

Long Beach Food Bank
200 Pacific Ave., Long Beach, CA 90802

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Long Beach Food Bank Kicks Off Annual Holiday Food Drive to Combat Food Insecurity

LONG BEACH, Calif., Oct. 28, 2024 – Long Beach Food Bank (LBFB) begins its annual food drive from Nov. 1 to Dec. 23, hoping to provide relief to those facing food insecurity in the Greater Long Beach area this holiday season.

“The holidays are always a time when food assistance becomes especially critical,” said Steve Riley, LBFB director of operations. “Our goal is to help as many people as we can by collecting as many donations as possible,” Riley, who has been with LBFB for nine years, is in charge of the food drive. “This drive means so much to all the people we help year-round and the people who may need our extra support during this time. We encourage and appreciate all donations in the form of nonperishable food, monetary contributions, and volunteers.”

LBFB delivers food daily to dozens of agencies citywide, including senior centers, homeless shelters, and food pantries. Additionally, once per week, the LBFB provides bags of canned goods, fresh produce, bread, and other groceries to individuals and families directly from its facility.

According to Betty Sinclair, a nutrition volunteer at the Willow Senior Center, the need for food security is dire. At the Center alone, they “have nearly 100 seniors who rely on help from the Long Beach Food Bank each week,” said Sinclair.

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LBFB has made a significant impact on families, continuing to support their needs throughout the year. “Making sure my boys have food is a top priority,” said John Robertson, a father of two who was previously homeless. The food bank helps him feed his two boys Josh, 6, and David, 8 while he works a part-time gig after previously losing his job.

The drive is another way to help families and communities in need to relieve some of their struggles. “It takes a village, but if we all give something, we can put an end to food insecurity this holiday season,” adds Riley.

Local companies and community members are encouraged to participate by promoting the food drive to employees, collecting donations on-site at their workplace, or volunteering. All donations should be delivered to LBFB at 200 Pacific Ave., Long Beach, CA 90802, by Dec. 23.

About Long Beach Food Bank

LBFB, part of the Food Finders Network, a nonprofit organization, helps approximately 2,500 people monthly year-round. Their mission is to eliminate hunger and reduce food waste by connecting surplus food with those in need. LBFB was established 40 years ago and works presently to support the Greater Long Beach area with food insecurity.

For more information, visit foodfinders.org or contact the food bank directly at (562) 427-5589.

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