



ANNUAL REPORT 2025



EAST
TEXAS
FOOD
BANK



WHO WE ARE AND WHERE WE SERVE

Vision

The East Texas Food Bank's vision is a hunger-free East Texas.

Mission

The East Texas Food Bank exists to fight hunger and feed hope in East Texas.



Our Story

Established in 1988 by a group of Tyler community leaders, the East Texas Food Bank covers 26 Northeast Texas counties. The East Texas Food Bank provides over 34 million meals each year to 200 partner agencies and feeding programs.



A LETTER FROM THE CEO

Dear Partners and Friends,

As I reflect on this past year, I am filled with deep gratitude and pride for all that we have accomplished together in the fight against hunger in East Texas. Your support — through time, resources, and generosity — has allowed the East Texas Food Bank (ETFB) to serve people across 26 counties. Together, we reached more than 175,000 households, ensuring families had access to nutritious food and the hope that comes with it.

We also launched a new strategic plan to guide ETFB into the future, strengthening our mission and our ability to serve. Through the dedication of our staff, volunteers, and partners, we distributed an astounding 34 million meals, including 18 million pounds of fresh produce.

This year marked incredible progress and growth for ETFB. Our three new Resource Centers in Tyler, Longview, and Texarkana completed their first full year of operation, serving record numbers of East Texans in need. These centers are already transforming how we deliver food and connect families with vital resources in their communities.

Our fundraising events continued to grow as well. The second annual Tyler Empty Bowls and the first-ever Longview Empty Bowls events were both outstanding successes, raising funds and awareness to help feed our neighbors in need.

Operational excellence remains a cornerstone of our work. I am proud to share that our Operations Team received top marks from the AIB Food Safety Audit, underscoring our commitment to the highest standards of food safety and quality.

As I look back on this remarkable year, I am amazed every day by the dedication of our team, donors, volunteers, and board members. **Your compassion and commitment make it possible for us to continue to fight hunger and feed hope across East Texas.** Thank you for being part of this mission and for standing with us as we build a stronger, more nourished East Texas.

With gratitude,



**Chief Executive Officer
East Texas Food Bank**



WHY WE SERVE

Food insecurity is when people can't access the food they need to live life to the fullest. In the United States, 48 million people, including 14 million children, experience food insecurity annually. According to Feeding America, people facing hunger struggle with high living costs, expensive housing, unemployment, and low-wage jobs. Food insecurity can also have serious consequences on people's health and well-being.



Mission

“So many people are in need and we as Christians are supposed to help them spiritually but also physically.”

Eric Love

Church on Purpose, Longview Pastor



Hunger

“We are very proud to annually partner with our vendor partners to give food to nonprofits, including the ETFB. We are dedicated to making a difference in our stores and the communities we serve.”

Brad Brookshire

Chairman and CEO, Brookshire Grocery Co.



Dignity

“When I first arrived, I realized the ETFB was offering more than just food. They met me exactly where I was, at the moment I needed it most.”

Randal

Longview Resource Center, Neighbor



MEAL GAP DATA

EAST TEXANS FACING HUNGER



1 in 5 Adults



1 in 4 Kids



5.3 Million Texans are Food Insecure
17.6% Food Insecurity Rate



235,670 East Texans are Food Insecure
18.2% Food Insecurity Rate



1.7 million Texas Children are Food Insecure
23% Food Insecurity Rate



80,370 East Texas Children are Food Insecure
26.3% Food Insecurity Rate



Kim Morris

East Texas Food Bank, Chief Impact Officer

“Hunger remains an urgent crisis especially in rural America. When we listen to people facing hunger and use the study’s findings, we can unite in our efforts to create a future where everyone has access to nutritious foods they need to thrive.”

HOW WE SERVE

Food Pantry Partners

East Texas Food Bank partners with food pantries, throughout our 26 county service area, to distribute food to those in need. ETFB's ability to provide millions of meals is made possible by these incredible organizations.



