



The Idaho Foodbank
3630 E. Commercial Ct.
Meridian, ID 83642



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**The
Idaho
Foodbank**



TOGETHER, WE CAN SOLVE HUNGER.

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208-746-2288

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555 S. First Ave.
Pocatello, ID 83201
208-233-8811

FOOD Thought

Helping our Idaho neighbors since 1984.

Looking Forward



Randy Ford, Camas Prairie Food Bank, and Lisa Turpin

In November 2023, Randy Ford took the helm as the President and CEO of The Idaho Foodbank. Since then, he has traveled the state, meeting staff members, volunteers, and food distribution partner organizations serving urban, rural, and frontier counties. “I love visiting our partners. Every visit I learn something new about the community, meet incredible people, and find new ways that we can be a better partner,” Randy shared. “Seeing our partners in action is a reminder of how unique Idaho’s communities are, with their challenges and strengths, but what is consistent is the willingness of Idahoans to help their neighbors and the spirit of giving and hard work.”

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Prior to this, Randy was the Chief Operating Officer at The Foodbank and he led the food supply and logistics work of the organization through the challenges of the pandemic. Randy’s vision is creating a hunger-free Idaho through continuing to provide access to nutritious food and focusing on the root causes of hunger. Through connecting, collaborating, and bringing together partners and communities we can create pathways to resources and education that allow people to thrive. This includes continuing our long standing tradition of nurturing a community approach that is rooted in empathy and concern for the well-being of others.

The Idaho Foodbank has goals to strive toward a high level of customer service for our food distribution partner organizations. The better we support our partners, the

more help they can provide to neighbors in need. The organization will continue to deploy our resources and efforts to build pathways toward ending hunger by connecting neighbors to resources and education to improve nutrition awareness, access to healthcare, as well as bridges to housing, transportation, and job training. Food insecurity does not exist in a vacuum

and we know that food alone will not help our neighbors in need – we have to work together to truly make an impact.

The Foodbank will continue bringing together diverse stakeholders to work towards a common goal of ending hunger community by community. We are a statewide organization that focuses on the local strengths and goals of each community. Randy is dedicated to enhancing our culture of care by prioritizing the well-being of our team, empowering them to provide exceptional service to others.

Randy was raised in Idaho and came to The Foodbank with a significant background in food manufacturing and 20 years of leading organizational business units. Randy spent six years as the Senior Manager of North America Supply Chain & Commercialization at Materne North America, where he led the commissioning of what is now the nation’s largest apple sauce manufacturing facility. Before that, he spent two years as the Strategic Sourcing Director of Nurture Incorporated and has prior experience at St. Luke’s Health System as the Senior Continuous Improvement Coach and as the Raw Materials and Commodities Planner at Micron.

The Idaho Foodbank is excited to continue our work to nourish, educate, and advocate for a hunger-free Idaho under his leadership.

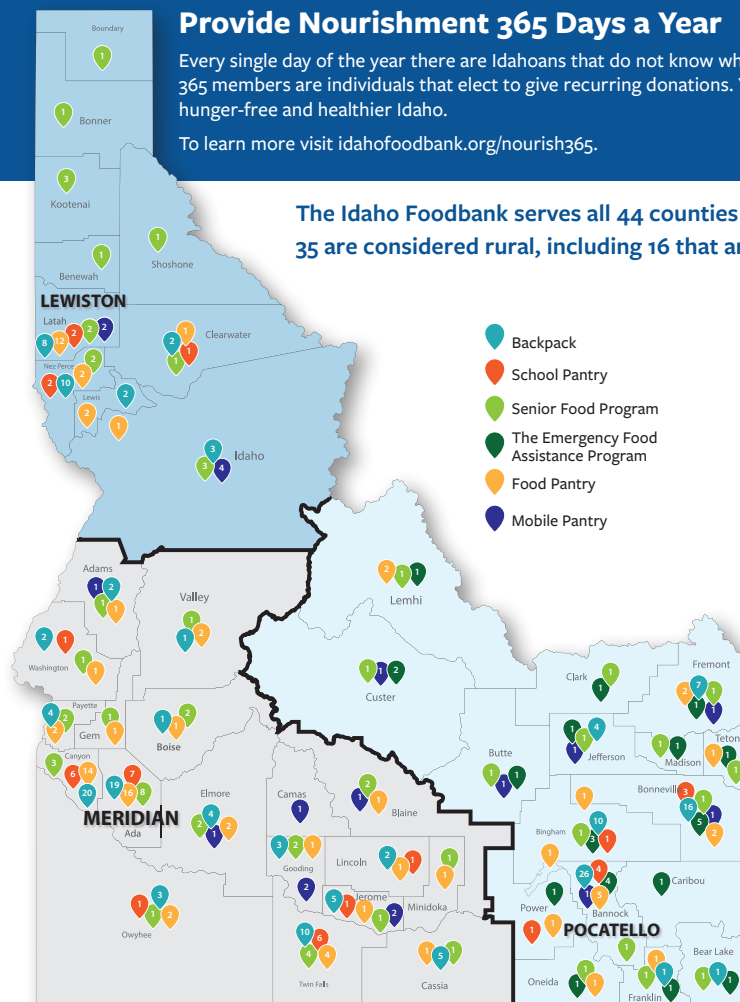
To learn more go to: idahofoodbank.org

Provide Nourishment 365 Days a Year

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 visit idahofoodbank.org/nourish365.

