

Food For The Poor Overview

Founded in 1982, Food For The Poor (FFTP) is one of the largest international relief and development organizations in the nation and has provided more than \$18.3 billion in aid since inception. FFTP does much more than feed millions of hungry children and families living in poverty primarily in 15 countries of Latin America and the Caribbean. Our theory of change is rooted in a commitment to alleviate poverty by collaborating with partners to bring broad social transformation that addresses each country's urgent needs through humanitarian relief and sustainable development initiatives.

Thanks to our faithful donors, FFTP is providing assistance in ten distinct program areas, including hunger relief and food security; water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH); agriculture; community development; education; economic empowerment; health; emergency preparedness and response; outreach to marginalized groups; and child sponsorship. Over the course of our 2024-2026 strategic plan, we are focusing our programs on six priority countries, including Haiti, Jamaica, Honduras, Guatemala, El Salvador, and Colombia.

In addition, Mexico, Ecuador, and Peru have emerged as important expansion territories for FFTP, due to the prevalence of concentrated regions of severe impoverishment,

substantial diaspora communities in the United States, and the availability of reliable partner organizations. These factors position each nation as an optimal area for amplifying the impact and outreach of our initiatives.

Food For The Poor's Programs

Hunger Relief and Food Security

FFTP operates and supports programs that feed hundreds of thousands of people every day. To accomplish this, we partner with churches, schools, hospitals, missionaries, and charitable organizations such as Caritas, the Order of Malta, and others. In 2023, the charity provided more than 210 million meals to malnourished children and their families and more than 82 million during the first six months of 2024. Through a network of 2,210 local organizations in Haiti, the charity teamed up with its many partners to feed our hungry brothers and sisters. These organizations are located throughout the country and are served by warehouses and distribution facilities in Port-au-Prince, Plaine du Nord, Hinche, Caracol, Fort-Liberté, Port-de-Paix, Baie-de-Henne, Artibonite, Jacmel, Anse-à-Veau, Les Cayes, and Jeremie.

Among its numerous collaborations is a partnership established in April 2024 with World Food Program USA to support the United Nations World Food Programme's work in Latin America and the Caribbean. Under the partnership, a \$2 million investment from FFTP will support the

U.N. World Food Programme's school meals and nutrition work in El Salvador. The first-of-its-kind collaboration will support a nutritional intervention that starts on the farm, strengthening the value chain of local small-scale grain producers to make Biofortik, an iron-fortified nutritional supplement, building capacity and technical skills at the local Biofortik plant, and improving healthy eating habits in schools. With this investment, approximately 60,000 additional children will receive Biofortik, helping World Food Programme in El Salvador combat anemia and malnutrition in more than 400,000 schoolchildren over 18 months. It also will support 500 small corn and sorghum producers in El Salvador.

Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) Projects

The need for water is critical in the countries we serve. In some cases, local water sources might be polluted or contaminated. In other instances, women and children must walk for hours to a water source, returning home with heavy buckets that contain their family's daily water supply, with no certainty of its purity.

FFTP provides villages and communities with alternatives to drinking polluted water. Water wells, pumps, water treatment units, cisterns and sanitation facilities greatly reduce illnesses, diseases, and parasites associated with polluted or contaminated water. In 2023, FFTP installed 39 water wells, and the charity installed three wells during the first six months of 2024.

Solar-powered water purification and chlorination units are used to treat water. With the help of Water Mission, FFTP has installed a total of 2,207 water filtration units since 2008. Each unit purifies and chlorinates up to 10,000 gallons of water a day.

Freed from the tedious and grueling chore of walking for hours to and from a water source, children with access to water can attend school, and women can utilize their time for more productive tasks. In 2023, FFTP installed 25 water projects that provide water and sanitation to hundreds of thousands of people in need. During the first nine months of 2024, the charity installed four water sanitation and hygiene (WASH) projects.

Agriculture

FFTP is dedicated to fighting poverty through agricultural projects that empower farmers and food service workers, while also helping to feed hungry children and families.

In partnership with Acceso, an organization focused on creating positive economic change in the lives of rural smallholder farming families, FFTP is providing opportunities for stable access to formal markets and a sustainable source of income. During the seed-to-market process, Acceso also trains the farmers and gives them supplies such as seedlings, and they provide farmers with low-interest loans that the farmers repay with produce. Their crops are purchased at fair market prices.

