

The Story:

Fall 2025

*Solving hunger today
for a hunger-free
tomorrow.*



***Your Generosity
Nourishes Our
Neighbors!***

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Dear Friend,

This spring, Feeding America, the national network of Food Banks, released its annual Map the Meal Gap Report. It shows that nearly 20% of children in America are experiencing food insecurity, and in rural areas, the food insecurity rates are much higher.

The report also indicates that 85% of counties with the highest food insecurity rates are rural, and the Brazos Valley Food Bank (BVFB)'s service area is 50% rural.

County	Food Insecurity Rate – ALL	Food Insecurity Rate – Children
Brazos	18.4%	22.7%
Burleson	16.0%	16.0%
Grimes*	16.7%	22.7%
Madison*	17.5%	23.6%
Robertson	18.6%	27.2%
Washington*	16.7%	22.7%

Feeding America Map the Meal Gap, Counties of the Brazos Valley Texas

BVFB is proud to provide child-friendly, nutritious meals to over a thousand children facing hunger each week through its Children's Backpack Program (page 4).

We also ensure rural and urban teens like Olivia can access healthy items at our School-Based Food Pantries. While Olivia especially enjoys the fruit cups, we know the food provides nourishment *and* stability (page 3).

I hope that these local stories of real neighbors facing challenges capture your heart and inspire you to continue to give. Thousands more Brazos Valley families facing hunger can only thrive when basic needs – like food – are met.

In these times of great uncertainty, we need you.

Yours sincerely,

Theresa Mangapora
Executive Director

You Help Olivia's Family Thrive

Olivia, 12, dreams of studying Marine Biology at Texas A&M University at Galveston. Thanks to the support of generous friends like you, she has the nutrition to fuel her education today and prepare for the future of her dreams.

"I love anything with animals," Olivia says of her goal of becoming an Aggie focused on Marine Biology.

Through your partnership, Olivia's family receives a bag of nutritious food every Friday, through a BVFB School-Based Food Pantry at Pecan Trail Intermediate in College Station.

"I love anything with animals."

Before visiting the School Pantry, Olivia says her family didn't have a lot of food on hand. Now, Olivia, her brother, 15, and her mom have the healthy food they can rely on. Olivia especially enjoys the fruit cups she receives.

**Name and photo changed for privacy.*



Olivia receives nourishing groceries from a BVFB School-Based Food Pantry in College Station.

Not only is a healthy diet imperative for students like Olivia to grow and learn, but it also offers a sense of stability for our young neighbors who worry more than we think when their family struggles with basic needs.

Thank you for helping pave the way towards a stronger future for so many Brazos Valley families like Olivia's.



40 Ways to Get Involved with BVFB

For four decades, BVFB has been committed to feeding hope and fighting hunger in the Brazos

Valley, and this year, we're inviting you to join us in making an even bigger impact.

In honor of our 40 years of service, we've created **40 Ways to Get Involved with BVFB** — a unique opportunity for everyone to participate in the fight against hunger.

Whether you want to volunteer, donate, or advocate, there's a way for you to make a difference. Explore a few of the options listed below and follow the QR Code to find even more ways to celebrate this milestone with us!

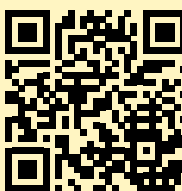
1. Learn — Join us for a tour of the food bank! Follow the QR code to schedule your visit and discover the work we do.

2. Educate — Share BVFB's social media posts! Spread the word and help us amplify the critical work we do together.

3. Champion — Join your local Hunger Coalition. Send an email to endhunger@standrewsbcs.org to learn more.

4. Volunteer — Commit to a monthly volunteer shift all year long. Be a consistent force for good!

5. Give — Donate 40 Items from Our Most Needed List. Celebrate BVFB's 40 years of service by donating 40 items from our [Most Needed List](#). Together, we can fight hunger!



Scan this QR CODE to discover all 40 ways to get involved with BVFB!

Together, we can create a hunger-free Brazos Valley.

Thank You for Strengthening Lives

Most students look forward to Fridays and the start of a weekend break from school. For students like Jordan*, Fridays are especially anticipated.

That's because every Friday during the school year, Jordan can take home a Backpack, filled with nutritious, kid-friendly food to help nourish children, like Jordan and her three younger siblings, when free and reduced-priced school meals aren't available.

In the Brazos Valley, 1 in 4 children like Jordan is facing hunger. Because of your support, the BVFB's Backpack Program ensures children have their own low-preparation food they can prepare themselves, for all weekend meals, ensuring a fresh start to the upcoming school week.

