

USDA National Hunger Clearinghouse



- The [USDA National Hunger Clearinghouse \(NHC\)](#) raises awareness about FNS nutrition programs and food resources in communities.
- The NHC is an important tool to combat hunger and support economic mobility. The Clearinghouse provides services in two ways:
 1. The USDA National Hunger Hotline, which operates Monday – Friday from 8:00 AM – 8:00 PM Eastern Time (excluding federal holidays). If you need food assistance, call 1-866-3-HUNGRY or 1-877-8-HAMBRE to speak with a representative who will find food resources near you. The USDA National Hunger Clearinghouse is currently operated by [Hunger Free America](#).
 2. A database of non-governmental, grassroots organizations that provide food assistance. These organizations enter their information into the [Clearinghouse database](#), which is available to the public. The database is searchable and downloadable. The organizations are also added to an email list that receives monthly newsletters on nutrition news and education.

Background on the Clearinghouse

The USDA National Hunger Clearinghouse is authorized by Congress to be operated by a non-governmental, anti-hunger organization, per Sec. 26 of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act. The Clearinghouse contract is competitively awarded for a firm-fixed price of \$250,000 per year.