

# 2024: About Food Connection



Food Connection relieves hunger while reducing food waste by connecting surplus, freshly prepared meals with those experiencing food insecurity.



## The Work of Food Connection

Total meals delivered to our neighbors in need:

**650,000 MEALS**

Quantity of fresh, edible meals kept out of the Buncombe County Landfill

**270+ TONS**



Founded in Asheville, NC in 2015, Food Connection expanded its food rescue services through the Mobile Meals Complimentary Food Truck Experience going directly into neighborhoods and to after school programs such as Verner Early Childhood Learning (pictured above)

### Hunger in Buncombe County

Extensive data from Feeding America shows that **Buncombe Co. has an identified Food Insecurity Rate of 13.5%** (2019 report). Based on the population in 2019, that translates to an estimated **35,782** of our neighbors experiencing food insecurity.

**Meanwhile, the USDA estimates that 39% of the food produced in the USA ends up in the landfills.**

Twenty nine percent of our food insecure population in Buncombe County earn more than 200% of the national poverty rate; making them ineligible for any federal food assistance.

**Food Connection offers food to anyone in need. No questions asked.**

Learn more at [Food-Connection.org](http://Food-Connection.org)

**Join Food Connection and help reduce food waste and ease hunger in Buncombe and beyond!**

Contact Flori Pate 828-275-3520  
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# FOOD connection.

Reducing Food Waste.  
Easing Hunger.

## Making the Connections

Food Connection rescues and delivers delicious food from the kitchens below. We are always making new connections!

### Current Food Donor Partners



When you support Food Connection you are *also* supporting ALL of the amazing organizations who receive our meals.

### Food Recipient Partners

- 12 Baskets
- ABCCM Veterans Resortation Quarters
- AHOPE (Homeward Bound)
- Beacon of Hope
- BEAR Closet (Marion)
- Big Ivy
- Black Mountain Home for Children
- Black Mountain Open Table
- Blue Ridge Sr. Apartments
- Collins Center for Early Learning
- East Asheville Welcome Table
- Ellie in Haw Creek
- Foothills Food Hub
- Helpmate
- Hope for Tomorrow
- IRL Asheville Middle School
- Leicester Welcome Table
- Lighthouse Collective Foundation
- Loving Food Resources
- MANOS/UNETE
- PEAK Academy
- Ridgeview Community Center
- Salvation Army
- Sunrise Community Center
- Sunrise Blair Respite
- Swannanoa Free Curbside Drive-Thru
- Swannanoa Valley Christian Ministries
- Verner Center
- Western Carolina Rescue Mission



Contact Flori Pate - Co-Founder: 828-275-3520 or [Flori@food-connection.org](mailto:Flori@food-connection.org)