



## FOOD for Lane County Programs and Services

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770 Bailey Hill Rd.  
Eugene, OR 97402  
PH (541) 343-2822  
FX (541) 343-5019

Established in 1984, FOOD For Lane County (FFLC) is a private, nonprofit food bank. Our mission is to *reduce hunger by engaging our community to create 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 70+ employees and a volunteer Board of Directors, we serve the emergency food needs for a population base of 380,000 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 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.

#### ***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.

#### ***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.

#### ***The Dining Room***

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.

#### ***Food Distribution Network through Partner Agencies***

While FFLC administers many of its own programs, we work with a 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 160+ different emergency food pantries, meal sites, shelters, and non-emergency programs.

#### ***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.

### ***Mobile Pantry Program***

The Mobile Pantry program focuses on serving marginalized communities and geographic areas with high need in an effort to supplement and promote other hunger-relief agencies. Through collaborations with partners and local communities the mobile pantry works to increase food security through an equitable, sustainable, and accessible model while incubating self-sufficient local solutions to hunger.

### ***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.

### ***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.

### ***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.

## ***EDUCATION PROGRAMS – preventing hunger through skill-building and education***

### ***Gardens***

FFLC'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 FFLC Partner Agency 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.

### ***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 program runs twelve weeks and prepares participants to work in a warehouse.

### ***Nutrition Education***

In addition to partnering with Oregon State University/Lane County Extension to provide samples and nutritious recipes at food pantries, FFLC offers nutrition education through cooking classes, grocery store tours, and outreach events. Nutrition program volunteers demonstrate how to prepare healthy, low-cost meals. Classes are offered in English and Spanish.