Fishing villages are another example of the effectiveness of self-help projects. When destitute coastal villages are selected to participate in FFTP's fishing village program, a fishing cooperative

is formed. The cooperative is supplied with boats, motors, fishing tackle and safety gear, refrigeration equipment, a storage facility, and training in deep-sea fishing.

Thanks to these resources, fishermen are then able to fish in deeper, more bountiful waters and catch larger fish that yield more profit. The entire community benefits from this enterprise because many will buy fish wholesale to sell it to retailers, while others sell fish to residents. Additionally, the fishermen are required to return a portion of their proceeds to those who are less fortunate. There are 36 fishing villages in operation: 14 in Jamaica, 20 in Haiti, and two in Honduras.

Community Development

Throughout Latin America and the Caribbean, vulnerable children and families often live in dilapidated shacks made of scraps of wood, metal, plastic, and cardboard. This type of shelter offers little protection from the elements, insects, and rodents. As a result, illness and disease are rampant, especially among those who are most vulnerable, the young and elderly. In addition, the suffering people who live in these conditions are particularly devastated by natural disasters, such as floods and hurricanes.

Since the charity's inception through the first nine months of 2024, FFTP donors have built 95,512 safe and secure homes for children and families in need. These homes not only benefit the families receiving them, but also provide a source of much-needed work for local laborers. (House designs and construction materials may vary in different countries.) The charity has built 13,725 homes in Haiti since the January 2010 earthquake.

FFTP is currently implementing 15 sustainable community developments (SCD), with locations in Guatemala, Colombia, El Salvador, Honduras, and Nicaragua. Sustainable community development, which typically takes about five years to complete, involves identifying and addressing economic, social, and spiritual challenges in a community, and empowering families to be self-sufficient and able to thrive long-term.

Education

The importance of education in breaking the cycle of poverty is crucial. To this end, FFTP ships books, school supplies, furniture, computers, and other needed items to schools throughout Latin America and the Caribbean. The charity solicits used school desks, furniture, and other equipment from school districts in the United States when they replace these items. Such classroom necessities are then shipped to schools in dire need.

In addition to providing supplies, FFTP also supports school feeding programs in the countries where we serve. For many vulnerable children, the nutritious food they receive at school may be their only meal of the day. These meals not only help a child concentrate, learn, and develop, but they also serve as a powerful incentive for parents to send their children to school.

In 2023, FFTP built, repaired, or expanded 40 schools, and shipped three containers of school furniture, books, and educational supplies to schools, providing children with valuable tools for learning. During the first six months of 2024, the charity built or expanded 24 schools and shipped one container of supplies to students and teachers in need.

Economic Empowerment Projects

Providing impoverished people with long-term sustainable solutions to poverty is a priority at FFTP. To accomplish this, FFTP has implemented a range of programs that extend beyond immediate relief.

For example, FFTP donors fund scholarships through two programs – the Women’s Empowerment Scholarship and another provided to men and women to complete training at the Puerto Cortes Transportation School in Honduras. In addition, FFTP equipped more than 360 beekeepers throughout Jamaica with supplies and training to generate income by harvesting quality honey and other apiary byproducts. Working with its partner Mercado Global, the charity is helping indigenous women in Guatemala combine their weaving skills with new technical and business training. Other economic empowerment projects include animal husbandry, bakeries and sewing enterprises.

These skills training and micro-enterprise projects help people earn an income and learn a viable trade. In many cases, those receiving help will in turn help others in their community.

Health

Medical care and treatment often are minimal or underfunded in the countries where we serve. FFTP provides medical institutions with supplies to care for the sick. The charity solicits donations from major medical suppliers of equipment and medicine for distribution throughout Latin America and the Caribbean. In Haiti, FFTP operates outpatient clinics and supplies hospitals with food, medicine, and medical equipment. FFTP also supports hospitals, clinics, HIV/AIDS facilities, homes for the elderly, and homes for vulnerable children throughout Latin America and the Caribbean by providing food, medicine, and medical supplies. In 2023, a total of 281 containers of pharmaceuticals, medical supplies, medical furniture, and medical equipment were sent to help care for the sick in the countries where we serve, followed by 250 during the first six months of 2024.