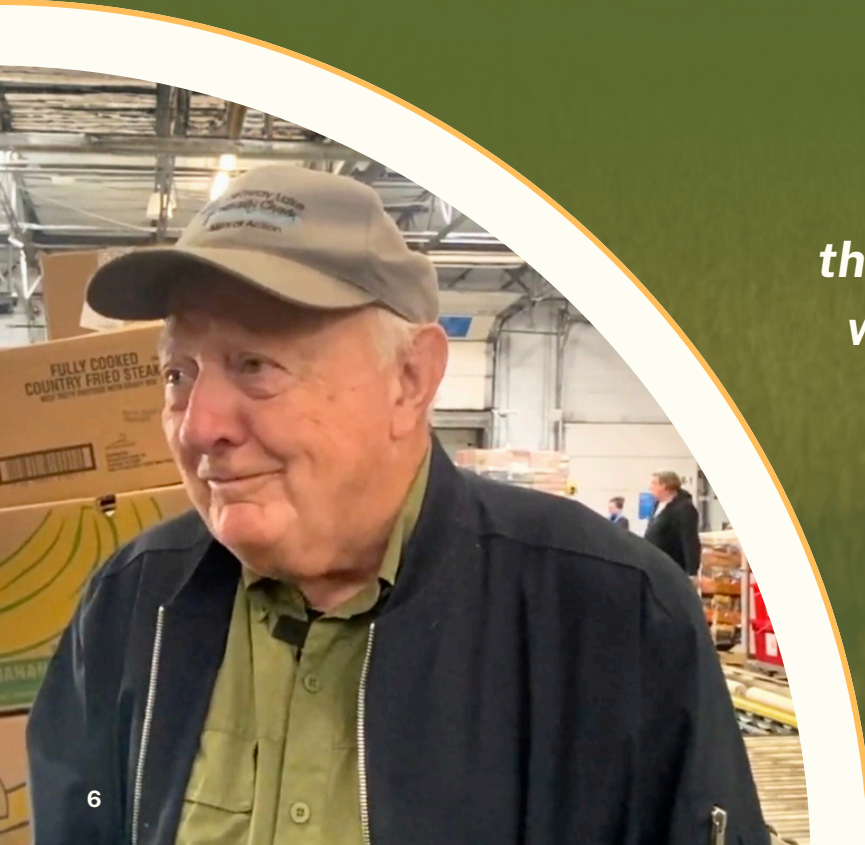
131 Pantry Partners



**30 Million Meals Served
by Pantry Partners**



106,464 Households Served



“It’s a privilege to help out the community and the families who live here. We love giving to each other.”

Rupert Anthony

David Powell Food Pantry in Lindale



HOW WE SERVE

Community Produce Distribution



8,724,375
Meals



57
Distribution
Sites



38,182
Households
Served



10,469,250
Pounds of
Produce



Supplemental Nutrition Assistant Program

1,632 Applications
1.6 Million Meals

“Studies show a direct link to good nutrition and health outcomes so the ability to offer more vegetables and fruits will greatly benefit our neighbors.”

Kinsey Thompson

ETFB Community Initiatives Director



HOW WE SERVE *Senior Boxes*

Poor nutrition can drastically affect the health of senior citizens, who are more susceptible to a variety of health problems related to an inadequate diet. The East Texas Food Bank Senior Box Program provides boxes of nutritious food each month to low-income seniors, many of whom live in isolated, rural communities.



