

For Immediate Release



Contact:

Olivia Sip, Communications Specialist
Feeding South Dakota
W: 605.335.0364, ext. 1231 | C: 218.474.1504
olivia.sip@feedingsouthdakota.org

Food Insecurity on the Rise: Feeding South Dakota Highlights Importance of Hunger Action Month

Sioux Falls (9/2/2026) — Feeding South Dakota is joining Feeding America and hunger-relief organizations nationwide in recognizing Hunger Action Month this September, a month dedicated to raising awareness about food insecurity and inspiring action to help neighbors facing hunger.

According to Feeding America's latest Map the Meal Gap study 130,340 people in South Dakota, including 1 in 5 children, are food insecure; a significant increase from the prior report. Rising costs for essentials such as groceries and energy continue to strain household budgets, leaving many families struggling to put food on the table.

"For the more than 50 years that we've been serving the state South Dakotans have come together to help their neighbors, and that's what Hunger Action Month is all about," said Lori Dykstra, CEO of Feeding South Dakota. "Every act of support helps strengthen our communities and moves us closer to a South Dakota where no one goes hungry."

Thanks to a special collaboration between First Interstate Bank and the Federal Home Loan Bank of Des Moines, donations to Feeding South Dakota in September will be matched, helping provide more meals and resources for individuals and families experiencing hunger across South Dakota.

The organization is also hosting its first-ever volunteer-a-thon, [***Delivering Through the Decades***](#), at each of its distribution centers in Pierre, Rapid City, and Sioux Falls. During these high-energy events, volunteers will help sort and pack food that will be distributed to neighbors facing hunger throughout the state. Community members are invited during open house hours to take guided warehouse tours, see the mission in action, learn more

about hunger in South Dakota, meet staff and volunteers, and enjoy complimentary snacks and refreshments.

"Delivering Through the Decades is an opportunity for our community to experience firsthand how food moves from donors and partners to families facing hunger across South Dakota," Dykstra shared. "Hunger Action Month was the right time to host these events because it will take all of us working together to end hunger. Whether you're volunteering, making a donation, taking a warehouse tour, or simply learning more about food insecurity in our state, you can be part of the solution. We invite everyone to join us this September and help ensure every South Dakotan has access to the nutritious food they need to thrive."

To learn more about Hunger Action Month and the Delivering Through the Decades events visit www.feedingsouthdakota.org/ham

About Feeding South Dakota

Feeding South Dakota is the state's largest hunger-relief organization, serving families, children, and seniors in all 66 counties through its partners and programs. Working alongside donors, volunteers, and policymakers, Feeding South Dakota is committed to addressing immediate needs while advancing long-term solutions to end hunger in South Dakota.

Learn more by visiting www.feedingsouthdakota.org

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PH: 605-335-0364 | feedingsouthdakota.org | info@feedingsouthdakota.org

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Feeding South Dakota | 4701 N Westport Ave | Sioux Falls, SD 57107 US

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