

**ELIMINATING HUNGER
CHANGING LIVES**



**"I love being a part of
the ACFS Miracle."**

- Kim Scott, ACFS volunteer



**CELEBRATING
14 YEARS OF
SERVING CHILDREN
AND FAMILIES
THROUGHOUT
CENTRAL ALABAMA**

**HUNGER
TO HOPE**

#togetherwecanendhunger



WHY WE DO WHAT WE DO

THE NEED

Alabama Childhood Food Solutions is a faith-based distribution center dedicated to providing food and hope to those in need across central Alabama. In our state:

- Over 750,000 people struggle with food insecurity
- 225,000 of them are children
- 1 in 4 children face the harsh reality of going to bed hungry without the support of ACFS

As the 5th poorest state in the nation, many of our neighbors are fighting a battle they cannot win without our support and solidarity.

THE SOLUTION

ACFS has four ministries to aid families and children:

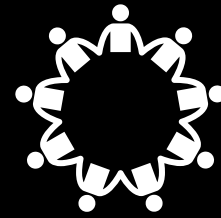
1. **Backpack Program** – We work with 38 schools and Boys & Girls Clubs to provide food bags to 2,553 children each week who have limited access to weekend meals and snacks in their homes.
2. **Food Distribution Program** – Our family distribution model provides 70+ pounds of nutritious food monthly to over 1,200 families. We source from two major food banks and numerous local store partnerships to buy and rescue food for individuals living in underserved areas.
3. **Doorstep Transports** – To assist over 170 families facing transportation or health challenges, we deliver food directly to their homes with help from churches, organizations, and volunteers.
4. **Satellite Distribution** – We are duplicating our current distribution model in other communities across our footprint.

We have a proven model that works for each of these ministries and a team ready to respond to the growing need.

THE RESULTS

Highlights from ACFS in 2024:

- 75,438 children's food bags were sent home, marking a 30% increase from the previous year.
- Our distribution center has seen significant growth, serving 1,200 families by the end of 2024, up from 600 families in early 2022. This includes 200 families in the Lincoln area served through our satellite program.
- In 2024, we allocated 1.1 million pounds of groceries to those battling food insecurity.
- 900 volunteers contributed over 26,101 hours of service at ACFS.



COMMUNITY IMPACT

With the help of our donors, partners, and army of volunteers, ACFS has become the largest food distribution center in our area. We are helping the most vulnerable avoid having to make the choice between purchasing groceries or paying for other basic needs like medicine and utilities. We are rescuing quality food that unfortunately would have ended up at the landfill but instead we are getting it to people that cannot afford the food they need for their families. The number of individuals fighting food insecurity continues to rise. Alabama Childhood Food Solutions is standing in the gap ready to solve the hunger crisis in our state. ACFS is on a mission to offer "Hope" to each child and every family that so desperately needs a helping hand.





Gene Rogers
Executive Director

OUR MISSION

THE MISSION OF ACFS IS TO PROVIDE OUR DONORS, VOLUNTEERS, AND PARTNERS THE ORGANIZATION NEEDED TO DEMONSTRATE COMPASSIONATE CARE FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES BATTLING FOOD INSECURITY WHENEVER AND WHEREVER NEEDED WHILE POINTING THEM TO THE GOSPEL.

Showing Compassion, Providing Hope, Changing Lives

Alabama Childhood Food Solutions (ACFS) is a faith-based food assistance center committed to eliminating food insecurity in central Alabama. As more families reach out for help, we are well-positioned to grow and meet the increasing needs of our neighbors.

With the support of our dedicated volunteers, we provide 1.1 million pounds of food annually to thousands of Alabamians. What makes ACFS unique is our dual focus on serving both families and children through separate, targeted programs.

At our current growth rate, we aim to double our impact across central Alabama in the next 3-5 years. Our goal is to raise awareness about food insecurity in Alabama and share solutions to the hunger problem.

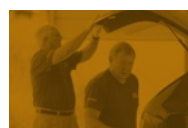
ACFS was founded almost 14 years ago with a promise—one Jim and Linda Jones made to God, to our community, and to our partners—that we would address hunger and provide a place for those in need.

Today, we invite you to join our mission. By supporting our new building project, fleet expansion, or operational growth, your partnership with ACFS will create lasting change. Your generosity transforms lives—from children no longer going to bed hungry to families finding stability. As we expand to meet growing demand, your support ensures that more of our neighbors receive the help they need.

Will you consider making a significant investment in our work? Together, we can write a new chapter for central Alabama's most vulnerable families and fulfill the ACFS promise that everyone will have a place to turn in their time of need.

Blessings,

A handwritten signature of Gene Rogers in a gold-colored ink, written in a cursive style.



