



SECOND  
HARVEST  
FOOD  
BANK  
ORANGE COUNTY

Fall 2025





## Nourishing Minds at Every Age

The school year is in full swing for students of all ages. But too many children and young adults in Orange County are facing class on an empty stomach.

A new UCLA study\* found that half of California's college students who were surveyed experienced food insecurity, with more than one in four skipping meals because they couldn't afford food. Such rates were even higher among community college students, where over 70% reported not having reliable access to food. And hunger isn't just a college issue: Elementary school students across the state are also struggling, with thousands of families relying on school meal programs and food assistance just to get by.

Second Harvest Food Bank of Orange County is committed to changing that. When kids have consistent access to nutritious food, they are better able to learn, focus and thrive in the classroom. From our College Pantry Program on 18 local campuses to our Permanent School Pantries that serve thousands of younger students and their families each month, we are working every day to ensure children and young adults have the nourishment they need to succeed, in school and in life.



*\*SNAP on College Campuses: Findings and Recommendations to Address Food Insecurity, 2025*



# Ten Years is Just the Start for Second Harvest Permanent School Pantries

This fall marks **10 years** since the launch of Second Harvest's Permanent School Pantry (PSP) Program – that's 10 years of making healthy food consistently available for families right where they need it most.

Open several days a week and run with the support of staff and volunteers, PSPs operate like small grocery stores located directly on school campuses or at community centers. PSPs give individuals and families the dignity of choosing the fresh produce, milk, protein and pantry staples that work best for their household.

Over the past decade, this innovative model has become a lifeline for thousands of families and individuals in Orange County. Today, seven **PSP locations serve more than 16,000 people each month, including over 5,000 children, and last year alone distributed nearly two million pounds of food.**



La Colonia Market at Anaheim Independencia

## PERMANENT SCHOOL PANTRY PROGRAM IMPACT

Number of  
Locations

**7**

Pounds of Food  
Distributed Last Year  
(FY2024-2025)

**1,936,117**

Number Served  
(Average Per Month)

**4,857**  
Households

**16,126**  
People

**5,152**  
Children

With your support, PSPs will continue to fuel students' success for years to come, ensuring that no child has to face the school day on an empty stomach.

**VISIT FEEDOC.ORG  
TO DONATE**

Point your phone's camera  
at this QR code to give now.



# Welcome Our New Board Members

Second Harvest Food Bank of Orange County is proud to welcome five outstanding new members to its Board of Directors: Helena Ferrari, Michael McGee, Gordon Roth, Garrett Sleichter and An Tran.

Each Board member will serve a three-year term, contributing their expertise to help further Second Harvest's vision of an Orange County with food and nutritional security for all.



**Helena Ferrari**  
**GPHR, PHR**  
CEO, The HRx



**Michael McGee**  
Vice President of Business  
Management in the  
Commercial Real Estate group  
at J.P. Morgan



**Gordon Roth**  
Partner, Board Member  
& CFO of Roth Capital  
Partners, LLC



**Garrett Sleichter**  
Partner, Corporate and  
Securities at Rutan & Tucker



**An Tran**  
Director of the Orange  
County Social Services Agency

**"Behind every great nonprofit is a great Board. We are thrilled to welcome these leaders who will only strengthen an already strong Board."**

*- Claudia Bonilla Keller, CEO, Second Harvest*

## Raising The Bar for OC

Once again, the Annual Food From The Bar campaign held each June showed the incredible generosity of Orange County's legal community. For nine years, this friendly competition has brought together law firms, attorneys and legal associations to raise funds and volunteer in support of Second Harvest's mission. This year, 20 firms and legal groups rallied **190 donors to raise a record-breaking \$172,103** and volunteer 198 hours. That's the largest campaign impact to date! We extend our heartfelt thanks to **Manly, Stewart & Finaldi and Minyard Morris** for serving as this year's co-title sponsors, and to all the participants who made this effort such a success.



The team from overall winner Minyard Morris (L-R): Alexander Payne, Mark Minyard, Jennifer Corona, Scott Savage & Rafael Serrano.

### AWARD WINNERS

**Pro Bono Publico Award (Overall Winner):** Minyard Morris

**Rockstar Rainmaker:** Orange County Trial Lawyers Association (large), Judicate West (medium), Houser LLP (small)

**Rockstar "Rangler" (Outstanding Coordinator):** Mark Minyard, Minyard Morris

**Rockstar Rookie:** Stradling Yocca Carlson & Rauth LLP

**Raising the Bar (Largest Individual Donor):** Var Fox, Judicate West

**Rockstar Voluntarius (Most Volunteer Hours):** Edwards Lifesciences General Counsel



# Thanks for Taking Action During Hunger Action Month!

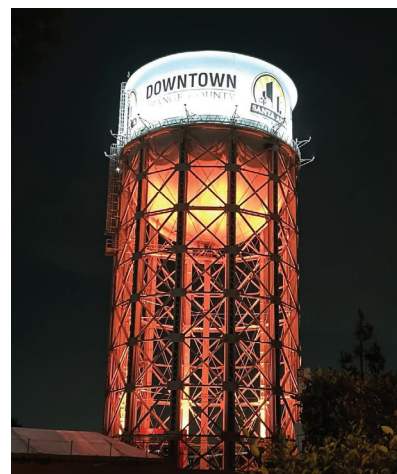
We are grateful to everyone who joined us in September in raising awareness and taking action for food security in Orange County. From our inaugural Hunger Action Month Kickoff Event at Great Park Live in Irvine to OC landmarks and billboards lighting up orange across OC, the support for our mission was strong. We premiered our advocacy video, KTTV FOX 11's Good Day LA highlighted Hunger Action Day, our food partner Kroger held a panel on food insecurity to help spread awareness, Cox ran a PSA, local restaurant Knife Pleat had a special Hunger Action Month cocktail, and local leaders amplified our message with official Proclamations at City Council meetings across Orange County and from the County Board of Supervisors. We had volunteer events hosted by Assemblywoman Cottie Petrie-Norris, UCLA and USC, and Pretend City Children's Museum. Together, we sparked learning, action and advocacy—and none of it would have been possible without you. Thanks for making this Hunger Action Month so great!



