



Helping our Idaho neighbors since 1984.



TOGETHER, WE CAN SOLVE HUNGER.

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The Idaho Foodbank

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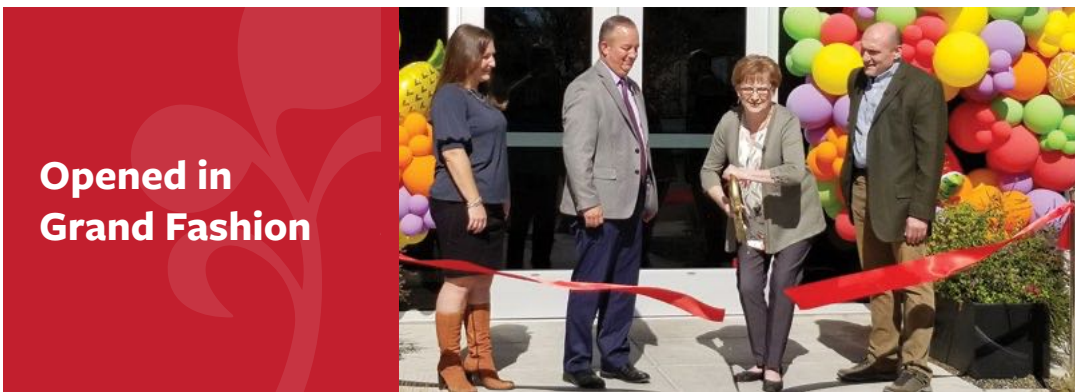
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On October 19th, The Idaho Foodbank celebrated the Grand Opening of our Southwest facility that we moved into last year. The Grand Opening marked the conclusion of our A Fresh Approach Capital Campaign — a campaign that over the course of seven years, has expanded the capacity to provide hunger relief across Idaho.

The Fresh Approach Campaign focused on building capacity to store, receive and distribute not just more food, but nutritious food. The success of this campaign was also a reflection of the “can do” attitude of Idahoans. It was created as part of The Idaho Foodbank’s long-term plan to ensure that we can accept generous, largescale donations that allow us to serve anyone with a need regardless of where they live in our great state. The campaign raised the funds to make updates at our Pocatello warehouse, build our new facility in Lewiston and complete our Southwest facility — now located in Meridian.

The Meridian facility wouldn’t have been possible without the generosity of each one of our neighbors who contributed to and believe in our vision of a hunger-free Idaho.

Thank you to our Leadership Donors

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A recording of the Southwest facility virtual Grand Opening event can be viewed here:

idahofoodbank.org/event/grandopening



All of November and December, The Idaho Foodbank’s Hope for the Holidays campaign promotes efforts across the state to alleviate hunger. Unfortunately, for many people the winter season brings additional financial stress – especially this year, when the continuing impacts of the pandemic and the rising cost of gas, food and housing are affecting so many. With the support of the community, The Idaho Foodbank is working to

allow everyone, regardless of their current financial situation, to have a holiday meal and nutritious food on the table throughout the season.

The Idaho Foodbank’s goal is to provide food for approximately 2 million meals each month – an effort made even more impactful by Corwin Ford and Camille Beckman’s challenge match. Together we can ensure that Idahoans don’t have to make tough choices, such as whether to buy food or pay their essential household bills. If you or someone you know needs food assistance, please go to The Idaho Foodbank’s Food Assistance Locator: idahofoodbank.org/getfood.

The Foodbank is working to improve our understanding of who is facing hunger and how we serve communities with dignity and collaboration. According to data from Feeding America there are many factors, including location and socio-economics, that play a role in if and how a person experiences hunger.

