



Fighting Hunger

Bringing Health and Hope
to the Imperial Valley

Contact Us

 (760) 370-0966

 486 W Aten Rd
Imperial, CA 92251

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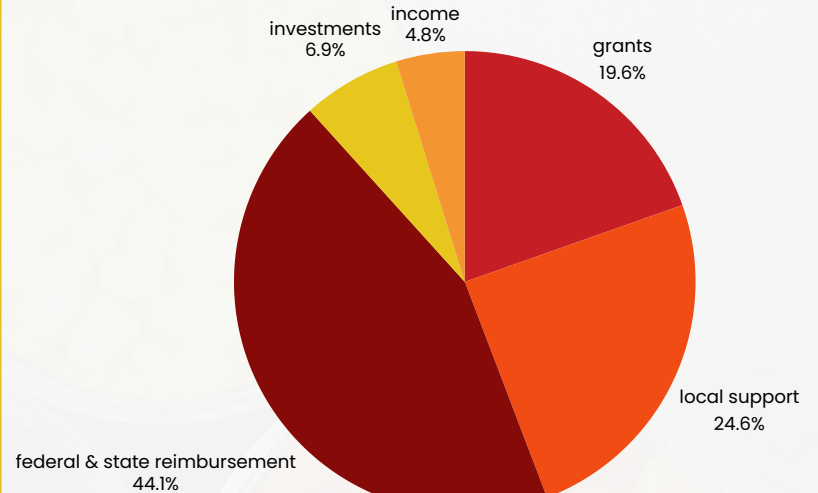
Annual Report
2024

FINANCIALS

January 1, 2024 - December 31, 2024

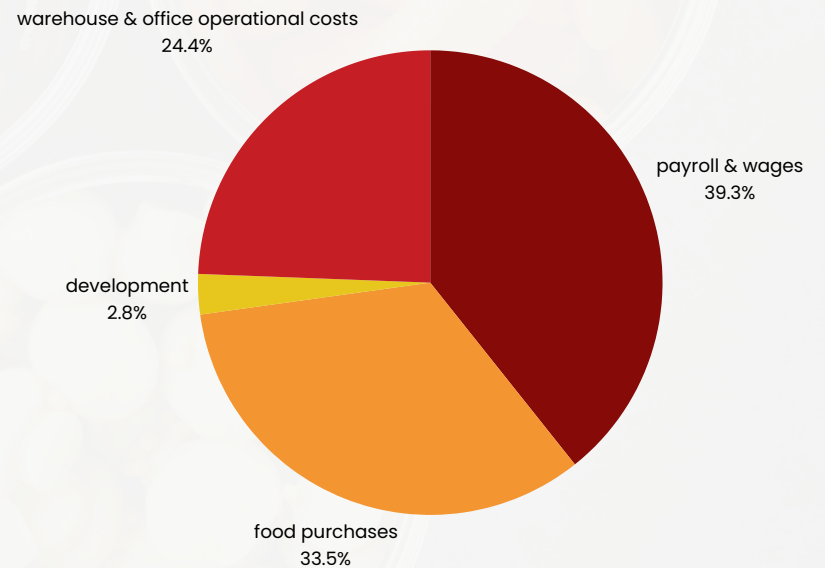
In 2024, we distributed
7,140,056 pounds of food
valued at
\$12,495,098

To achieve this, IVFB raised:



Total Income: \$2.67 million

To distribute this food, IVFB spent:



Total Expenses: \$2.57 million

Audited numbers will be available on our 2024 Financial Statements later this year at www.ivfoodbank.org

Weekend Backpack Program School Partners

Our school partners help make the Weekend Backpack Program possible by identifying students at-risk of weekend hunger & helping us discreetly provide food to fill their backpacks each Friday. These school partners help us feed approximately 1,368 students throughout the school year!

Brawley

- Barbara Worth Junior High School
- Brawley Union High School
- Desert Valley High School
- J.W. Oakley Elementary School
- Magnolia Union Elementary School
- Miguel Hidalgo Elementary School
- Myron D. Witter Elementary School
- Padilla-Pace Junior High School
- Phil D. Swing Elementary School

Calexico

- Aurora High School
- Blanche Charles Elementary School
- Calexico High School
- De Anza 9th Grade Academy
- Cesar Chavez Elementary School
- Dool Elementary School
- Enrique Camarena Junior High School
- Jefferson Elementary School
- Kennedy Gardens Elementary School
- Mains Elementary School
- Rockwood Elementary School
- William Moreno Jr. High School

Calipatria

- Bill E Young Junior High School
- Calipatria High School
- Fremont Primary
- Grace Smith Elementary

Heber

- Dogwood Elementary School
- Heber Elementary School

Holtville

- Finley Elementary School
- Holtville Middle School
- Holtville High School
- Pine Elementary School
- Sam Webb High School

Imperial

- Cross Elementary School
- Ben Hulse Elementary School
- Frank Wright Middle School
- Imperial Avenue Holbrook High School
- Imperial High School
- T.L. Waggoner Elementary School