The Idaho Foodbank serves all 44 counties of the state. Of Idaho’s 44 counties, 35 are considered rural, including 16 that are defined as frontier.



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 14 consecutive years.

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Ending Hunger and the Social Determinants of Health

When someone is food insecure, they are making difficult choices on how to make ends meet, such as paying for rent, getting the medicine they need, putting gas in the car, or having the food they need. These intertwined factors that impact an individual's ability to become food secure are known as the Social Determinants of Health, also referred to as conditions needed to thrive. These are the conditions in the environment in which people are born, live, learn, work, play, worship, and age that affect a wide range of health and quality-of-life outcomes. The Foodbank is actively partnering to find ways to work together to improve these Social Determinants of Health as part of our Ending Hunger Framework to address root causes of food insecurity and support communities where all Idahoans can thrive.

In April, The Idaho Foodbank hosted Partner Conferences in Lewiston and Idaho Falls for our food distribution partners in those regions. Over 140 attendees joined in the conferences themed “Building Healthy Communities Together.” The Partner Conferences are a way to convene individuals and organizations who are working in their communities to address food insecurity in discussions and group learning.

The ALICE Report found that 43% of Idaho households had a total income that does not meet the Household Survival Budget, which considers various household costs, including housing, food, and transportation.

Each conference included an update from The Idaho Foodbank about our work statewide and in those particular regions, as well as a question and answer session. There were also presentations from representatives of the United Way about the Idaho ALICE (Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed) Report. This is a comprehensive look at the cost of living challenges throughout the state. This is valuable information and context to have as we work to provide food to those in need and to end that cycle of food insecurity.



The Partner Conferences also included discussion and presentations about taking a comprehensive approach to community health and what that might look like. This can include broadening health care partnerships by bringing mobile medical units to a food distribution;

“It can be overwhelming to find all of the sources of help and information that might make a difference when you are struggling to make ends meet...”

working with community health workers and providing information about other available services to individuals in need of food; or setting-up a food pantry in a way that encourages healthy eating choices. The Conferences were also an opportunity to discuss what is possible and how to make some of these changes to improve the lives of our neighbors.

In fiscal year 2023, The Idaho Foodbank began making quarterly, comprehensive resource boxes available to our partner network when they order food. These resource boxes included a variety of information to share with neighbors who are visiting our partners to get food.

“It can be overwhelming to find all of the sources of help and information that might make a difference when you are struggling to make ends meet. These quarterly resources boxes are one way to support our partners to empower the people they serve by making information more readily available,” shared Kelsey Cooper, The Idaho Foodbank’s Community Health Coordinator, who puts the resources boxes together each quarter.

Some specific examples of what has been in these resources boxes are information from the Idaho Housing and Finance Association about how to find rental assistance or rental housing throughout the state. There have also been flyers for seniors about Medicare enrollment and dental care coverage. The resource boxes have included brochures about enrollment in SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) and WIC (the Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infant, and Children), as well as a Myths vs. Facts document about these programs. There have also been small cards to let people know that 988, the Suicide & Crisis Hotline, is available for people to call or text at any time, as well as flyers with information about the Idaho LAUNCH scholarship program for in-demand careers.

“Providing nutritious food is critical to helping neighbors in need but our ultimate goal is to provide food and support that helps move people into a place

of stability and no longer needing food assistance. The only way to do that is by partnering broadly to connect people to resources they need to thrive,” said Randy Ford, The Idaho Foodbank President and CEO.

In fiscal year 2023, 86% of the food distributed by The Idaho Foodbank was considered nutritious. This has been part of a concerted, multi-year effort to make food available that is consistent with the United States

Department of Agriculture My Plate nutrition recommendations. We categorize the food we distribute by whole grains, protein, fruits and vegetables, and dairy. We want to make the healthy choice something that is an easy and accessible choice for the people we serve.

The Idaho Foodbank is continuing our work on nutrition education. This includes in-person cooking classes and working with our partner network on ways to set-up their food pantries to provide nutritional information and tips about the food they have available for their neighbors in need.

By working together and building and strengthening partnerships to end the cycle of food insecurity, we can improve the lives of all Idahoans.



Food Insecurity in Idaho

Feeding America, the nation's largest hunger-relief organization, released its annual Map the Meal Gap report in May 2024. The report is a county-by-county analysis of food insecurity in the United States in 2022.



Idaho Stats

220,990

Food Insecure People in Idaho

11.4%

Food Insecurity Rate

67,590

Food Insecure Children in Idaho

14.5%

Child Food Insecurity Rate