

Press Release

For Immediate Release

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Feeding the Gulf Coast Sees More Than 700% Spike in Assistance Inquiries During COVID-19 Disruptions

(March 23, 2020) – Over the past week as COVID-19 (Coronavirus) disruptions continue to increase, Feeding the Gulf Coast has seen an increase in “Find Help” website traffic of over 700%. The food bank is actively working with community partners to serve seniors, families, and children in need, especially individuals who are considered in high-risk categories. The food bank remains committed to its mission of ensuring the needs of communities are met.

"Our service area is experiencing an influx of need from those impacted by COVID-19," says Dan Emery, newly appointed President and CEO for Feeding the Gulf Coast. "School closures, and local job layoffs are leading to an unprecedented need for those who typically may not experience food insecurity. While those that struggle on a daily basis are now in an even more critical situation, compounded by the economic stress this virus has created in our communities."

As families are faced with an increased need for food due to school closures, inability to work, or facing self-quarantine requirements, the "Find Help" feature available at www.feedingthegulfcoast.org, is the best source of information for families and individuals seeking assistance. Individuals can also call (888) 704-FOOD. The food bank works with over 400 partner agencies. Several partners have upcoming food distributions this week **(locations listed below.)**

The food bank is partnering with local community organizations to offer free meals to children, 18 and under, who are no longer receiving free or reduced lunch due to school closures. The food bank is serving over 1,800 child nutrition meals daily to sites. Those sites will serve grab and go meals and will be listed on our website **(Alabama and Florida locations listed below.)**

Feeding the Gulf Coast continues to develop and implement response solutions to meet the increased need already being seen across the service area. These solutions include strategies for the distribution of emergency food boxes for those affected by school closures, quarantines and the growing economic impact of this crisis. Community support is always needed, especially during these uncertain times. Now more than ever, healthy volunteers and donations are critical. Individuals looking to donate or volunteer can do so by visiting www.feedingthegulfcoast.org.

During this time of uncertainty and crisis, Feeding the Gulf Coast remains dedicated to serving the community. Working with community partners, the food bank will continue to be an organization of hope and support for

families facing hunger. For more information regarding the work Feeding the Gulf Coast is doing to fight hunger during this time of increased need visit <https://www.feedingthegulfcoast.org/learn-more/covid-19-response>.

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Feeding the Gulf Coast Partner Agencies with upcoming distributions:

Prodisee Pantry: Tuesday: 9:00-12:00

US Hwy 31, Spanish Fort, AL 36527

Central Prebyterian Mobile Pantry, Tuesday: 1:00

1260 Dauphin Street, Mobile, AL 36604

Chickasaw UMC: Wednesday: Time TBD

108 Lee St, Chickasaw, AL 36611

Wilmer Baptist Church: Wednesday: Time TBD

6383 2nd St., Wilmer, AL 36587

Closing the Revolving Door: Thursday: 3:00

216 East Prichard, Prichard, AL 36610

Alabama Child Nutrition Sites Serving Monday through Friday:

African Universal Resource Center: 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

8355 Jonesboro Road, Daphne, AL 36526

Bounds Family YMCA: 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

30900 AL 225, Spanish Fort, AL 36527

Chickasaw Elementary School: 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.

80 Grant Street, Chickasaw, AL 36611

Chickasaw High School: 8:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

50 Chieftain Way, Chickasaw, AL 36611

City of Prichard Infra-Care Center: 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

520 Escambia Street, Prichard, AL 36610

Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church: 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

13995 County Road 66, Loxley, AL 36551

Fairhope Point Clear Rotary Youth Programs: 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

19128 Young Street, Fairhope, Baldwin, AL 36532

Gateway to Heaven: 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

321 Alco Drive, Brewton, AL 36426

Harmon Thomas Center: 3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

1611 Belfast Street, Mobile, AL 36605

Hearin Chandler Family YMCA: 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

951 Downtowner Blvd, Mobile, AL 36609

Hillsdale Community Center: 3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

558 Felhorn Rd, Mobile, AL 36608

Hope Community Center: 3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

850 Edwards Street, Mobile, AL 36602

James Seals Community Center: 3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

540 Texas Street, Mobile, AL 36603

John McClure Snook Family YMCA, Foley Elementary: 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

2560 S Pine Street, Foley, Baldwin, AL 36535

John McClure Snook Youth Club of Foley: 12:00 p.m. - 1:15 p.m.