El Centro

- Ballington Academy
- Booker T. Washington Elementary School
- CUHS, Desert O, Mt. Sig, Phoenix
- DeAnza Magnet
- Desert Garden Elementary School
- Hedrick Elementary School
- ICOE Valley Academy
- Imperial Pathways Charter School
- IV Home School Academy
- Lincoln Elementary School
- McKinley Elementary School
- Meadows Union Elementary School
- ML King Elementary School
- SIATech El Centro Charter High School
- Southwest High School
- Sunflower Elementary School
- Wilson Jr High School

San Pascual

- San Pascual Elementary School
- San Pasqual Middle School
- San Pasqual Valley High School

Seeley

- Seeley Union Elementary
- School District

Westmorland

- Westmorland Union Elementary School District

Donations Make an Impact

The Weekend Backpack Program



The Weekend Backpack Program relies solely on donations to feed 1,368 students each school year. It costs **\$250 per year to sponsor a child** in the program. Please consider sponsoring a child, or several, as an investment in the future of Imperial Valley.

Letter From the Imperial Valley Food Bank's Executive Director & Board President

Dear Friends of the Food Bank,

We reflect and celebrate an amazing 2024 year with more than 7 million pounds of food shared within our community locally.

Our partner agencies and donors have been instrumental in our mission with securing food for more than 8,000 families throughout the county. We are inspired by our donors who contribute financial support for our programs and our agency partners who ensure the food we purchase and procure reaches children, families and senior citizens.

Additionally, we are grateful for our volunteers who are invaluable in supporting us uphold our mission. From our weekly crews who prepare the Weekend Backpacks for more than 1,000 area schoolchildren to our volunteer teams that help us distribute food across seven cities and eight incorporated areas in the county, we are humbled and honored to work alongside our community members to bring health and hope to our neighbors in need.

Alongside funds raised through federal, state, and local grants, our annual fundraisers, including the Harvest Bowl and Palette, Palette, Pallet, allowed us to further our mission and raise necessary operational funds and celebrate our success in ensuring 20 nutritious meals a month per client for more than 25,000 individuals in Imperial County.

This year, our Board of Directors is looking forward to beginning a new three-year strategic plan which will bring our future vision of increased capacity to fruition with new construction, efficiency of warehouse operations, growth in our volunteer programs and other exciting goals for the Imperial Valley Food Bank.

As we enter 2025, we are conscious of perceived challenges ahead with distribution of federal aid, grant programs, and growing clientele. While we are proceeding cautiously and intentionally, we are also optimistic and confident that we will continue to sustain our current ability to meet the needs of our community.

Sara Griffin
Executive Director

Shelly Wilkinson
President, Board of Directors

Imperial Valley Food Bank

Board of Directors



Shelly Wilkinson
President



Elvira Gonzalez
Vice-President



Bob Barros
CFO



Jean Oswalt
Secretary



James Abatti



Kris Becker



Ed McGrew



Josephine Conway



Tom Muller



Sharon Stegmuller



Renato Montano



Martin Gonzalez



Juan Cruz



Liz M. Gonzalez

Our Board of Directors ensure the Imperial Valley Food Bank fulfills its mission ethically following nonprofit professional standards and brings community awareness to our work.



*In Memory of
Lizandro Escobosa*

Lizandra was a dedicated member of the Board of Directors for 6 years. Even though his death happened in 2025, we want to acknowledge his passing in this Annual Report. He was an optimist and a pleasure to work with. He will be missed by the Board and the Staff of the Imperial Valley Food Bank.

Thank You

to our
DONORS & VOLUNTEERS

More than 120 volunteers
contributed 6,469 hours of service!

Our volunteers support multiple areas of our operations, including boxing food, distributing food packages at our mobile food pantries, and assist in the success of our fundraisers. We are thankful for their continued championing of our Imperial County community

\$25,000 – \$60,000

FNL Foundation
Price Philanthropies Foundation
Sandberg Goldberg Bernthal Family Charitable Trust
Sisters of St. Joseph Healthcare Foundation

\$10,000 – \$24,999

8Minutenergy Renewables, Ll.
Bank of America
Berkshire Hathaway Energy Foundation
Betty Jo McNeece
Bill and Kathleen Brandenburg
Ecco II
Elmore Company
Gilda and John Glaser
Howard P. Meyer Foundation
Imperial Valley Wellness Foundation
Intersect Power, LLC
Ojeda Industries
Pattern Energy
Marybelle & William Plourd
Rest Haven Children's Health Fund
Rubin Seeds
The California Wellness Foundation
Wells Fargo Foundation
John Glaser

\$5,000 – \$9,999

Brookfield Renewable US
California Community Foundation
Community Valley Bank
Donald & Viola Templeton Trust
The Douglas and Marianne Dickerson Foundation
El Centro Motors
Enterprise/Taylor Charitable Entities
Five Crowns Marketing
Imperial Premix
Longroad Energy
MADJAC Farms
Ben Marsh
Tommy McCloskey
Mechanics Bank
Mesquite Cattle Feeders
Susan Sharin and Laurina Young
Target
Watchale LLC
John & Marie Anderson

