



2025 Corporate Volunteer Program and Food Drives IMPACT Numbers

47 Corporate Company Group Engagements

902 Corporate Volunteers at 3 hours each

Total Corporate Volunteer Hours for 2025: 2,706 hours of service

of Corporate Food Drives 52

Corporate Food Drives Total Poundage: 10,000



Help Us Feed Our Communities in 2026
The Food Bank Network of Somerset County
Winter/Spring 2026



Mission Statement: *“The mission of The Food Bank Network is to distribute food and to provide other basic human needs to those less fortunate in our community in a manner recognizing and advancing self-worth and human dignity.”*

Facilities & Locations:

- Main pantry and warehouse in Bridgewater (10,000 square feet)
- Satellite pantries:
 - Bound Brook
 - Somerville
 - Raritan
 - Manville
 - N. Plainfield
 - VA Lyons (for food insecure veterans)
 - Montgomery Twp.*New in 2026
- Monthly mobile distributions to low-income housing developments:
 - Branchburg
 - South Bound Brook

SERVICES WE PROVIDE:

- **General Food Assistance** thru a “client choice” pantry network - over 37,000 client visits in 2025, 32,000 client visits in 2024; up from 12,000 in 2021 and 27,000 in 2023.
- **Backpack Program** - weekend meals for preschool and elementary aged school children from low- income families - services 1,900 kids/29 schools per week.
- **SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program)**; aka “food stamps”-NJ State approved SNAP Navigator as of 1/2025.
- **Wrap-Around Services** - linking clients with non-food services (housing, employment, education, health care, etc.); full time social worker on staff to manage this and SNAP Navigator program.



Group Volunteer Opportunities at The Food Bank Network of Somerset County

Group Warehouse Activities: (5-10 volunteers)

- *(Volunteers should be comfortable with lifting up to 25 pounds).*
- *(Most projects in the warehouse involve organization of food storage and gleaning)*
- *(All warehouse projects include clean-up of trash collected from the day and boxes flattened)*

** The Warehouse Volunteer Program welcomes FOOD DRIVE DONATIONS to support our food bank prior to your volunteer shift.*

** Please contact Lisa Marie for the list of needs at The Food Bank Network of Somerset County.*

FACTS:

- *The Food Bank Network of Somerset County services over 130+ clients per day 5 days a week.*
- *75-80 pounds of food leave with each client.*
- *The cost per pound of food is \$1.92 (\$154 per person)*
- *The Food Bank Network of Somerset County distributes approximately \$19,000 of food to Somerset County Residents per day.*



Group Volunteer Opportunities at The Food Bank Network of Somerset County



For BackPack Program Activities: (4-6) volunteers

BackPack Program Details

- The Backpack Program provides supplemental food assistance to food-insecure students on weekends.
- Eligible students from Preschool through Elementary grades receive a weekly food package.
- Packages are designed to provide weekend nutrition for children who rely on free school meals.
- Food is packed in one-gallon zip-lock bags with child-friendly, easy-to-prepare items.
- The program is free to recipients. We heavily rely on corporate volunteers to help with this assembly throughout the year.
- The Food Bank Network provides weekly packages to over 1,900 students in 29 Somerset County schools this 2025-2026 academic year.



The Backpack Program relies on financial donation to support our students with these weekly supplies. These come from grants, corporate grants/donations, or local community contributions.

Most corporate volunteer groups contribute at least \$2,500 or more toward the program either through a grant or a donation for this weekly distribution in effort to help us cover a portion of the weekly costs to distribute the 1,900 backpacks. The estimated value of supplies for 1,900 students weekly is \$11,400 per week.



What to Expect on Volunteer Day at The Food Bank Network of Somerset County



- Bring a facemask for health safety.(By Choice ONLY)
- Be prepared to work and get a bit sweaty!
- Have a light sweatshirt with you for those who help with our freezer stocking.
- Attire: Casual clothes to work and get a bit dirty with closed toe shoes with rubber bottoms (no heels).
- Meet your group in our back break room to gather.
- Group will be met by Lisa Marie Arieno with the task list assignments for group leader.
- Group will be introduced to Bob O'Neil, Operations Manager who will guide you through the areas you will be working on in the warehouse.
- Opportunity for group shot at the end of the task. Photo will be shared with Lisa Marie for social media posting.

#TheFoodBankNetworkofSomersetCounty
#HungerDoesn'tTakeAVacation



Ready To Have a Group Volunteer Experience With Us?

Review Next Steps:

- 1- Review this packet with your group.**
- 2- Coordinate several dates in two different months (range) best day of the week and time (Wednesday- Friday) between the hours of 10:00am - 2:00pm (2) hour shifts only with Food Bank Network of Somerset County Development Director, Lisa Marie**
- 3- Let us know if you will have corporate logo shirts for your volunteers that day**



Things to Note:

- *Minimum group size we accommodate is 10-12*
- *Large groups can be split into 2 groups of 10 max at two different time slots or 2 groups of 5 split into warehouse duties and backpack program duties.*
- *Weekday's vary based on large deliveries.*
- *We do not schedule beyond hours of 2:00pm (Wednesday- Friday)*



Steve Katz: Executive Director
E-mail: Steve@somersetfoodbank.org
(732) 560-1813

Lisa Marie Arieno: Development & Group Volunteer
Program Director
E-mail: lisamarie@somersetfoodbank.org
(848) 379-9023



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www.somersetfoodbank.org