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March 2026

# MONTHLY



## Community in Action: Supporting TSA Workers

### OFS Emergency Response at Local Airports

This past month, federal workers faced financial uncertainty, and thousands of Transportation Security Administration (**TSA**) **employees worked without pay** due to the partial federal government shutdown. In our region, many of these workers are neighbors and parents who **keep our airports running safely** every day. After weeks without income, the situation became urgent for some families.

At Operation Food Search, we stepped in to respond to this moment of need. On March 17, **we distributed 400 emergency food kits to TSA employees** at St. Louis Lambert International Airport. Each bag contained just under \$20 worth of nonperishables, such as **beans, pasta, rice, and apple sauce**, to stay within limits regarding the value of gifts federal employees can receive.

"We're grateful to have been able to work with airport officials to **bring the food directly to employees**," said Kristen Wild, OFS President and CEO. "This allowed support to reach workers quickly without adding additional strain during an already

support to reach workers quickly without adding additional strain during an already difficult time.”

In addition to the one-day distribution, OFS has established **ongoing support through temporary pantries** set up at MidAmerica Airport and Lambert International Airport.

When challenges like this unfold across the country, it’s always a powerful reminder of **how people come together to support those closest to home** who are feeling the impact in real time. In an interview with CBS News, CEO Kristen Wild said, **“Most people are only one crisis away from needing this type of aid.** If they miss a paycheck, it means missed meals.”

Even as the shutdown created uncertainty nationwide, we were able to respond locally **with the help of our donors, partners, and colleagues** and ensure essential workers had reliable access to food when they needed it most.

View the **CBS Morning News** interview:



[Watch Now](#)



## Make Your Donation Go Twice As Far

Did you know you could **double—or even triple—the impact** of your donation to

Operation Food Search? Many employers match charitable donations or volunteer hours made by their team members (and sometimes even retirees!)

To find out if your company has a matching gift program, **simply enter your employer's name** through our [Double the Donation widget](#). It will tell you if they have a matching gift program and how to sign up for it. We'll handle the rest!

Check your match today and help us turn your compassion into **twice as much food** for the families who need it most.

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## Support Our Work : Join Us for Our Special Events



**Party for Packs**  
**Thursday, April 30**  
**6–9 p.m.**  
**Majorette in Maplewood**

Join us for a signature tasting experience that turns a night out into meaningful impact.

Party for Packs brings together some of St. Louis' favorite restaurants, drink makers, and local talent for one vibrant evening.

Guests will enjoy generous tastings, an open bar, a community of young professionals, and supporters of all ages.

Every ticket and sponsorship directly supports Operation Backpack, which provides nutritious weekend meals to kids at risk of hunger. Last year, OFS provided nearly 700,000 meals through the program.

Registration is live now!



**Swing to Heal Hunger**  
**Monday, July 13**  
**11 a.m.–Evening**  
**Norwood Hills Country Club**

Spend a day on one of St. Louis's premier courses while making a real difference for families in need.

Swing to Heal Hunger brings together golfers, sponsors, and community partners for a full day of play, connection, and giving back.

Enjoy lunch, on-course snacks and beverages, tournament contests, and a dinner program highlighting Fund the Future.

Proceeds support programs like Nutrition Education, the Teaching Kitchen, and MetroMarket.

Every swing helps drive out hunger!

[Learn More](#)



**Feast for Change**  
**Saturday, Sept. 12**  
**6–10 p.m.**  
**Norwood Hills Country Club**

Feast for Change is an evening centered on connection, community, and the shared goal of ending hunger.

Guests will enjoy cocktail creations, chef-inspired hors d'oeuvres, a pop-up farmers market, and a full dinner experience.

The night also features a live auction and Fund the Future, supporting critical OFS programs.

Together, we can expand access to nourishing food and build a healthier, more vibrant region.

Join us for a night that brings people together and creates lasting impact.

[Learn More](#)

[Learn More](#)

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## 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 Follow



Join our social community and help spread the word about OFS and our mission to create a future free from hunger.



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