**58,000
Boxes Distributed**

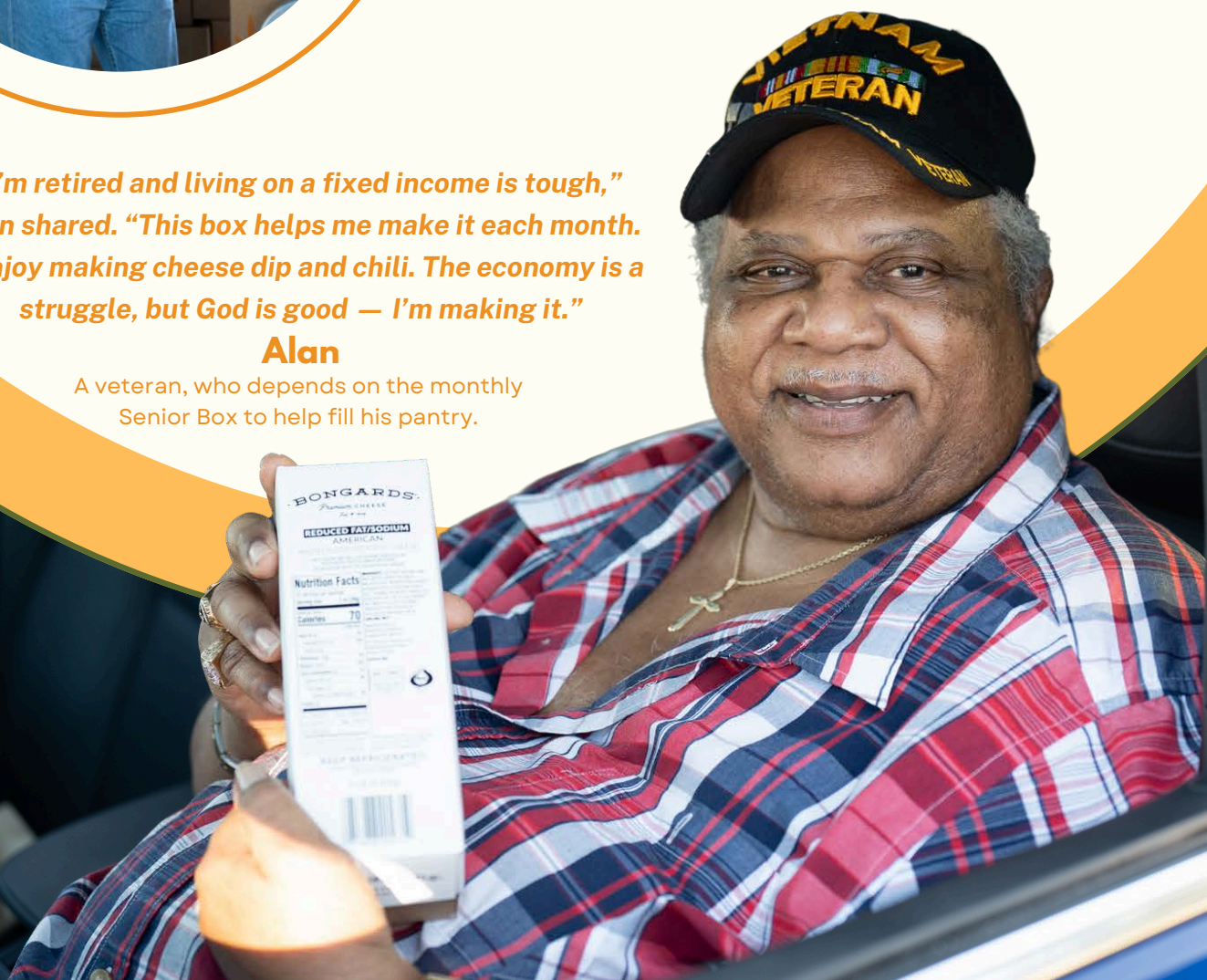


**1.5 Million
Meals Served**

“I’m retired and living on a fixed income is tough,” Alan shared. “This box helps me make it each month. I enjoy making cheese dip and chili. The economy is a struggle, but God is good — I’m making it.”

Alan

A veteran, who depends on the monthly Senior Box to help fill his pantry.



CHILD HUNGER PROGRAMS

- 🍏 1 in 4 Children are Food Insecure in East Texas
- 🍏 88,000 Summer Feeding Meals at 35 Locations
- 🍏 8,800 Children served in the BackPack Program
- 🍏 162,000 After-School Meals & Snacks

SUMMER FEEDING PROGRAM

For 20 years, the ETFB has made sure that children do not go hungry in the summer months when school is not in session.

“It’s up to our community to make sure when the school year ends, kids don’t lose access to free meals they depend on,” said David Emerson, CEO of the ETFB.



BACKPACK PROGRAM

The ETFB BackPack Program was designed to close the weekend hunger gap. Children receive food that’s nutritious, and kid-friendly such as lasagna, fruit, juice, cereal bars and shelf-stable milk to help last them until Monday morning, when school meal programs resume.

HOW WE SERVE

Resource Centers



**Texarkana
Resource Center**
933,000 Meals Served

**Tyler
Resource Center**
1.4 Million Meals Served



Meet Gladys

Gladys, 85 of Texarkana, raised her two children as a single parent and is now the proud grandmother of two and great-grandmother of four. She spent her working years in retail and office jobs and was raised with a strong belief in making do with what you have.

Gladys shops at the resource center and is a senior box recipient.

“I love that I can depend on the items I get in the box each month,” Gladys shares. “I’ve learned new recipes and enjoy trying new things. I cook one meal a day, and I really appreciate that the food from the pantry is healthy – especially the fresh produce. I can live off rice and beans if I need to, but I also love the mac and cheese.”

Resource Centers

Meet Rocky

At 55, Rocky of Longview embodies the same determination as the iconic boxer from the Rocky movie franchise. Rocky suffered a stroke in his 40s that left him in a wheelchair. Rocky began visiting the Longview Resource Center (LRC) as a neighbor in need.

“I found that with rent and utilities, I was stretching my disability check a lot and needed help,” he recalls.

Over time, Rocky’s determination to give back resurfaced. He wasn’t sure if volunteering from a wheelchair would be possible, but the team encouraged him to try and now he gives back at the LRC.