HAM Kickoff L-R: Jennie Cottle (OC United Way), Claudia Keller (Second Harvest), An Tran (OCHCA), James Mai (Irvine Vice-Mayor), Mike Learakos (Abound Food Care), Larry Agran (Irvine Mayor)



Food Bank staff coming together for Hunger Action Month



Santa Ana water tower

## WALK TO FEED OC: STEPPING OUT TO END HUNGER

Lace up your sneakers and bring your friends and family – the Fourth Annual Walk to Feed OC returns on Saturday, April 18, 2026! This free, 1.5-mile community walk helps to raise awareness and critical funds that support Second Harvest's mission. Our goal is to raise \$300,000, the equivalent of nearly 120,000 bags of groceries for children, families and seniors who need it most.



**Attention companies!** Become a sponsor, form a team, or encourage employee fundraising to promote your brand as a caring company and provide a foundation for community health.



Learn more at [feedoc.org/Walk](https://feedoc.org/Walk).



# Amazing Avocados!

Delicious avocados are in season right now here in Orange County! Not only are they the prime ingredient in a gametime go-to favorite, but they're also jam-packed with health benefits. From supporting heart health by lowering bad cholesterol and boosting important vitamins for bone and eye health, they are an important dietary staple. We hope you enjoy these recipes!

## BEST-EVER GUACAMOLE

### INGREDIENTS

- 3 avocados
- ½ small yellow onion, finely diced
- 2 Roma tomatoes
- 3 tablespoons fresh cilantro, finely chopped
- 1 jalapeño pepper, seeds removed
- 2 garlic cloves
- 1 lime
- ½ teaspoon of salt

### DIRECTIONS

1. Split avocados in half, remove the pit, and scoop into large mixing bowl
2. Mash the avocado with a fork (texture can be to your preference)
3. Add the remaining ingredients and stir together. Add more salt or lime juice if needed
4. Enjoy with your favorite chips and beverage!

\*Courtesy of Downshiftology;

<https://downshiftology.com/recipes/best-ever-guacamol>



## BEST-EVER AVOCADO TOAST

### AVOCADO TOAST AND VARIATIONS

- Select bread slice and toast as desired
- Halve avocado and place one half on toast, mashing it down with a fork
- Add toppings!
  - Everything Bagel Avocado Toast: Add "Everything but the Bagel" seasoning (and some red chili flakes if you like a little spice!)
  - Pesto Avocado Toast: Add pesto (To elevate the flavor, add tomato, sprinkle some sharp cheese or add an egg)
  - Arugula & Goat Cheese Avocado toast: Add a handful of arugula that has been seasoned with lemon juice and salt, and crumbled goat cheese - perfect way to start a summer day!

**Have an extra avocado on hand?** Add an avocado to your smoothie! It will make it creamy and is a good source of healthy fats.



# Thank You To Our Funders

We appreciate these generous supporters who have made recent grants or contributions of \$5,000 or more to Second Harvest. Ask your company if employee nominations for grants are accepted and contact us at [grants@feedoc.org](mailto:grants@feedoc.org). Reach out to [give@feedoc.org](mailto:give@feedoc.org) to learn about our corporate partnerships, where your brand will be recognized as a driving force for good. Together, we can have an even greater impact, providing a foundation for community health.

The Alberta S. Kimball - Mary L. Anhaltzer Foundation

The Albertsons Companies Foundation

Ameriprise Financial

Anonymous (4)

Bandai Namco Foundation of America Inc.

Bank of America Charitable Foundation

BoxLunch

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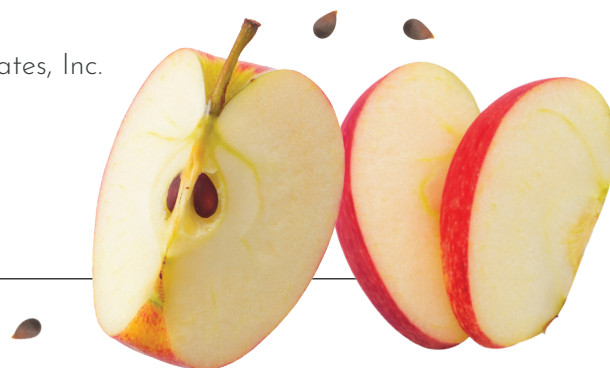
TJX Foundation, Inc.

Troutman Pepper Locke LLP

Troy Group, Inc.

Ueberroth Family Foundation

Walmart Foundation



## In The News

Second Harvest continues to shine in key local media coverage. Here are some recent clips:



KTTV FOX 11's Good Day LA | Inside Second Harvest Food Bank of Orange County



Orange County Business Journal | Feeding the Soul





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