THE ACFS STORY

A TIMELINE

The Alabama Childhood Food Solutions journey began in 2011 when **Jim and Linda Jones** returned home from one of many international medical mission trips they had participated in as nursing professionals. Both had witnessed hunger in every place they visited, and now God was revealing the struggles of families living right here in Central Alabama. They responded by providing food to those in need from the back of their truck. Below is a brief timeline of what happened next:



2011

Founders Jim and Linda Jones began distributing children's weekend food bags from the bed of their pickup truck.



2020

Increased from 2 family food distributions per month to 9.



2012

300 children received weekend food bags twice a month.



2022

Served 767 families per month.



2013

Rented space in Childersburg to house ACFS. ACFS implemented a family distribution model and served 600 families per month.



2023

Served 1,085 families per month and provided 1,500 weekend food bags.



2014

1,000 weekend food bags were distributed each week across three counties.



2024

Serving 1,200 families and providing 2,553 weekend food bags across 4 counties.



2015

Moved into our current location at 114 Canyon Ridge Road.



2025

Trusting God for continued growth and expansion as we provide food for the people who need it the most.



GOD HAS FAITHFULLY PROVIDED THE RESOURCES ACFS HAS NEEDED. JIM AND LINDA, ALONG WITH AN INCREDIBLE TEAM OF PEOPLE WHO ARE WILLING TO SERVE HAVE RESPONDED TO THE CALL OF 'LOVING OUR NEIGHBORS'. WE INVITE YOU TO PARTNER WITH US AS WE MOVE INTO THE NEXT CHAPTER OF ACFS'S MINISTRY TO OUR COMMUNITIES. TOGETHER, WITH GOD'S HELP, WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

ACFS IS GROWING

Over **1.1 million**
pounds of food
distributed annually.

"I have volunteered in children's ministry at my church for many years and speak in schools daily. I understand better than most the urgent need for an organization like Alabama Childhood Food Solutions. So many people are struggling now, and food insecurity is very real. And, not just in low-income communities. Karen and I have supported ACFS over the years as the needs are widespread and urgent.

We are all here to help other people, and there is no better way to help Alabama families in need. I promise you will be blessed by getting involved with ACFS!"

• **James Spann**

Chief Meteorologist ABC 33/40



CURRENT ACFS MINISTRIES



The Backpack Program We provide over 2,500 children weekly with nutritious, easy-to-prepare food for weekends and school vacations through 38 schools and Boys & Girls Clubs, helping meet the needs of food-insecure children when other resources are unavailable.



Food Distribution Program At our drive-thru site, we provide essential food support with two boxes of fresh produce, non-perishables, meats, frozen goods, dairy, bread, sweets, and snacks, directly placing them in families' trunks for easy access to nutritious meals and groceries.



Doorstep Transports Each month, ACFS serves 1,200 families in need, but for 170 of them, getting to our distribution center in Sylacauga, AL, is a challenge due to health issues, lack of transportation, or our operating hours. To help, we launched Doorstep Transports—a lifeline for those in need. But we can't do it alone. **We're seeking churches, organizations, and volunteers to help deliver food to these families.**



Expanding Our Reach: ACFS's First Satellite Distribution We are expanding our satellite distribution in collaboration with **Kingsville Corvette Club** and **Salem Missionary Baptist Church** in Eastaboga, establishing ACFS's first satellite site serving 200 families. Every 1st and 3rd Thursday, food prepared in Sylacauga is delivered to the church and distributed to families in east-central Talladega and Calhoun Counties, following our successful Sylacauga model. This expansion helps us reach more families who may otherwise struggle to access food, ensuring no family goes hungry.



TESTIMONIALS



In 2024, a young boy named Josiah struggled to focus in class, his mind clouded by hunger. That was his reality—until you stepped in. Thanks to your generosity, Josiah's family no longer has to choose between keeping the lights on and putting food on the table. Your support has brought hope and stability to their lives. Josiah can now show up to class ready to learn because he won't go hungry. Thank you!

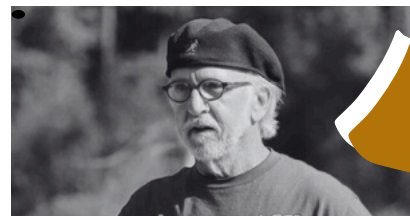
• **Josiah**
Supported by ACFS

"Hunger isn't just a statistic—it has a face, a name, and a story. One high school student we serve is one of seven children. After his mother moved out, his father and 19-year-old sibling are left to care for the family. Struggling to put food on the table, this young man comes into the office every Thursday, hoping to get his weekend food bag early because he's hungry now. This is what hunger looks like—and this is why we do what we do.

• **High School Counselor**
Supported by ACFS

"My wife and I volunteer at ACFS two days a week. We feel fortunate to have an opportunity to "give ourselves away" for a few hours a week to support the two ministries of ACFS: providing food to families who need a little help feeding their families and a weekend food backpack each week to kids who need a figurative hug from someone. And the bonus in all of this is we get to spend time around some other wonderful volunteers--making friends while serving. I am sure we receive more than we give in this effort."

