

About Target Hunger



MISSION

Alleviating hunger and its root causes in the heart of Houston's inner city.

HISTORY

Target Hunger, a United Way agency, was founded in 1989 as a grassroots, community-based program to fight the increasing hunger problem within Houston's inner city neighborhoods. Community leaders such as the late congressman Mickey Leland and Pete Van Horn, along with others from the United Way, helped to form the Select Committee on Hunger to examine the issue of hunger in Houston. They found an area of town where the needs of the hungry were not being met, and Target Hunger was formed.

TODAY

Target Hunger is one of Houston's largest organizations that distributes food to families. Target Hunger assists individuals in inner-city neighborhoods who are food insecure.

- More than 3.6 million pounds of food are distributed each year.
- More than 9,800 individuals are served each month.
- Target Hunger manages 12 food pantries, 11 senior day sites, and 11 home delivery routes.
- Target Hunger has 16 community gardens that produce an average of 1,000 servings of vegetables per month in peak growing months.

We provide a holistic approach to hunger relief. Our agency focuses on rebuilding and strengthening family units by empowering our clients to become self-sufficient through our programs. Target Hunger currently offers the following programs:

- Nutrition Classes
- Education / Literacy Programs
- GED / ESL Classes
- Self-Esteem Classes
- Youth Development

Imagine Houston ...

A City Without Hunger

About Hunger



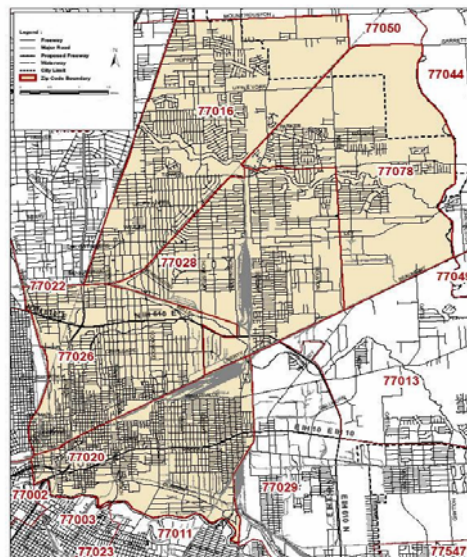
In The United States

- An estimated 37 million Americans are served annually by food banks and food pantries.
- An estimated 14 million children and nearly 3 million seniors are served annually by food banks and food pantries.
- Approximately 10 million client households served are food insecure, meaning they do not always know where they will find their next meal.
- Approximately 5.7 million people receive emergency food assistance from food pantries in any given week.
- One-in-four low-income households with one full-time, full-year worker is food insecure and similarly housing insecure.
- Poor education and the inability to get and keep a secure job with a decent wage is a major cause of hunger in America.

In Houston

- On any given day, an estimated 53,000 people are hungry in Houston.
- Of the 137,000 different people who receive food assistance each week from pantries, approximately 47% are children.
- Each year, 865,000 need assistance with food in Houston and throughout southeast Texas.
- Approximately 1 out of 3 families in Houston lack money for groceries at least once per month.
- The hunger relief system in Houston is approximately 6 million pounds short of what is needed each year.

Service Area



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Corporate Opportunities



VOLUNTEER SUPPORT

ORGANIZE A FOOD OR CLOTHING DRIVE

Employees can join together to organize food and clothing drives to benefit the individuals and families served by Target Hunger.

Needed Food Items:

- Canned Meat
- Canned Soup
- Canned Fruit
- Canned Vegetables
- Canned Juices
- Macaroni & Cheese
- Dry Beans
- Bags of Rice
- Peanut Butter
- Boxes or Cans of Ready to Eat Foods

Clothing:

- Gently used shirts, blouses, slacks, jeans, dress, and shoes.

WORK IN OUR COMMUNITY GARDENS AND FOOD PANTRIES

Target Hunger has 16 community gardens. Volunteers are needed to perform gardening and landscaping duties including, but not limited to, weeding, harvesting, sowing, planting, and mulching. Average time commitment: 2 - 5 hours

Target Hunger provides groceries and produce to individuals who are food insecure through 12 food pantry locations. Volunteers are needed to assist in packing and sorting grocery products. Volunteers are also needed to help distribute food to clients. Average time commitment: 2 - 5 hours

ADOPT-A-ROUTE

Your company can “adopt” a home delivery route. Volunteers deliver groceries and monitor the well-being of homebound clients.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

PARTICIPATE IN OUR SPECIAL EVENTS

Become sponsor at Target Hunger’s Annual Gala or Vintner Dinner. These events provide a great networking opportunity to meet other Target Hunger donors, volunteers, staff members, and members of the community.

BECOME A FRIEND OF TARGET HUNGER

Your corporation can become a friend of Target Hunger by donating \$1,000 to support our programs. In addition to receiving special recognition in our newsletter and on our web site, companies that are friends of Target Hunger also receive advance notice about special events during National Volunteer Week.

SPONSOR A FAMILY OR SENIOR FOR THE HOLIDAYS

Provide a helping hand during the holidays by having your corporation sponsor a 3-meal holiday package for a family or homebound senior. Take the holiday cheer a step further by delivering these packages to Target Hunger clients with a personalized card.