In June 2024, the charity joined longstanding partner CEPUDO and FUNAZUCAR in launching the “For You and Your Baby” campaign. This initiative aims to distribute prenatal vitamins provided by FFTP partner Catholic Medical Mission Board to more than 135,000 pregnant and breastfeeding women across six departments in Honduras. This initiative is part of broader efforts within the sugar sector to enhance health and nutrition for families in Honduras.

Emergency Preparedness and Response

Whenever the need arises, FFTP stands ready to send immediate assistance to those affected by natural disasters or humanitarian crises. While FFTP’s mission primarily is to help internationally

in Latin America and the Caribbean, the charity has responded in the past to disasters in the United States and elsewhere in the world.

Responding to the Humanitarian Crisis in Haiti

Since the July 7, 2021, assassination of President Jovenel Moïse, Haiti has been wracked with multiple crises, including a 7.2-magnitude earthquake and Tropical Storm Grace in August 2021, followed by major civil unrest, soaring inflation, and a resurgence of cholera in the fall of 2022.

Security services are overwhelmed by hundreds of gangs whose members number in the range of 20,000. Almost half the population of 11 million are in critical levels of food insecurity.

In February 2024, armed gangs burned police stations, closed the airport in Port-au-Prince and raided the country's two biggest prisons, releasing more than 4,000 inmates. Tens of thousands of people were left homeless after fleeing neighborhoods raided by gangs just over the first weekend in March in Port-au-Prince, according to news reports.

FFTP is uniquely positioned to respond in Haiti because we have been on the ground providing support in the country since 1986. In the months since the crisis escalated, FFTP has provided much-needed aid to the people of Haiti. Some of the highlights of the assistance include:

- Assembling volunteers in FFTP's Coconut Creek headquarters to pack 19,000 personal hygiene kits. Items for the kits were supplied by MAP International, and FFTP purchased items for an additional 30,000 kits, which include essential items such as soap, toothpaste, and sanitary products.
- Purchasing supplies to assemble 15,000 women's care kits, which include essential items specifically tailored to meet the unique needs of women in crisis situations. In addition to the hygiene and women's care kits, FFTP prepared 140 pallets of MannaPack rice meals, equal to more than 5,000 cases, from partner Feed My Starving Children.
- Securing commitments for 20,000 hygiene kits from Heart to Heart International and 3,200 family emergency kits from GlobalMedic. The family emergency kits contain essential items, such as hygiene products, water purification sachets, buckets, and solar-powered lights.
- Supporting FFTP-Haiti as it dispatched 17 trucks with donations in April to distribution centers in the South, the North and the Centre; in May, 27 trucks were sent to the South, the North and Artibonite, using a barge service provided by the World Food Programme. In addition, FFTP-Haiti cleared and received 159 containers of aid from the port in Port-au-Prince. FFTP-Haiti's Port-au-Prince office also provided aid to 1,450 organizations, while 260 organizations received aid from the charity's Caracol office.

- Partnering with Grammy-nominated hip-hop star Fat Joe in May to raise funds and provide aid for Haiti. That same month, FFTP partnered with Airlink and Amerijet to send 3,840 hygiene kits from Heart to Heart International on a flight from Miami International Airport to Port-au-Prince. Those kits were distributed to various organizations, including Hospital Sainte Camille, Hospital Fontaine Duvivier, Afè Neg Combite, Hospital la Paix, Fondation St. Luc, Sant Karl Leveque, and Imed. A second flight through Airlink and American Airlines delivered an additional 2,200 hygiene kits from Heart to Heart International.

FFTP continues to provide aid to Haiti and plans to initiate much bigger initiatives centered on the country's long-term recovery when it is safe to do so. Our response also is guided by priority needs established in the 2024 Humanitarian Response Plan as outlined by the U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs.

Hurricane Beryl

When Hurricane Beryl battered Jamaica and several islands in Grenada and St. Vincent and the Grenadines on July 3, 2024, FFTP was prepared to assist.