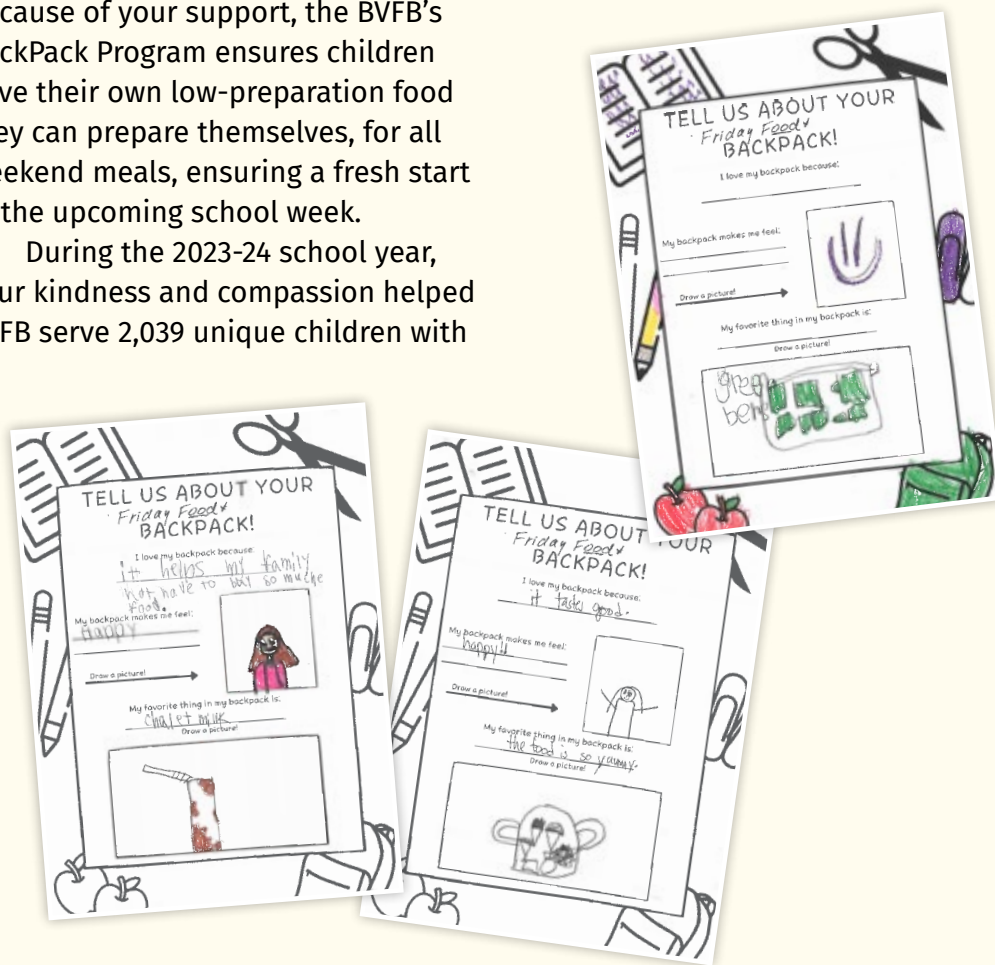
During the 2023-24 school year, your kindness and compassion helped BVFB serve 2,039 unique children with

53,395 food-filled Backpacks at 41 Partner Schools across 6 counties.

This means local children had access to a well-balanced diet to boost their immune systems, improve academic performance, beat fatigue, enhance concentration, and help them arrive to class Monday morning ready to learn.

Thank you for strengthening the lives of children in our community! Together, we are creating a hunger-free Brazos Valley.

**Name has been changed to protect privacy.*



BVFB's Backpack program provides healthy food and wholesome snacks to kids over the weekend.



[H-E-B's HELP
END HUNGER CAMPAIGN
Fall 2025](#)

[Visit your local H-E-B to
participate in this tear pad
campaign at store registers.
Donations directly benefit
the mission of BVFB.](#)



**TEXAS STATE EMPLOYEE
CHARITABLE CAMPAIGN
Fall 2025**

Are you a state employee?
If so, now is the time to
sign up for a sustaining
donation through a payroll
deduction that will fuel
the important work of the
Brazos Valley Food Bank!
BVFB SECC number: 250005



**COMBINED FEDERAL
CAMPAIGN
Fall 2025**

Federal, postal, and military
employees can make
sustaining donations to the
BVFB by enrolling in payroll
deductions.
BVFB CFC number: 24637



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