



2021 Feds Feed Families News

This newsletter provides updates on the Feds Feed Families 2021 Food Drive, how to get involved, and resources on our website, aka “the FFF Hub.” Feel free to share any and all of these items in your internal communications channels (such as internal staff newsletters) to help motivate federal giving at your agency. Questions? Email us at fedsfeedfamilies@usda.gov.

Calling all champions – Get on the list

Are you a Feds Feed Families Champion? These are federal employees who volunteer to be a source of information and inspire colleagues to voluntarily participate and give in-kind donations of food, services, and time through the Feds Feed Families Food Drive. [Register as a Champion](#) to show your local leadership and so others can find you on the [Find a Champion Dashboard](#). Remember to use the Chrome browser for best results. Thank you for participation.



An estimated 31 percent of food goes uneaten at the retail and consumer levels; that's about \$160 billion in food.

Gleaning – collecting and donating excess foods – addresses both food waste and food insecurity.

Gleaning donations help those in need eat healthier diets.

FFF Hub

<https://fedsfeedfamilies.ocio.usda.gov>

United Against Hunger

Gleaning theme

Did you know that the FFF 2021 campaign provides weekly themes and graphics to help you motivate volunteer giving among your federal workforce? Our current theme focuses on **gleaning**. There are two types of gleaning, field gleaning and warehouse gleaning. Field gleaning is the harvesting of unused or unharvested produce, and warehouse gleaning is sorting food at a food bank or pantry for food distribution. All gleaning opportunities are voluntary and conducted outside of work hours.

Go to the [Tools page Handbooks and Guidelines section](#) where you will find our Gleaning Handbook. You can also find your agency's Gleaning Champion on our Tools page. You can also plant-a-row in your home garden to donate to a local food bank – it's not too late to plant, grow and give.

Find a food bank

Want to give but don't know where? Read our Feds Feed Families Reference on Locations for Food Donation, Volunteering and Gleaning. You can [find it on the Tools page in the "Find a Food Bank or Pantry" section](#). Please remember that FFF does not suggest or recommend specific organizations for donations nor does it keep a listing of food banks and food pantries. The links provided are to randomly selected sites that have food bank and food pantry searchable databases. These websites and links are not maintained by FFF and only provided as examples to help search. Use these links to get started or find food banks and food pantries on your own.

New Hub 'how-to' videos

We built this city, or rather the FFF Hub, to make it easier to participate and motivate giving. Get more out of it with these new videos. The first video is an [introduction to the FFF Hub](#) (or read [the presentation document](#)). The second video walks you through the steps on [how to record a donation](#) (or read [the presentation document](#)).

Success Stories

Remember to share your success story of giving to motivate others. Go to the [Success Stories page](#), click "share your success story," input your story, and an FFF Chair at your department or agency will review and approve the story, so it shows up for everyone to enjoy. In the spirit of gleaning and plant-a-row giving, we thank Claire Smith of the Small Business Administration for sharing her story about starting 100 tomato and pepper plants from seed. "When they were about 8 inches tall, I dropped them off at the North Texas Food Bank. They had lost many seedlings in the winter storm and were happy to receive them. It was a lot of fun. I'd like to do it again."

