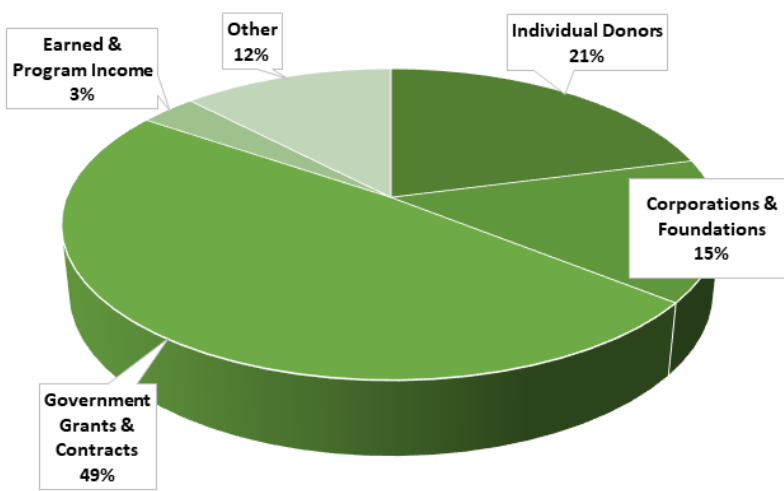
The three-day event was packed with numerous networking opportunities, interactive training, content-rich sessions, and a day on Capitol Hill to meet with Members of Congress and their staff. Conference workshops and training included the power of lived experience, strengthening The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) and other federal commodity programs, equitable food systems, child nutrition, the true cost of living, data and stories for state advocacy, and more!



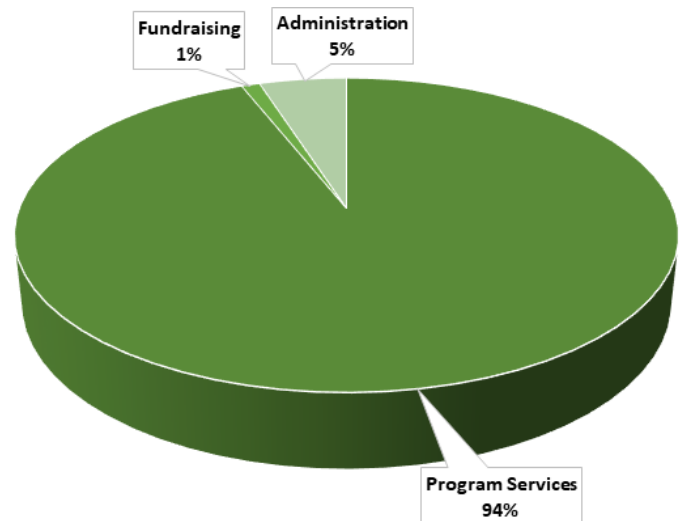
# OUR FINANCIALS

Reflects financial statements for FY23. (July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023)

## REVENUE



## EXPENSES



## STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

### Revenue

Donations: Individuals	\$2,671,502
Donations: Corporations, Foundations, Businesses, Organizations	\$1,884,326
Government Grants & Contracts	\$6,222,070
Earned & Program Income	\$418,058
Other Revenue <i>(including non food in-kind)</i>	\$1,560,520
Value of Donated Food	\$10,646,401
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$23,402,877</b>

### Expenses

Program Services <i>(including value of food distributed)</i>	\$18,632,104
Fundraising	\$208,874
Administration	\$991,693
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$19,832,671</b>
Change in Net Assets	\$3,570,206
Net Assets, Beginning of Year	\$18,018,048
Net Assets, End of Year	\$21,588,254

### Balance Sheet Summary

Total Assets	\$21,862,562	Unrestricted	\$21,096,188
Liabilities	\$274,308	Temporarily Restricted	\$492,066
Net Assets	\$21,588,254	<b>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</b>	<b>\$21,862,562</b>

# MISSION PARTNERS

We gratefully acknowledge the significant financial contributions of our mission partners from July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023

## \$500,000+

- Feeding America

## \$100,000+

- ConocoPhillips Alaska, Inc.
- Matson\*
- Nourishing Neighbors
- George & Stephanie Suddock Foundation
- TOTE Maritime Alaska\*

## \$50,000+

- Barney & Rachel Gottstein Charitable Foundation of the Jewish Community Federation & Endowment Fund
- Shoreside Petroleum, Inc.
- The Odom Corporation
- Wilson Family Foundation

## \$20,000+

- 10 Chefs, Inc.
- Delta Airlines
- Global Credit Union\*\*
- Lynden, Inc.
- Midas Alaska
- Petro 49, Inc.
- Powers Brothers, Inc. through our charitable gaming permit
- Rasmuson Foundation
- United Way of Anchorage
- Wells Fargo Bank
- N.E. Knobby & Mary Ellen Segelhorst Endowment Fund\*\*\*

