

# Frequently Asked Questions for Hunger-Fighting Partners

Food Recovery Network includes more than 250 hunger-fighting partners. These nonprofits receive food donated through FRN chapters and serve it to community members, free of charge.

As pillars of support for communities, as well as the backbones of FRN programs, hunger-fighting partners serve on the front lines of the fight to end hunger in the United States.

## WHAT IS FOOD RECOVERY NETWORK?

Food Recovery Network (FRN) is a student-led movement against food waste and hunger in the United States. As a national network of college students, food businesses, and hunger-fighting nonprofits, we connect food-insecure communities with surplus food. The movement began at the University of Maryland in 2011, and in just five years we've grown into a national network of 198 chapters in 44 states that have donated more than 1.6 million pounds of food! [Learn more about FRN's model and impact here.](#)

## WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF JOINING FOOD RECOVERY NETWORK?

There are many benefits to partnering with FRN, but the first and foremost is regular fresh food donations. Recovered food varies depending on the donor and the community; hunger-fighting partners and FRN student chapters should discuss the details of these exchanges together.

FRN's nonprofit partners report positive experiences from being part of the network; for example, 81 percent of nonprofit partners report that recovered food from FRN introduces more variety to the food they provide, and 71 percent report that working with FRN saves money that their organization can use for other purposes.

Beyond regular food donations, FRN chapters often hope to establish a sustainable relationship with service opportunities between their hunger-fighting partner and their student volunteers.

Lastly, joining the network connects you to a larger movement of people and organizations all around the country who care about fighting waste and feeding people!

## WHAT DO I NEED TO DO AS A MEMBER OF FOOD RECOVERY NETWORK?

As a hunger-fighting partner in Food Recovery Network, you must:

1. Operate as a nonprofit organization, and agree not to charge money for recovered food
2. Have a refrigerator or a freezer to store recovered food
3. Have the capacity to reheat food on-site
4. Work with your local FRN chapter to determine logistics and sign the Partner Agency Agreement

FRN's National office asks for your participation in collecting data and promotional materials to support our mission. Sharing photos and testimonials highlights the important work of hunger-fighting partners and spreads word about the Network's impact. Completing our annual Partner Agency Survey improves the Network's resource development and enables stronger reporting and storytelling about our impact.

## AS A HUNGER-FIGHTING PARTNER AGENCY, WHAT CAN I EXPECT FROM OUR FRN STUDENT CHAPTER?

You can expect donations on a regular basis, keeping in mind that the quantity and types of food may vary each week depending on who our donor is and what is available. FRN Chapters uphold food safety during the donation process. Many FRN chapters seek additional service opportunities and resource sharing to benefit their hunger-fighting partners, depending on their capacities.

## AS A HUNGER-FIGHTING PARTNER AGENCY, WHAT CAN I EXPECT FROM FRN NATIONAL?

At the FRN National office, we support the trifecta of student leaders, hunger-fighting nonprofits, and food donors. We encourage nonprofit leaders and student leaders to forge relationships that go deeper than food donation, through volunteering, event partnership, and resource sharing. Many FRN students and nonprofit partners collaborate by organizing community dinners, events, and supply drives. The opportunities are endless!

We also support hunger-fighting partners by sharing your stories. If you have hunger-fighting stories, photos, or testimonials about your work (especially your work with FRN), we're always happy to share media on our blog and social media. If you post photos with FRN students, feel free to tag [our account!](#)

FRN National collects data about the successes, challenges, and impacts of food recovery through our annual Partner Agency Survey. By participating in this survey, you help advance understanding of food recovery so that programs and networks like ours can continue to expand.

## WHO CAN I CONTACT IF I HAVE QUESTIONS?

Please reach out if you have questions, concerns, or feedback. You can contact this year's hunger-fighting Partner Liaison by emailing [programs@foodrecoverynetwork.org](mailto:programs@foodrecoverynetwork.org).