



February 2026

MONTHLY

**READY
SET
NOURISH**

2025 ANNUAL REPORT

Ready. Set. Nourish. — Our 2025 Impact

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Because of You, We Were Ready

2025 was a year marked by devastating storms, rising food prices, and growing economic uncertainty. During our fiscal year, from Oct. 1, 2024 to Sept. 30, 2025, families across our region faced increasing challenges. Because of you, we were ready to respond.

Our interactive Annual Report, now available on our website, tells the story of a community that stepped up to help neighbors in need. With your support, OFS was able to build on more than forty years of partnerships and strategic growth to provide help when it was needed most.



We distributed more than
\$32 MILLION
 worth of food through our programs and
 partner network in 25 counties.

14 Missouri Counties

- Cape Girardeau
- Crawford
- Franklin
- Gasconade
- Jefferson
- Lincoln
- Montgomery
- Pike
- St. Charles
- St. Francois
- St. Louis City
- St. Louis County
- Warren
- Washington

11 Illinois Counties

- Alexander
- Bond
- Calhoun
- Clinton
- Jackson
- Macoupin
- Madison
- Monroe
- St. Clair
- Washington
- Wayne



CHILD MEALS

688,618

weekend meals were provided at 366 locations

56,321

after-school meals were provided at 18 community sites

58,695

summer meals were provided at 36 locations

COMMUNITY NUTRITION



Nearly **3,000**

individuals participated in Community Nutrition classes and cooking demos

FOOD DISTRIBUTION

OFS MetroMarket served nearly **39,000** individuals at 388 markets.



OFS rescued nearly **13,264** pounds of fresh produce through our Gleaning Program.

Thanks to the recent expansion of our facility and the generosity of our supporters, we were able to meet rising demand without interruption, delivering food and resources to help individuals and families facing food insecurity.

We invite you to explore the full 2025 Annual Report to see how your support is helping nourish our neighbors and strengthen our community.

SEE THE IMPACT



Nourishing Students for the Future

Hunger doesn't take a weekend break. That simple truth is the foundation for Operation Backpack, one of our most impactful programs since launching twenty years ago. The program provides sacks of shelf-stable food for kids who rely on school meals for nutrition, bridging the gap between Friday and Monday.

During the school year, OFS distributes approximately 6,500 weekly sacks of food, each containing four meals, to schools and community sites in Missouri and Illinois. Children are discreetly given the food to take home for the weekend. In our 2025 fiscal year, the program provided more than 668,000 meals.

Now, we're reaching kids with nutrition *and* nutrition education. At the request of school partners, the OFS team stepped into the classroom at Jefferson Elementary in the Normandy School Collaborative to teach students about MyPlate, the different food groups, and how to make balanced snacks. Students created their own trail mix to take home, learning practical skills while having fun.

"By pairing weekend food assistance with nutrition education, we're addressing both immediate need and long-term skills," said Amanda Noelker, OFS Child Nutrition Program Manager. "Additional monthly classes are being planned to continue building knowledge, confidence, and healthy habits."

School partners have long reported meaningful results from Operation Backpack.

- 87% have seen a positive impact on families.
- Nearly 60% report improvements in academic performance and behavior.

When children don't have to worry about where their next meal is coming from, they can focus on learning, growing, and thriving.

Operation Backpack is an example of the power of partnerships and community. With your support, we are nourishing students—not just for the weekend, but for their future.

Want to join us in a fun evening in support of Operation Backpack? Come to Party for Packs on April 30! See information below.



You're Invited!

Join us for a signature tasting experience that helps the kids who need it most. Turn your night out into something meaningful.

Thurs., April 30, 2026

6-9 p.m.

The Majorette



Every Swing Makes a Difference!

Turn a day on the course into providing meals, stability, and hope for families facing food insecurity.

Mon., July 13, 2026

Lunch at 11 a.m.

**7150 Manchester Ave.
Maplewood, MO 63143**

Event Overview

Party for Packs is a tasting event that brings together some of St. Louis' local restaurants, drink makers, and talent for one incredible night.

The event supports Operation Backpack, which provides weekend meals to kids at risk of hunger.

Your ticket or sponsorship directly fuels this work.

Here's what you can look forward to:

- **Generous Tastings** from local restaurants, chefs & vendors
- **Open Bar** featuring beer, wine & spirits
- **A Built-In Community** of young professionals and supporters from across St. Louis

Reserve your ticket now for this fun opportunity to provide weekend meals for kids by supporting our Operation Backpack program.

[Click here](#) for more information.

**Shotgun Start: Noon
Norwood Hills Country Club
St. Louis, MO 63121**

Event Overview

Swing to Heal Hunger unites golfers, sponsors, and community partners for a memorable day on the course, all in support of Operation Food Search.

Participants will enjoy:

- **A round at Norwood Hills Country Club**, one of St. Louis's premier golf destinations
- **Lunch**, on-course snacks and beverages, **and dinner** with a hosted bar
- **Fun tournament contests**, including Closest to the Pin and Longest Drive
- A dinner program highlighting **Fund the Future**
- Additional opportunities to give back through on-course **games, raffles, and more**

Join OFS on the green and help drive out hunger, because every swing makes a difference!

[Click here](#) for more information.

Ways To Give



Donate

Give a one-time gift or become a Hunger Healer with recurring donations.

[Give online here.](#)



Honor Someone with a Gift

Recognize someone special while helping solve the problem of hunger in a directly impactful way.

[Learn more here.](#)



Get Your Gift Matched

Search for your company to see if it matches gifts or volunteer hours.

[Search here.](#)



Plan a Legacy Gift

Include OFS in your estate plan and help ensure a better future.

[Learn more here.](#)



Give Us a Like

Spread the word about OFS and our mission to end hunger in the St. Louis region.



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