## \$10,000+

- 3M Foundation
- Aetna Foundation, Inc.
- ASRC Arctic Slope Regional Corporation
- Alaska Waste\*
- CoBank
- Coffman Engineers
- Costco
- Enterprise Rent-A-Car Foundation
- Fairfield County's Community Foundation
- GCI

- The Kroger Co. Zero Hunger | Zero Waste Foundation
- Holy Transfiguration Greek Orthodox Church
- John C. Hughes Foundation
- KeyBank Foundation
- Lowe's\*
- Over The Rainbow Toys, Inc.
- R4 Capital, LLC
- Red Nose Day
- RNDC Alaska, LLC
- Skinny Raven Sports
- Taiga Mining Company, Inc.
- Randich Family Fund\*\*\*

## \$5,000+

- Anchorage East Rotary
- AT&T
- ANMC Auxiliary Craft Shop
- Bank of America Charitable Gift Fund
- Bristol Bay Native Corporation
- Chugach Alaska Corporation
- Coca-Cola Bottling of Alaska
- Alaska National
- Crossroads Lounge
- Enterprise Engineering, Inc.
- Fifth Generation, Inc.
- Food Research & Action Center
- Foundation For The Carolinas
- Mountain View Lions Club
- Providence Anchorage Anesthesia Medical Group, P.C
- Second Harvest Food Bank of Southern Wisconsin
- Skyeye & Co., LLC
- Stantec

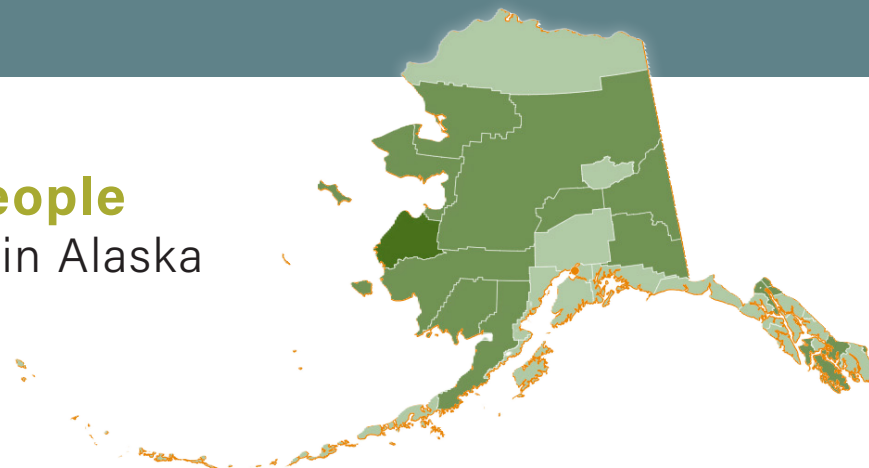
## \$1,000+

- A & D Drilling, LLC
- ABR, Inc.
- Agape Worship Center, Inc.
- Alaska Air Group Credit Union
- Alaska Central Express, Inc.
- Alaska Commercial Company
- Alyeska Pipeline Service Company
- Amvets Post 49, Inc.
- Aqua Wildlife Research
- Architects Alaska, Inc

- Aviation Medical Services of Alaska
- Bering Straits Native Corporation
- Caffe D'arte Alaska
- Credit Union 1
- CRW Engineering Group
- Davis Constructors & Engineers, Inc.
- DCI Engineers
- DOWL, LLC
- Dryden Instrumentation
- F & W Construction Co, Inc.
- First Presbyterian Church
- French Apartments
- Greater Houston Community Foundation
- HDL Engineering
- AARP Alaska
- Kaladi Brothers Coffee
- KPB Architects
- L.N. Curtis & Sons
- M Street Investments
- Mandigo Manor Realty, LLC
- Marni & Morris Propp II Family Foundation
- MEA Charitable Foundation
- MCG Explore Design
- NATCA Charitable Foundation
- Northern Skies Federal Credit Union\*\*
- Northrim Bank
- Providence Alaska
- Reid Middleton, Inc
- RSA Engineering
- Shaman Traffic Control, LLC
- Stinebaugh & Company
- The Castele Foundation
- Frances & David Rose Foundation
- The Sholton Foundation
- Thomas, Head & Greisen, PC
- Tom Hughes Graphic Design
- True North Federal Credit Union\*\*
- Umialik Insurance Company
- USI Insurance Services
- Watterson Construction Co.
- Weaver Brothers, Inc.
- Nvision Architecture

\* Includes in-kind contributions  
\*\* Gifts are a mix of corporate & community support  
\*\*\* Funds at The Alaska Community Foundation