1391 S Cedar Street, Foley, AL 36535

Joseph Dotch Community Center: 3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

3100 Bank Ave, Mobile, AL 36617

Laun Recreation Center: 3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

5401 Windmill Drive, Mobile, AL 36693

Michael Figures Community Center: 3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

658 Donald Street, Mobile, AL 36617

Mitternight Recreation Center: 3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

5310 Colonial Oaks Drive, Mobile, AL 36618

North Mobile Family YMCA: 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

401 Shelton Beach Road, Saraland, AL 36571

Optimist Boys and Girls Club: 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

1517 Plaza Drive, Mobile, AL 36605

Rickarby Park: 3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

550 Rickarby Street, Mobile, AL 36606

Spring Hill Community Center: 3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

1151 Springhill Ave, Mobile, AL 36604

Stott's Recreation Center: 3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

2150 N. Demetropolis Rd., Mobile, AL 36693

Taylor Park Community Center: 3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

1050 Baltimore St., Mobile, AL 36605

Thomas Sullivan Community Center: 3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

351 North Catherine St., Mobile, AL 36603

Florida Child Nutrition Sites Serving Monday through Friday:

E Comfort, Inc.: 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

2300 N. Pace Blvd, Pensacola, FL 32505

Cobb Resource Center: 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

601 E. Mallory St., Pensacola, FL 32501

Fricker Resource Center: 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

900 North F Street, Pensacola, FL 32501

Woodland Heights : 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

111 Berkley Drive, Pensacola, FL 32503

Gull Point Resource Center

7000 Spanish Trail, Pensacola, FL 32504

Carver Park Community Center

208 Webb St, Cantonment, FL 32533

Bethel AME Church: 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

511 Woodland Drive, Pensacola, FL 32503

Brownsville Community Center

3200 W DeSoto St., Pensacola, FL 32505

Bellview Assembly of God (Monday and Thursday ONLY) : 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

2920 W. Michigan Ave, Pensacola FL 32526

Molino Branch Library

6450-A Highway 95A, Molino, FL 32577

West Florida Libraries- Downtown

239 N. Spring St, Pensacola, FL 32502

Morris Court: 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

1401 W. Lloyd Street, Pensacola, FL 32501

Shooting Starz Unlimited: 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

312 E. Nine Mile Road unit 14, Pensacola FL 32514

Dixon School of Arts and Science

1201 H St., Pensacola, FL

Tryon Beach Library

1200 Langley Ave, Pensacola, FL 32504

Genealogy Branch Library

5740 N. 9th Ave, Pensacola, FL 32504

Southwest Branch Library

12248 Gulf Beach Highway, Pensacola, FL 32507

Westside Branch Library

1301 W. Gregory St., Pensacola, FL 32502

Crown Church

9600 N. Palafox, Pensacola, FL 32534

Lillian Square Apartments

7200 Lillian Hwy, Pensacola, FL 32506

Magnolia Crossing Apartments: 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

4312 Magnolia Crossing Circle, Pace, FL 32571

My Father's Arrows, Inc.

4025 Hwy 178, Jay, FL 32565

2014 gate code

Century Branch Library

7991 N. Century Blvd., Century, FL 32535

Esto Town Hall: 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

3312 2nd Ave, Bonifay, FL 32425

Town of Ponce de Leon

Co Rd 10, Ponce De Leon, FL 32455

Caryville Baptist

4217 Old Bonifay Rd, Bonifay, FL 32425

Washington County Libraries: 9:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

1444 Jackson Ave., Chipley, FL 32428

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For interviews or images, please contact Amanda Young, Marketing & Communications Manager
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About Feeding the Gulf Coast

Feeding the Gulf Coast, formerly Bay Area Food Bank, serves a 24-county area spanning the Florida panhandle, south Alabama, and south Mississippi. In 2019, the food bank distributed over 24 million meals to over 400 church pantries, soup kitchens, and other nonprofit organizations throughout its service area. The food bank also operates multiple hunger-relief and nutrition programs, including Summer Meals, Afterschool Meal, Backpack, Disaster Relief, Mobile Pantry and Produce Drop Distributions and Nutrition Education. Feeding the Gulf Coast is a United Way member agency and a member of Feeding America. For more information, visit www.feedingthegulfcoast.org.

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