

FEEDING SAN DIEGO

By Amber Korody



throughout San Diego County. Their research is highlighted below:

- 379,130 people in San Diego County are food insecure (11.7% of total population).
- Feeding San Diego is home to the 7th largest number of children facing hunger in the US, with 127,280 children in San Diego County being food insecure.
- 67% of children at risk of hunger in San Diego County are eligible for federal nutrition programs (free or reduced-price school lunch or breakfast).
- The average cost of a meal in San Diego County is \$3.36, higher than the national average of \$3.00.
- The annual meal gap for Feeding San Diego's service area is nearly 65,000,000 meals.

For the past few years, CAI San Diego has partnered with Feeding San Diego in a community effort to support hungry households. Established in 2007, Feeding San Diego continues to support impoverished families through respect, urgency, integrity, health/nutrition, and innovation. Feeding San Diego is a non-profit organization with a 501c (3) filing status and a member of the national organization, Feeding America.

In 2018, Feeding America published a study called "Map the Meal Gap" that estimated the rate of food insecurity

Feeding San Diego works in various ways through financial donations, grocery stores, manufacturers, farmers, restaurants, and local retailers. Much of the food that is organized and distributed to the neighborhoods is done through volunteers or community partners and never enters their



in need of food in San Diego is alarming, but with organizations coming together as a community something can be done. The CAI San Diego Community Outreach Committee has recruited participation through an annual food drive, which over the past three years has accumulated more than 5,300 pounds of food. The food collected is distributed by Feeding San Diego to support children, families, and seniors that are not to sustain hunger-free environments due to their circumstances. Our volunteers also participate for a cause at Feeding San Diego, where they organize large batches of donated food into manageable packages for distribution.

The 2019 food drive is set to begin on June 1st and run through July 20th where there will be a drop-off and volunteer shift. For more information on how to participate please visit the CAI San Diego website at www.cai-sd.org/events

Feeding America, "Map the Meal Gap" - <https://feedingsandiego.org/about/hunger-research/map-the-meal-gap/>



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