National Food Insecurity Estimates by Race or Ethnicity, 2019



In Partnership with Communities



To better understand the needs of communities experiencing hunger, The Idaho Foodbank employed community liaisons through generous grant funding from Feeding America and the Micron Technology Foundation. Our community liaisons are focused on building partnerships to formulate long-term solutions to hunger in rural Southwest communities, the Native American/Indigenous tribes residing on Idaho's reservations and Hispanic/Latinx and refugee communities in South Central Idaho. In the first of one in a series, we asked one of our liaisons, Jason Pretty Boy, to share the significance of his position in his own words:

In Lakota, my indigenous language, we say "Mitakuye Oyasin." Roughly translated it means, "We are all related," reiterating the idea that community comes first. This is the cultural ideal that drives my work. Understanding those we serve is paramount. The community liaison program was designed with that in mind, as part of a plan of action to establish or amplify our connection to populations. The program, at least in my opinion, is a think-tank style component of forward-thinking nonprofits — one that looks to the past and future to find common ground. This common ground allows us to create and sustain resiliency moving forward, better preparing us to meet any challenge.

My work has focused on finding and bolstering relationships with the Indigenous nations that have called Idaho home for thousands of generations. There are five federally recognized tribes that call Idaho home — The Shoshone Bannock Tribe, The Duck Valley Shoshone Paiute, The Coeur d' Alene Tribe, The Nez Perce Tribe and The Kootenai Tribe. Indigenous Culture is not a monolith. Quite simply, there are 500+ individual nations, each with their own way of doing things. But one thing these nations have in common is their relationship with food.





In a time before colonization, Indigenous nations focused on common survival — essentially growing crops, hunting or sourcing diet staples. While not all tribes were agriculture-based, almost all had some form of agriculture mentality. This agricultural mentality was aimed at keeping plant-based staples healthy, which could include purposefully setting fires to clear out overgrowth to allow for new plants or skipping harvesting areas to allow for regrowth. In Idaho, salmon has played a large part in the dietary cycle of the Indigenous people. For the Shoshone Paiute people, salmon made up one of their four primary foods, followed by berries, roots and big game. Water is considered a fifth “first food”, that takes on a bit of a spiritual nature as it is utilized as the first medicine and truly is life. After colonization, most Indigenous Nations’ ways of life were disrupted to the point that they no longer could sustain themselves on their traditional food sources.



travel 100 miles to Mountain Home or 100 miles to Elko, Nevada. In order to address the potential lack of food for individuals who could not make the trip, Brandy Bullchief, head of the Food Distribution

Program on Indian Reservations (FDIPR), decided to create a food pantry. The pantry, originally stocked out of Brandy’s pocket and surplus food from the federal programs, met a need in the small community. As more people found out about the food pantry, Brandy’s need for food to stock the pantry grew.

Keeping community-based solutions in mind, my outreach to Brandy in Duck Valley was simply, “What can The Idaho Foodbank do to help you feed your people?” Brandy shared that their needs were, “better supply of food and storage shelves.” She reiterated that as high rates of obesity and diabetes are a health concern on reservations, she wanted to be able to provide fresh food that wasn’t highly processed.

Through much collaboration, we now have a partnership with FDIPR that allows us to supply fresh foods to over 200 families. Moving forward, having a community liaison will allow the conversation and relationship to continually progress utilizing community-based solutions.

“In Lakota, my indigenous language, we say ‘Mitakuye Oyasin.’ Roughly translated it means, ‘We are all related,’ reiterating the idea that community comes first.”

The first tribal group we contacted to establish a working relationship with was the Duck Valley Shoshone Paiute, known in their language as the Nume/Nuwe. Located about one hundred miles south of Mountain Home on the Idaho-Nevada border, Duck Valley is a beautiful town with mountains on one side, a desert plain on the other and the lake in the middle that gives the valley its name. Duck Valley is a food desert, with only one place to access groceries - a small convenience store. To access affordable food, inhabitants must





