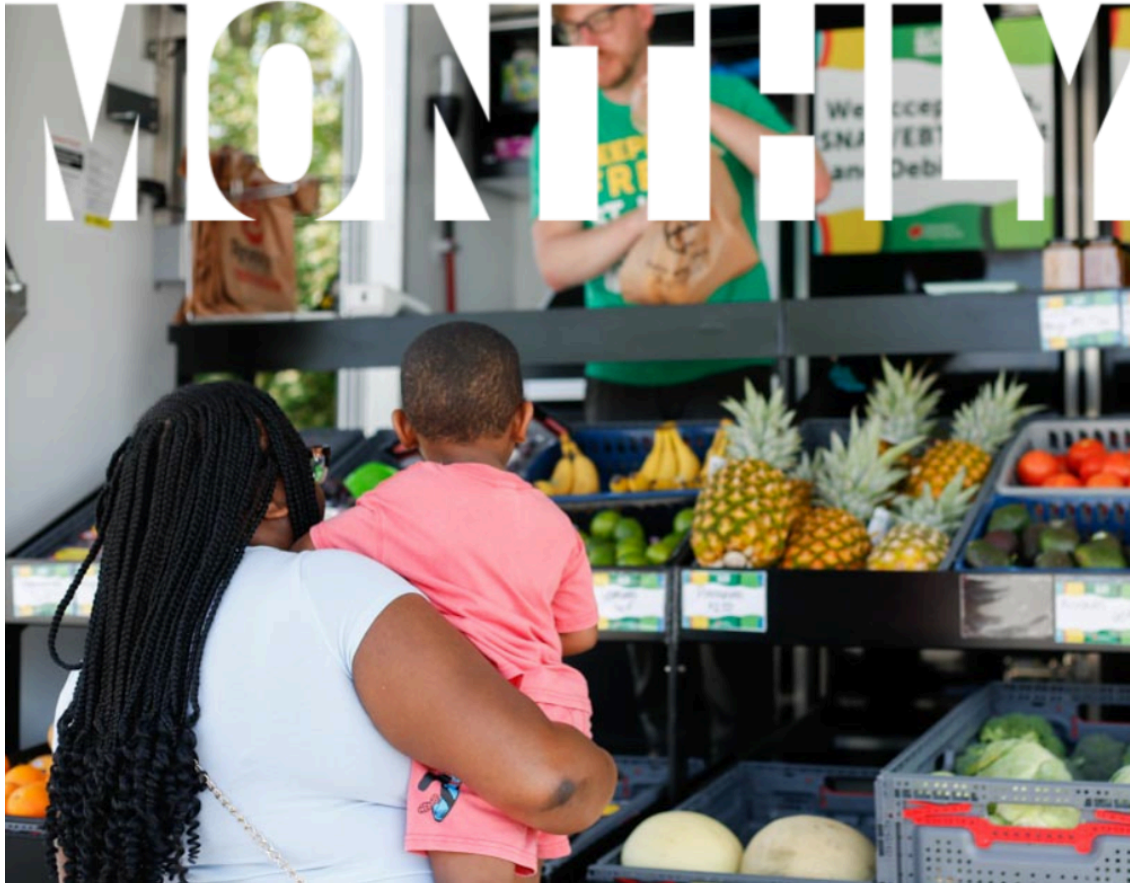


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September 2025



Who Is Facing Hunger Today?

Help Us Keep the Tools We Need to Fight Hunger

When we think about **fighting hunger**, it's natural to picture putting actual food into people's hands and getting **meals onto the dinner table**. But there are tools that are just as important, like the **data that helps us understand who and where those people are**, if hunger is rising and how to respond.

For more than 30 years, that tool has been the **USDA's Household Food Security Report**. It is the nation's most consistent and comprehensive source of information on hunger, breaking down survey results by **age, race, geography, and severity**. At OFS, it has helped guide decisions about every program, indicating where we need to

expand child nutrition programs, how to **map the routes for our mobile farmers market**, and where to direct resources to meet the greatest need.

