



Jacobs & Cushman San Diego Food Bank Hunger Fact Sheet 2012

Hunger and poverty in San Diego County:

Of San Diego County's 3.1 million residents, more than 446,000 people live in poverty.* These individuals face "food insecurity" which means that little or no food is available at home and they will face times when they will not know where their next meal will come from.
(*U.S. Census Bureau. American Community Survey, 2010. Compiled by SANDAG, November 2011.)

About the Jacobs & Cushman San Diego Food Bank:

The Food Bank feeds over 350,000 people per month in partnership with over 350 nonprofit community partners including: food pantries, soup kitchens, shelters, low-income daycare centers, senior centers, churches, schools, and day centers for the elderly and disabled.

The Food Bank's nonprofit partners collect food from its 72,000 sq. ft. warehouse in Miramar and distribute the food directly to people in need in their local communities. By acting as a central distribution point and through its own direct distributions the Food Bank and its nonprofit partners provide food to communities throughout the county's 4,200 square mile radius.

In the fiscal year 2010 - 2011, the Food Bank distributed 20.4 million pounds of food – the equivalent of 16 million meals.

Demand for food is soaring:

The prolonged economic downturn has deeply affected San Diego County. With an unemployment rate over 10%, continuing job layoffs, home foreclosures and rising food and gas prices, tens of thousands of additional families and fixed-income seniors are turning to the Food Bank for help.

As the barometer of the county's economic health, the Food Bank's distribution increases illustrate the impact of the economy on local families. In 2008 the Food Bank provided food to over 200,000 people per month. This year the Food Bank is feeding over 350,000 people every month.

How you can help:

There are many ways you can help the Food Bank.

Donate food – Host a food drive at your school, business or religious organization.

Donate time – The Food Bank relies on volunteers to sort and package tons of food every day. Visit our website and sign up to volunteer using our online registration system: www.sandiegofoodbank.org/volunteer

Donate money – Monetary donations help supplement the "lottery" of food drive donations. For every \$1 donated the Food Bank can provide three meals. \$1 = 3 meals. Visit www.sandiegofoodbank.org/donate

Most needed food items:

- canned meat & tuna
- canned soups
- canned fruits and vegetables
- canned beans
- dry cereal
- rice
- mac & cheese
- spaghetti