I.V. Food Bank Staff



Sara Griffen
Executive Director

Alba Sanchez
Director of Programs

Bridget Fajardo
Finance Director

James Taylor
Warehouse Manager

Ariana Ochoa
Procurement Manager

Sandra Cardoza
Receptionist

Yesenia Lopez
Outreach Specialist

Cari Augusta
Agency Care Coordinator

Yerardi Rivas
Warehouse Specialist

Francisco Bravo-Lopez
Warehouse Associate

Ariel Vallejo
Warehouse Associate

Trinidad Meza
Cleaning Specialist

Isabel Andrade
CalFresh Manager

Kandy Pereira
Office Manager

Gerald Vindiola
Warehouse Lead

Cecilia Amparan
Program Lead

Roberto Manzano
Driver/Transportation

Our nonprofit organization owes its ability to **make a meaningful impact in the community** to the unwavering dedication of our staff.

The food bank thrives thanks to its small but incredibly **dedicated team of individuals who are committed to improving the lives of those in need** of food assistance in Imperial County.

A heartfelt thank you to our amazing staff!

2024

A year at a glance in numbers

7,140,056 pounds of food distributed

5,950,047 # of meals served

2,575,441 dollars in expenses

34,310 unduplicated number of county residents who received food

25,096 monthly average of neighbors served

6,469 volunteer hours

1,368 students receiving weekly backpacks of food


35 distribution sites

34 years The Imperial Valley Food Bank has been in operation

18 employees

5 years that we have been operating in the Aten Rd. facility





**To make a donation,
please visit us at**

www.ivfoodbank.com

Cars waiting in line at 1 of 4 monthly Calexico distributions
This one at 2nd and Heber Ave.

MONTHLY FOOD DISTRIBUTIONS & PROGRAMS

In 2024, we distributed 7,140,056 pounds of food valued at \$12,495,098

Mobile Food Pantries: Our Mobile Food Pantries distributes food donated through federal programs, in addition to local donated produce and food directly purchased by the Imperial Valley Food Bank.

Senior Food Program: 1 in 5 senior citizens in Imperial County are living below the poverty line. We help more than 700 low-income seniors aged 60+ receive 35 pounds of nutritious food each month.

Weekend Backpack Program: In Imperial County, 1 in 3 children are food insecure. Our Weekend Backpack Program provides more than 1,200 students backpacks of food on Friday for weekend meals during the school year.

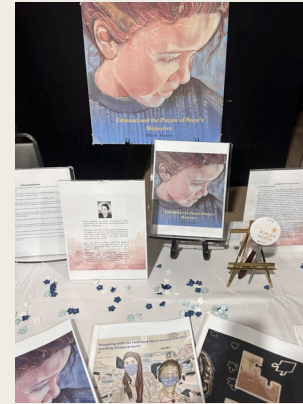
CalFresh Outreach Program: Our bilingual team helps more than 1,000 people each year navigate CalFresh (SNAP) food benefits. This helps families purchase nutritious food from local grocery stores each month.

The Imperial Valley Food Bank served as a hub for the Far South/Border North arts and culture initiative from 2023 - 2024, providing mentorship and guidance to more than 40 artists and cultural practitioners and four area nonprofits. In June, San Diego State University Imperial Valley's Stepling Gallery featured artwork by local artists which brought attention to food insecurity in our community and helped collect donations of shelf-stable food for the food bank.



"Table of Two Worlds: A Feast of Contrasts"
Kimberly Alfaro Massey

In September 2024, the Imperial Valley Food Bank recognized our local Far South/Border North artists, institutions, and creative projects in a showcase at the Imperial Valley Expo fairgrounds in September 2024.



Elsa Alvarez



Pioneer's Museum

IVFB in the News

In 2024, the Imperial Valley Food Bank was a newsmaker!

In March, we announced the addition of 3 new board members to our Board of Directors. Strong board leadership is essential to providing input to our executive team, further connecting us with the community we serve.

During April, we served as the host site for the Imperial Valley Regional Occupational Program's Career Technical Education (CTE) event which showcased and celebrated local high school culinary students. Students from Calexico, Calipatria and Brawley competed in knowledge and skill-based challenges to share the strength of these CTE programs as a pathway for professional opportunities after graduation.



Calipatria Culinary Team

The Imperial Valley Food Bank was featured in an October 2024 article bringing attention to rising food insecurity in the valley, highlighting our life-saving programs that bring health and hope to senior citizens, families, and children and our continued optimism to provide these critical services to our community.



Calexico residents walk up at the Calexico 10 Theatres to receive their monthly Imperial Valley Food Bank distributions

We anticipate that we will continue to make news in 2025 with new programs and other exciting changes with the unveiling of a new 2025- 2028 strategic plan.