

## After Hurricane Irma, our community called for help. You answered.

### Your impact in the wake of Hurricane Irma

From the moment Hurricane Irma made landfall in Florida on September 10, 2017 our communities were changed. Six million Floridians would be left without power and thousands would be rescued from rising water by the time the storm exited the state. For those already living one crisis away from food and economic insecurity before the storm, Irma dealt a particularly devastating blow. Forced out of their homes and distanced from family, church and other traditional sources of support, many of our neighbors faced a bleak situation. They did not know it, but help was on the way.



Thanks to your financial support, Feeding Northeast Florida moved into action even before the rain stopped falling, positioning critical resources in the hardest hit areas, activating our dedicated network of community volunteers and collaborating in real time with key local and national partners to meet needs as they emerged.

#### In the immediate aftermath of the storm, your gift helped us to:

Distribute over **830,000 emergency meals** to those facing the greatest need, including **180,000 bottles of water** and **89,000 disaster-relief-kit meals**.

**Support hunger-relief efforts for local emergency shelters** throughout Northeast Florida including additional distributions to key community partners like ElderSource, who focus on seniors and adults with disabilities.

Focus distributions of 150,000 pounds of food to our lead community partners- including **Sulzbacher Center, Salvation Army, City Rescue Mission, BEAM, Five Star Veterans Center, Campus Towers, Palm Ave Exceptional Center**, and area **school pantries**- making sure their client's food needs were met and freeing their staff to address other critical needs and services.

Launch targeted mobile food pantries to **ensure healthy foods and water reached seniors, children and those areas that were deeply impacted by the storm.**



## Even months after Irma the spike in need persists, and your gift continues to provide significant returns.



From October through December 2017, we distributed over **three million meals** to continue to support the urgent need in our community.

**Feeding Northeast Florida is utilizing your financial support to serve those in need today and build a stronger food bank for tomorrow.**

**Your gift is helping us to:**

-Increase the effectiveness of our Partner Agencies, saving them **nine million dollars** since September 10th, an incredible investment they can deploy to **fight poverty** and **strengthen our community**.

-Develop efficient, new ways of meeting critical community need, such as expansion of our **nutrition pack programs, food desert mobile pantries,** and new or expanded **hunger-relief programs** with partner agencies.



Kenneth is a disabled army veteran living in Jacksonville. Before he heard about one of our distributions, he was deciding whether to buy food or make critical repairs to his home after the storm.



**When the flood water rose, so did you. Thank you for your contribution to our community in the wake of Hurricane Irma.**

To see a glimpse of your gift in action, visit our website [www.FeedingNEFL.org/hurricane](http://www.FeedingNEFL.org/hurricane).



Local schools were closed for over a week during and after the storm. That meant thousands of children would be without the free breakfast and lunch normally provided at school.