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May 2025



Responding to Need After the Tornado

Together, We're Delivering Relief—and Hope

In the wake of the devastating tornado, **your generosity** has already made a difference. You answered the call to provide relief for families in the **hardest-hit areas**, enabling us to respond swiftly to the growing need for food and other resources.

What We Have Accomplished Together:

At a May 22 distribution event, we joined our partners from the **St. Louis County Library**, **Delmar DivIne**, the **St. Louis Area Diaper Bank**, and **Missouri Baptist Disaster Relief** to provide:

- 7,125 diapers
- 187 flow kits (period supplies)
- 452 boxes of non-perishable supplies
- 500 hot meals
- And every last piece of fresh produce from MetroMarket was taken home by grateful families

Many people also came to drop off donations and other supplies during the event!

In total, **21 pantries in our network** are in the area affected by the storm. We're working to restock them and keep MetroMarket on the move with **nutritious food and critical supplies.**

The week following the storm, several **agencies without power** were grilling hamburgers and hot dogs outside to feed neighbors. What **amazing commitment in difficult circumstances!** OFS purchased charcoal, meat, buns, and condiments to assist.



We've had incredible support from other partners, as well. **Russo's Catering** has kindly offered to donate hot meals to OFS community food partners. Our staff delivered Russo's hot meals to **St. Louis Empowerment Center** and **West Central Church**, and box lunches to **Elmwood Memorial Church Food Pantry.**

Propel Kitchens donated 18 half-pans of baked ziti to be given away by MetroMarket at a stop at **People's Health Center.**

Special thanks to the **Berges Family Foundation** who quickly stepped up with a \$50,000 grant to purchase food during this critical time. **Post Holdings** also jumped in with a gift of \$25,000. They are both dedicated partners and friends!

How You Can Help Now:

1. Drop Off Most-Needed Items

Now through June 27, **Bank of America** is hosting a collection drive at 30 of their locations for urgently needed supplies. These will go directly to families via our mobile markets. You can also make an [ONLINE DONATION](#).

You can also drop off shelf-stable food items at **Plaza Frontenac**, where blue OFS bins will be on hand from Friday, June 6 through Sunday, June 22.

[See a list of most-needed items here.](#)

2. Donate Items from Our Wishlist

With a few clicks, you can get essential supplies to neighbors in need. Our wishlist is set up via this [Amazon link](#).

3. Make a Gift

Your contribution helps us deliver food, supplies, and compassion to those rebuilding their lives. Gift amounts of any size are needed and appreciated!

[Click here to GIVE NOW.](#)

Together, we're delivering more than food—we're delivering hope. Your donations fuel our disaster response, outreach programs, and daily operations. Thank you for being part of a community of caring!

GIVE NOW

Operation Backpack Helps Power Emergency Distributions

To address **the need for nutritious food for children** at risk of hunger, our Operation Backpack (OBP) program has responded by **redeploying food to areas of greatest need**. The food purchased for Operation Backpack—originally designated for **weekend meals for kids** at risk of hunger—has become an essential source of immediate relief now that schools are out for the summer.

- At **O'Fallon Park YMCA**, we supplied 400 OBP boxes to **ActionSTL**, each full of shelf-stable food like cereal, milk, soup, fruit, and more.
- At **Delmar DivNe**, a coordinated effort with **St. Louis County Library**, **Missouri Baptist Disaster Relief**, and the **St. Louis Area Diaper Bank** saw 500 OBP bags distributed to families.
- We're also diverting more kid-friendly food to pantries like **Centennial Christian Church**, as families continue to recover.



Mobile Market, Maximum Impact

MetroMarket has played a vital role in our storm response, **transforming into a “pantry on wheels”** for regular stops in the areas most impacted. OFS staff and volunteers have been working hard to pivot service in those areas so that food and supplies can be given away **at no cost**.

- MetroMarket's Farmers Truck has been stocked with shelf-stable food and other supplies, serving the communities where grocery access remains limited.
- At **Wesley House**, OFS brought ready-to-eat meals and staples to families in need.

- The MetroMarket service model continues to be adjusted according to the needs of the community.

Learn more about MetroMarket's [current schedule here](#).



Partner Highlight: Delivering More Than Prescriptions

Our partnership with Greater Health Pharmacy has been essential in bringing both food and medicine to those affected by the storm. We're working together to facilitate doorstep delivery of shelf-stable food in the impacted areas.

Featured in the news:

- [KSDK: Pharmacy and OFS Team Up](#)
- [First Alert 4 Coverage](#)

We're proud to partner with organizations that go above and beyond to meet urgent needs with compassion and care.



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.

Committed to Excellence
 Operation Food Search is certified and accredited for its accountability, transparency and adherence to strong and comprehensive industry standards.



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