Rocky’s commitment doesn’t stop there. He has organized community food drives, collecting more than 350 pounds of food. His motto sums up his outlook on life: *“If you got it, give it.”*

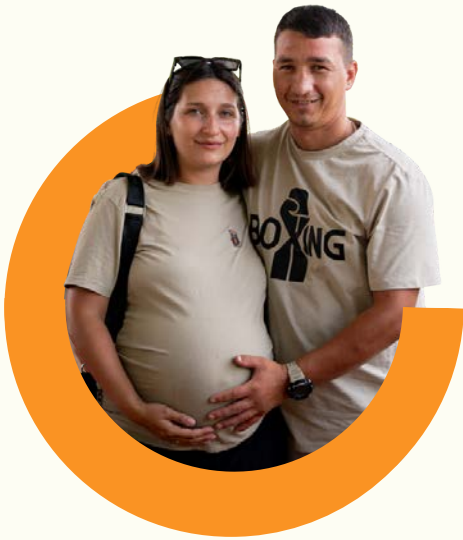


**Deep East Texas
Resource Center**
1.4 Million Meals Served

**Longview
Resource Center**
1.5 Million Meals Served



CELEBRATING *Impact*



175,400
HOUSEHOLDS SERVED



108,327
SENIORS SERVED



32,758
CHILDREN SERVED



18.3 MILLION
PRODUCE POUNDS
SERVED



34 MILLION
MEALS SERVED



11,000
VOLUNTEERS

DONOR PARTNERS

From Giving to Serving

Debbie has been a proud partner of the East Texas Food Bank for more than two decades; first as a donor partner then as a volunteer.

After retiring in 2021, Debbie said, “I want to go over and see this organization and where my money is going. I was so impressed with everyone and have been coming every Tuesday morning since.”

That Tuesday morning group has become a community they proudly call the “Tuesday Cool Kids.” While they come from different backgrounds, their shared purpose brings them together. “We are all about the same age, but totally different backgrounds... Tuesday mornings are the highlight of my week!”

For Debbie, partnering with the food bank means seeing real needs met in meaningful ways. “Knowing that so many people’s needs are being filled by the food bank,” she says, “**I feel really honored to be a part of it.**”



Debbie

DONOR PARTNER
24 YEARS, TYLER

Leading with Kindness and Compassion

Lou Anne and Brenda have been faithfully supporting the mission of the food bank for more than two decades. Their commitment is rooted in a simple, heartfelt belief, “**Everyone ought to be able to have food to eat and we should all help each other, especially when it comes to the basics,**” Lou Anne shared.

For Brenda, this mission is personal. Years ago, she experienced a season in her life when she relied on a community pantry for food. That experience left her deeply grateful and inspired to give back with the same care and dignity.

They value the food bank’s commitment to integrity and responsible stewardship. Knowing that resources are managed wisely and focused on serving neighbors, strengthens their trust and long-term support.

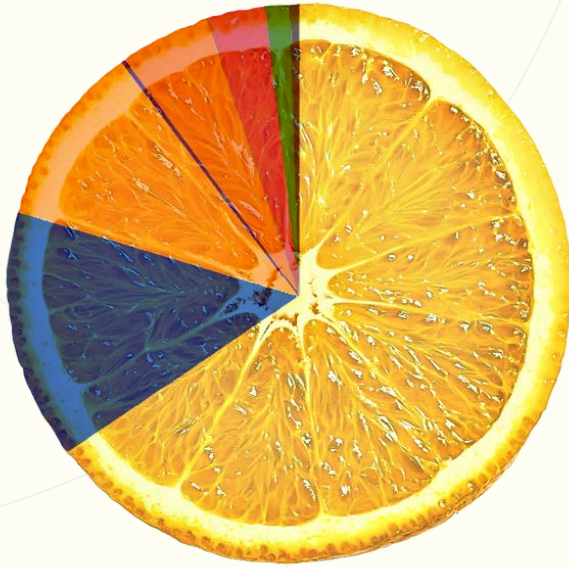
Looking ahead, Lou Anne and Brenda hope generosity continues to ripple outward. “**As you receive kindness and compassion,**” Lou Anne shared, “**hopefully it creates a desire to pay it forward.**”