The Idaho Foodbank
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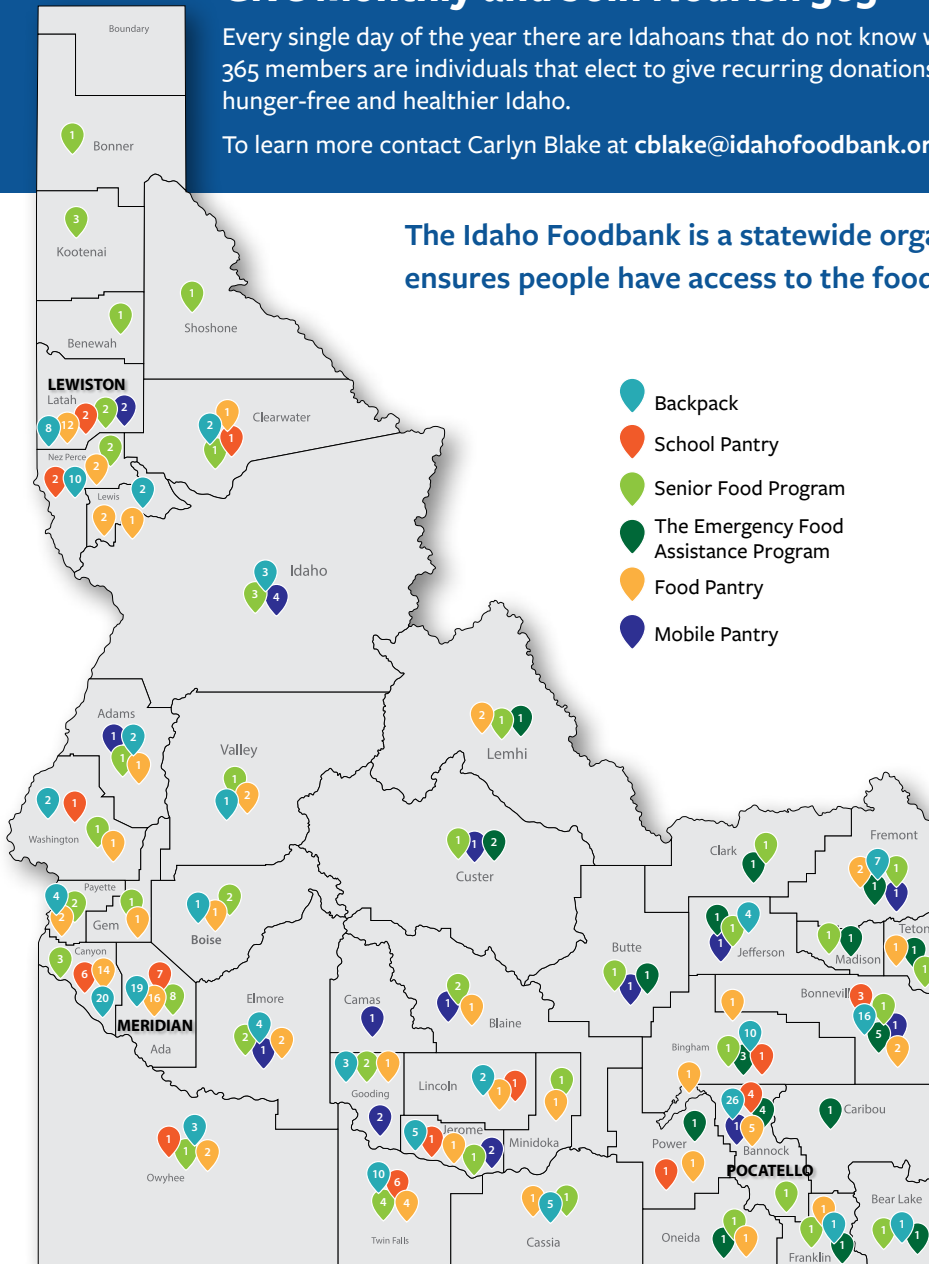


Give Monthly and Join Nourish 365

Every single day of the year there are Idahoans that do not know where their next meal will come from. Nourish 365 members are individuals that elect to give recurring donations. Your donation is put to work daily to create a hunger-free and healthier Idaho.

To learn more contact Carlyn Blake at cblake@idahofoodbank.org or visit www.idahofoodbank.org/nourish365.

The Idaho Foodbank is a statewide organization with a local touch that ensures people have access to the food they need to live healthy lives.



Our Vision

A hunger-free Idaho.

Our Mission

To help feed, educate and advocate for Idaho's hungry through collaborative partnerships to develop efficient solutions that strengthen individuals, families and communities.



The only Idaho nonprofit to receive a four-star rating for 12 consecutive years.