# 1 in 7 People Face Hunger in Alaska



## OUR PARTNER AGENCIES

- AHFC - Chugach Manor
- AHFC - Chugach View
- Akeela Inc.
- Akiachak Native Community
- Alaska Family Services
- Alaska Rural Health & Education
- Aleut Community of St. Paul
- Allakaket Tribal Council
- Anchorage Coalition to End Homelessness
- Anchorage East Rotary Club\*
- Anchorage Gospel Rescue Mission
- Anchorage Native Assembly
- Anchorage Northside SDA Church
- Anchorage School District
- Anchorage Senior Activity Center
- Armed Services YMCA
- AWAIC
- Bean's Café
- Bethel Community Services
- Foundation
- Bethel Youth & 4-H Center
- Big Lake Community Food Pantry
- Blood-n-Fire Ministry of Alaska
- Bountiful
- Bristol Bay Regional Food Bank
- Changepoint Church\*
- Chuathbaluk Traditional Council
- Chugiak-Eagle River Food Pantry
- Chugiak Senior Citizens Center
- Church of the Nations
- City of Akhiok
- City of Cheforkan
- City of Newhalen
- City of Pilot Station
- City of Stebbins
- Cook Inlet Housing Authority
- Copper River Native Association
- Covenant House Alaska
- Crooked Creek Traditional Council
- Dillingham 4H
- Downtown Hope Center
- Emergency Response Kusilvak Census Area
- First Christian Methodist Episcopal Church\*
- F.I.S.H.
- Frontline Mission
- Girdwood Chapel
- Golovin Tribe
- Government Hill Backpack Buddies
- Grayling IRA
- Greater Friendship Baptist\*
- Harvest Christian Fellowship
- He Will Provide Community Food
- Helping Hands Food Bank
- Henning, Inc.
- Hoonah Youth Center
- Hope Christian Church
- Hope Christian Fellowship
- Igugmiut Traditional Council
- Jewel Lake Church of the Nazarene\*
- Kenai Community Library
- Kenai Peninsula Food Bank Inc.
- Kiana Baptist Church
- King's Chapel
- Knik House
- Kokhanok Village Council
- Kotlik School
- Kotzebue Boys & Girls Club
- Kotzebue Church of God
- Lutheran Church of Hope\*
- Lutheran Social Services
- Mat-Su Food Bank
- Mat-Su Senior Services
- Metlakatla
- MLK Jr. Foundation - Shiloh Mission
- Mountain Coast Vineyard
- Mountain View Community\*
- Muldoon Community Assembly\*
- Nanwalek
- Native Community Tuluksak
- Native Council of Port Heiden
- Native Village of Brevig Mission
- Native Village of Buckland
- Native Village of Eklutna
- Native Village of Elim IRA
- Native Village of Eyak
- Native Village of Gambell
- Native Village of Gulkana
- Native Village of Kivalina
- Native Village of Kobuk
- Native Village of Koyuk
- Native Village of Marshall
- Native Village of Point Hope
- Native Village of Savoonga
- Native Village of Selawik
- Native Village of St. Michael
- Native Village of White Mountain
- Naukati Bay Community Church
- New Hope Compassionate Ministries
- New Season Community Development\*
- New Stuyahok
- Newtok Village Council
- Noatak IRA
- Nome Community Center
- Nondalton Tribal Council
- Noorvik Boys & Girls Club
- North Anchorage Church of God
- Nulato Tribal Council
- Open Door Mission
- OPT-In Kiana
- Our Lady of the Lake Food Pantry
- Owl Park-Bethel Evangelical Covenant Church
- Palmer Christian Food Pantry
- Palmer Food Bank
- Pedro Bay Village Council
- Point Lay Baptist Church
- Revive Alaska Community Services Rights of Passage
- Rogers Park Back Pack Buddies
- Ruby Tribal Council
- S/A Angoon\*\*
- S/A Cordova
- S/A Family Emergency Services
- S/A Haines
- S/A Kake
- S/A Klawock
- S/A Kodiak
- S/A Mat-Su Palmer
- S/A Older Alaskans
- S/A Petersburg
- S/A Saxman
- S/A Service Extension & Emergency Disaster Service
- S/A Sitka
- Selawik Boys & Girls Club
- SERRC 21st CCLC After School Program, Kotzebue
- Seventh Day Food Bank Selawik
- Seward Senior Center
- Sonrise Community Church
- South Central Foundation - Elder Program
- Southeast Alaska Food Bank
- St. Francis House (CSS)
- St. John United Methodist Church\*
- St. Mary's Boys & Girls Club
- Stebbins IRA
- Stepping Stones
- Summit Worship Center
- Sutton Bible Church Food Pantry
- Talkeetna Public Library
- Teller Traditional Council
- Trapper Creek Public Library
- Upper Susitna Food Pantry
- Valdez Food Bank
- Village of LevelockVoice of Christ
- Full Gospel Church
- Volunteers of America-ARCH
- Wasilla Area Seniors Inc.
- Willow Community Food Pantry
- Women In Safe Homes
- Wrangell SDA Church
- Yakutat Tlingit Tribe
- YoungLives Alaska

\* Mobile Food Pantry (MFP)

\*\* S/A - Salvation Army

Learn more at [www.foodbankofalaska.org](http://www.foodbankofalaska.org)