Lou Anne and Brenda

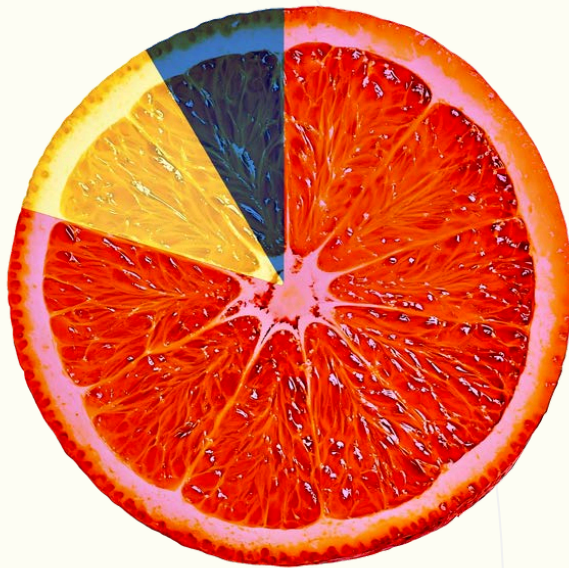
DONOR PARTNERS
22 YEARS, TYLER

FINANCIALS



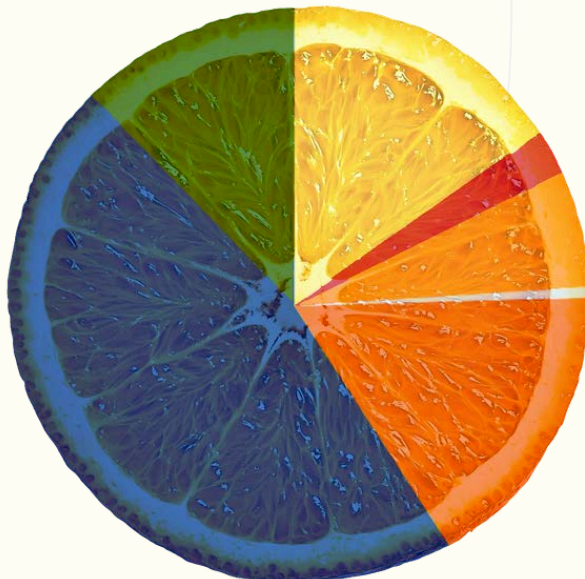
Revenue and Support Total: \$73,529,208

● Donated Food and Commodities	\$47,862,626
● USDA Commodities	\$10,483,113
● Contributions	\$7,502,069
● Federal Grant Revenues	\$3,817,099
● Purchased Food Recovery	\$2,358,266
● Shared Maintenance	\$1,074,739
● Other Income	\$359,630
● Contributed Non-Financial Assets	\$71,666



Expenses Total: \$77,870,522

● Program Services	\$73,687,466
● Management & General Operating	\$2,654,883
● Fundraising	\$1,528,173



Net Assets

● Property, Plant, and Equipment	\$16,846,154
● Investments	\$6,053,582
● Cash and Cash Equivalent	\$5,649,458
● Interest in ETFB Foundation	\$4,349,009
● Inventory	\$2,256,233
● Receivables	\$860,984
● Prepaids	\$212,453

SERVING WITH EXCELLENCE



ETFB Board of Directors 2024-2025

Michele Bosworth
Health Management Associates

Gregg Davis
Merrill Lynch

Gina DeHoyos
Edward Jones

Kristy Everitt
Henry & Peters, PC

Leslie Harrison
Chair-Attorney, Non-Practicing

Jay Jelinek
IT Enabled

Chevella Layne
Goodwill Industries of East Texas

Moises Leandro
TIAA

Morgan Jones
Brookshire Grocery Company

Jeff W. Johnston
Chick-fil-A at Broadway Crossing

Bill Mohl
Treasurer-WMM Enterprises, LLC

Jim Noble
Community Volunteer

Cathy Schreiber
Past Chair-Community Volunteer

Dr. Valerie Smith
University of Texas at Tyler School of Medicine

Howard Tagg
Law Office of Howard Tagg

Veronica Tucker, Secretary
PROJECTXYZ, Inc.

Brian Turner
Southside Bank

Victor Valle
Oncor

Bob Westbrook
Chair-Elect-Retired Restaurateur

Dustin Wilkinson
Austin Bank

Lisa Williams
Black Nurses Rock

Ivette Zavarce
Encouragement Media Group

Bob Westbrook

Chairman, ETFB Board

"I was blessed throughout my restaurant career to serve those who could not afford to dine out. Now, in retirement, I feel called to serve those facing hunger. Jesus teaches us to feed the hungry, and that calling is a central motivation for my desire to serve on the ETFB board."





EAST TEXAS FOOD BANK

PARTNER
FOOD BANK OF



GET IN TOUCH



903.597.3663



EastTexasFoodBank.org



3201 Robertson Road
Tyler, TX 75701

Join the Fight!



easttexas.bbb.org