• **Coulter Boyle**
ACFS Volunteer



Thanks for volunteering your time and putting in the work to help us "food challenged" folks. I never thought that label would apply to me. I am very independent and yes "proud", and it was embarrassing for me to ask for help. The volunteer staff at ACFS have always been gracious to me and have never made me feel like less than a person. The quality and quantity of the food is top notch. Prayers to you all."

• **ACFS Client**
Sylacauga Distribution Center

IMPACT IN NUMBERS

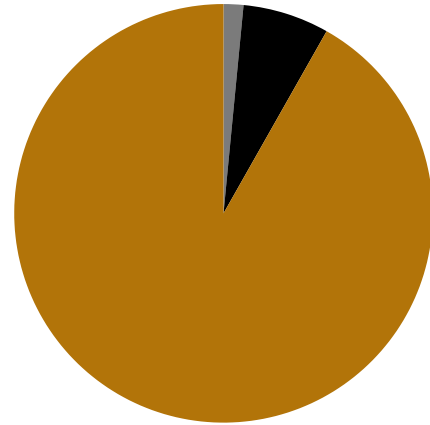
MAXIMIZING FOOD RESCUE

ACFS turns every dollar into \$5.74 worth of food, distributing food valued at \$2,633,465 annually. Through partnerships with Walmart, Publix, Sprouts, Chick-fil-A, Starbucks, and more, we rescue 91.8% of the food we distribute. In the U.S., 92 billion pounds of food—equivalent to 145 billion meals—are wasted each year, valued at \$473 billion. ACFS is committed to getting this food to families in need.

- **Total Food Distributed 1,160,383 pounds**
- **Total food distributed value \$2,633,465**
- **Food Recovery Rate 91.8%**

2024 DISTRIBUTED FOOD \$2,633,465

- Purchased for Families
- Recovered or Donated
- Purchased for School Backpacks



LEADERSHIP & ACCOUNTABILITY

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Chris Craddock - Chairman and CEO, Food Sales East
- Linda Jones - Vice Chairman
- Kelly Baker - Secretary
- Cindy Adams - Treasurer
- Chad Middlebrooks - Associational Mission Strategist, Tallapoosa Baptist Association
- Dr. Vicky Ozment - Deputy Superintendent, Talladega County Schools
- Jason Walker - Vice President of Sales, Food Sales East

TRANSPARENCY COMMITMENTS

- Annual Independent Financial Audit
- GuideStar Seal of Transparency
- 501(c)(3) Non-Profit Status
- Yearly Budget Approved by Board of Directors

In 2024, 900 volunteers contributed over 26,101 hours of service, enabling ACFS to allocate more resources to food distribution and minimize administrative costs.

LEADERSHIP AND ACFS TEAM

- Gene Rogers - Executive Director
- Jim Jones - Founder and Emeritus Board Chairman
- Beth Cole - Bookkeeper
- Brittany Sena - Social Media
- Cindy Adams - Business Manager
- Diane Champion - Program Coordinator
- Doug Compher - Operations Supervisor
- Harold and Martha Brooks - Warehouse Supervisors
- Jennifer Fellows - Operations Manager
- Mike Gresham - Maintenance Supervisor
- Shawn Nix - Transportation Assistant
- Shellie Jo Jones - Communications / Volunteer Coordinator
- Susan Berry - Client Services Coordinator
- Val Harvey - Community Relations Coordinator

OUR PROMISE

**RESPONSIBLE STEWARDSHIP
OF EVERY
DONATED DOLLAR.**

BUILDING HOPE

Expanding Our Reach to Feed More Alabama Families

As hunger continues to grip over 750,000 Alabamians—including 225,000 children—Alabama Childhood Food Solutions stands at a critical turning point. With one in four children across our region facing the reality of going to bed hungry, ACFS has responded to this urgent need by acquiring twelve acres for a transformative new distribution center. The planned 20,000-square-foot facility will feature cutting-edge technology, vastly expanded refrigeration and freezer capacity, and an efficient design that accommodates both individual family pickup and large-scale distribution logistics.

This thoughtfully designed hub will dramatically increase our ability to source, store, and distribute nutritious food throughout central Alabama. The land is secured, the plans are drawn, and we're ready to break ground as soon as funding is complete. Your support today directly translates into more meals, more resources, and more hope for children who shouldn't have to wonder where their next meal will come from. Together, we can build not just a building, but a stronger safety net for our community's most precious resource—our children.



114 Canyon Ridge Rd, Sylacauga, AL 35151

Mailing Address: PO Box 1321 Sylacauga, AL 35150

256.346.3490

acfs-warehouse1@outlook.com

www.alabamachildhoodfood.com