That’s why the **USDA’s decision to cancel** the 2025 Household Security Report is so concerning. **Hunger isn’t static—needs change constantly**, as we saw with the tornado that left so many vulnerable last spring. **Food prices and food access** change, as well. Grocery bills are nearly 30% higher than they were five years ago. And **policy decisions** can mean huge disruptions in support for hunger relief: new federal requirements are expected to **reduce or eliminate SNAP benefits** for more than 600,000 people in Missouri and Illinois.

Cancelling the report does not cancel hunger. It simply makes it harder to see. . . and solve. If you’re concerned about the impact of hunger relief organizations like OFS losing access to such **crucial data**, there is a way to help.

Please reach out to Missouri’s Senators **Eric Schmitt and Josh Hawley** or Illinois’s Senators **Richard Durbin and Tammy Duckworth** at senate.gov and share your concerns.

Together, we can help **keep the tools we need to fight hunger**—and make sure families in our community are not left behind.

Add your voice to **restore the hunger report** and protect food security data.

TAKE ACTION



Help Us Harvest Produce!

Our partners at **EarthDance Organic Farm School** have invited OFS to glean



Feast for Change a Success

Feast for Change 2025 brought together more than **280 guests** for an

weekly for the next few weeks, **harvesting produce that would otherwise be wasted** so it can be distributed to the community.

If you'd like to be a part of these vital efforts to **combat food waste** and get **nutritious produce to people in need**, you can join us!

Bring a friend or family member and help us harvest okra, peppers, and other crops as they become available.

All ages are welcome at these fun, **hands-on volunteer events**.

When:

Tuesdays, Sept. 30, Oct. 7, Oct. 14 | 8:30–11:00 AM

Where:

EarthDance Organic Farm School, 233 S Dade Ave, Ferguson, MO 63135

Learn more and [sign up here](#).

unforgettable evening of food, fellowship, and generosity. Held on September 13 at **Piazza Messina in Cottleville**, the event featured a **farm-to-table dinner**, cocktails and hors d'oeuvres, a lively auction, and a **pop-up farmers market** with 10 local vendors.

Together, our community **raised more than \$180,000** in net proceeds to support Operation Food Search's mission to **heal hunger and strengthen families** across the St. Louis region.

This year, we were proud to honor **Bayer as our Champion for Change** award recipient.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to our Presenting Sponsor, **Post Holdings**, Urban Farms sponsors **Edward Jones** and **RGA**, and Farmers Market sponsors **BCLP** and **US Bancorp**.

We are grateful to all our **sponsors, vendors, and guests** who joined us in making Feast for Change 2025 a night to remember.

See the night in photos [here](#).

10/4

ELECTRONICS & FOOD RECYCLING & DRIVE



9am – 12pm
Saturday,
October 4, 2025





**Operation
Food Search
Headquarters**
1644 Lotsie Blvd
St. Louis, MO 63132



\$0 CHARGE / FREE RECYCLING = Most E-Waste
\$0.4 PER LB CHARGE = Flat Screen Monitors & TVs
\$1 PER LB CHARGE = CRT / Tube Monitors & TVs



Recycle Electronics and Nourish Neighbors

Looking for a place to safely recycle those **old laptops, phones, or TVs**? Join us on Saturday, **October 4 from 9 AM–12 PM** at Operation Food Search for a special **Electronics Recycling & Food Drive** in partnership with Phoenix Solutions .

Bring your **e-waste to be securely recycled** (most items are free; TVs and monitors carry a small fee) and **drop off shelf-stable food** donations for families in need. By combining efforts, we'll **protect the environment and provide essential nutrition** for people facing hunger.

Accepted electronics: computers, laptops, tablets, phones, smart watches, servers, hard drives, and more (all data securely destroyed).

- **Not accepted:** batteries, fluorescent bulbs, large appliances, printers/scanners, or kitchen devices. (See Phoenix Solutions' full list for details.)

Most-needed food items: canned tuna, chicken, beans, fruits, vegetables, soup, stew, brown rice, whole wheat pasta, and dried spices.

When & Where

Saturday, October 4 | 9 AM–12 PM

Operation Food Search parking lot

1644 Lotsie Blvd., Overland, MO 63124

Event details & donation guidelines [here](#).

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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