



FOOD for Lane County Programs and Services

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Established in 1984, FOOD for Lane County (FFLC) is a private, nonprofit food bank dedicated to *alleviating hunger by creating access to food*. We accomplish this by soliciting, collecting, growing, rescuing, preparing, and packaging food for distribution through our network of social service agencies and programs. We also work on public awareness, education and community advocacy to encourage long-term community-based solutions to hunger.

As the second largest food bank in Oregon, we are a member of both the Oregon Food Bank network and Feeding America, the national food bank collaborative. With 60+ employees and a volunteer Board of Directors, we serve the emergency food needs for a population base of 370,000 people living in 4,700 square miles comprising both urban and rural Lane County.

FOOD for Lane County has developed a variety of innovative programs to address hunger and food security in Lane County. From addressing childhood hunger to providing food assistance for seniors, people with disabilities, the working poor and the unemployed, we are committed to providing programs and services to meet the needs of diverse populations. FOOD for Lane County programs include:

FOOD PROGRAMS – working to get food to people who need it

Cereal for Youth

Cereal for Youth provides snack-size portions of nutritious, organic cereal to children and teens through schools and youth programs in Lane County. **In FY 17-18, FFLC distributed 320,040 packages of cereal at 141 sites.**

Children’s Weekend Snack Pack

Through several partnerships, the Children’s Weekend Snack Pack program provides a gallon-size Ziploc bag of kid-friendly snacks for elementary-school aged children to take home on the weekends and vacations, when they may not have access to other food. **In FY 17-18, FFLC served 150 children 5,400 snack packs at three schools.**

Extra Helping

Extra Helping prevents hunger by providing a weekly serving of bread and produce for residents in low-income housing complexes. Extra Helping builds community involvement and ownership by mobilizing resident volunteers to organize and administer the program. **In FY 17-18, FFLC served 2,663 people at 41 sites through Extra Helping.**

Family Dinner Program

The Dining Room provides free meals four days a week. In addition to offering meals, this innovative restaurant serves large portions of dignity in a community-oriented atmosphere. **In FY 17-18, The Dining Room served 3,699 people 36,401 meals.**

Food Distribution Network through Partner Agencies

While FOOD for Lane County administers many of its own programs, we rely on our network of approved partner agencies to distribute the majority of the food we collect. All FFLC Partner Agencies are their own, independent, non-profit or religious organizations. Donated food is distributed through 159 different emergency food pantries, meal sites, shelters, and non-emergency programs. **In FY 17-18, we served 69,236 people through 31 emergency food box pantries. FFLC distributed 1.9 million pounds of food through non-pantry partner agencies.**

Meals on Wheels

Meals on Wheels is more than just a meal! Friendly volunteers deliver a nourishing, freshly prepared noontime meal that is nutritionally balanced to provide one-third of a senior’s recommended daily nutrients. Volunteers have time for a brief chat and a safety check. Seniors who live alone feel more secure knowing that someone is checking on them regularly. **In FY 17-18, FFLC’s MOW program distributed 78,639 meals to 602 clients.**

Senior Grocery Program

The Senior Grocery Program is a once monthly food box (or bag) given to low-income seniors. The box is filled with nutritious staple foods necessary to a balanced diet. The program is currently serving 420 seniors. **In FY 17-18, FFLC distributed 4,744 monthly food boxes to 413 clients.**

Summer Food Program

FOOD for Lane County operates the largest Summer Food Program in Oregon, which provides nutritious meals five days a week to children during the months when the National School Lunch Program is not in session. Staff and volunteers serve meals at schools, parks and community centers located throughout Lane County during the summer months. **In the summer of 2018, the Summer Food Program served 76,983 meals to an average of 1,697 children each weekday.**

Trillium Produce Plus

Produce Plus, sponsored by Trillium Community Health Plan, brings high-quality fresh fruits and vegetables to people in need at community and neighborhood locations. For the recipients, the experience is similar to shopping at a farmers' market without the cost. The income eligibility is a little higher than that of receiving a food box, in recognition that people of all income brackets can struggle with food insecurity. **In FY 17-18, the Trillium Produce Plus Program distributed 395,579 pounds of food to 105,660 clients (duplicated) at 14 sites.**

EDUCATION PROGRAMS – preventing hunger through skill-building and education

Gardens

FOOD for Lane County's gardens--- the GrassRoots Garden and the Youth Farm ---provide on-site gardening opportunities and workshops, while growing fresh, organic produce for distribution through the FOOD for Lane County Network. County residents may also access fresh produce by purchasing it at the youth-run farm stands and through a community-supported agriculture program. FFLC Gardens staff and volunteers teach Seed to Supper classes, a six-week gardening on a budget series for novice gardeners taught at partner agencies throughout the county. **In 2018, 1,619 children and youth and 79 school classes participated in gardens activities. Ninety-two people graduated from Seed to Supper classes.**

Job Training

The food bank helps people receiving services with employment skills to help be on a path out of poverty. We work with adults who may face challenges to employment, providing a supportive and structured environment to get them ready for the workforce. The warehouse training program runs twelve weeks. **In FY 17-18, the program had 11 graduates.**

Multicultural Outreach

FFLC ensures that food assistance is available to all people regardless of race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, or any other distinguishing characteristic. This philosophy of open access guides our service ethic of treating all people with dignity and respect. All agencies who receive food from us actively engage in this same ethic by ensuring that food assistance programs are open, welcoming and sensitive to the needs of diverse clients. FFLC has a Multicultural Outreach Coordinator that works with our partner agencies to ensure open access to all individuals. **In FY 17-18, FFLC served 10,069 Latino clients at emergency food pantries (comprising 11% of total users). 11,562 of emergency food pantry clients were people of color.**

Nutrition Education

In addition to partnering with Oregon State University/Lane County Extension to provide samples and nutritious recipes at food pantries, FOOD for Lane County offers nutrition education through cooking classes, grocery store tours, and outreach events. Nutrition program volunteers demonstrate how to prepare healthy, low-cost meals. FFLC offers classes in English and Spanish. **In FY 17-18, FFLC taught 40 Nutrition Education classes. The classes had 223 graduates.**