As part of its ongoing disaster and hurricane preparedness program, FFTP already had disaster preparedness kits prepositioned to empower local response in St. Lucia, Grenada, Trinidad and Tobago and Jamaica, with each kit containing supplies for at least 250 families. Each country also had access to kits that were not deployed in 2023, meaning they had supplies ready to support a total of 500 families.

Each kit includes 250 tarps, 320 disaster blankets, 280 children's activity kits from Midwest Mission Distribution Center, 540 disaster hygiene kits with items from MAP International, 250 women care kits, 7,000 packets of Liquid I.V. Hydration Multiplier, an oral rehydration solution, 5500 water purification sachets from Water Mission, 250 hand-crank emergency radio flashlights, and 250 diaper packs. FFTP also provides heavy-duty bags that in-country partners use to package individual relief kits for each family.

The day after Hurricane Beryl landed in Jamaica, FFTP-Jamaica distributed 400 packages of food, hygiene kits, tarps, water boots and blankets to affected families in six parishes of St. Mary, St. Thomas, St. Catherine, Clarendon, Manchester, and St. Elizabeth.

Working with trusted partners and supporters, FFTP continued to provide aid. Highlights of those activities include:

- Partnering with Proctor & Gamble, who provided a \$50,000.00 grant, to assist in the rebuilding of 100 homes in Petit Martinique and Carriacou, Grenada. This amount will assist in the purchasing of building materials and transportation of the materials to Grenada.

- Providing \$10,000 grants to Caritas Grenada and Caritas Antilles to support island-to-island transportation for distribution and continued assessments. The charity also received a generous donation through donor Good360 for \$20,000 in Amazon gift cards to go toward purchasing items on needs lists provided by Caritas Grenada.
- Partnering with Sandals Foundation to provide \$6,256 to help Grenada with transportation. The charity also worked with Caritas Antilles in support of St. Vincent and the Grenadines and Caritas Grenada in support of the main island and Carriacou and Petit Martinique.
- Working with FEEL in Trinidad and Tobago, FFTP participated in a coordinated effort with the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency to support a response to the islands. Supplies from FFTP's disaster prep kits included 42 tarps, 240 disaster blankets, 540 hygiene kits, 50 diaper packs, and additional FFTP in-kind and purchased items that were already in Trinidad.
- Supporting FFTP-Jamaica as it provided critical aid to more than 2,400 families in nine parishes affected by Beryl. That aid has included food packages, care packages, disaster blankets, tarps, water boots, tools, mattresses, water, bags of rice and beans, canned fish, sausages, oats, MannaPack rice meals, mosquito nets, diapers, juices, and IV hydration solutions, plus food and hygiene kits from partner GlobalMedic.
- Partnering with Cedella Marley of the Rita and Bob Marley Foundation to raise funds to provide zinc roofing and hurricane straps to repair the thousands of homes damaged in the hurricane.
- Identifying temporary shelter supplies, such as zinc, lumber, and other building essentials, for Jamaica and Grenada and sharing the needs lists with donating partners.
- Working with trusted partner GlobalMedic, which donated 720 Family Emergency Kits and 720 Emergency Food Kits. The supplies were transported to Jamaica with free air cargo from Air Canada.
- Recruiting volunteers to come to the charity's Coconut Creek, Fla., headquarters to assemble 2,700 disaster hygiene kits and 1,000 woman care kits. In a separate campaign, more than 100 volunteers organized by the Consulate General of Jamaica, United Way of Broward County, Jamaican Women of Florida, and other community groups assembled at FFTP and packed 2,000 disaster hygiene kits and 540 women care kits to send to Jamaica.

In addition, Food For The Poor-Canada and Food For The Poor-Jamaica partnered with the National Commercial Bank Jamaica Limited (NCB), American Friends of Jamaica (AFJ) and Breds Treasure Beach Foundation to raise funds for restoring areas of Jamaica hardest hit by Hurricane Beryl. NCB, through its philanthropic arm NCB Foundation, pledged to match donations up to

\$150 million for a total of \$300 million Jamaican dollars, for the Building a Better Jamaica Fund and has made a donation of an initial pledged sum of \$20 million Jamaican dollars.

Guatemala Wildfires

FFTP's partners in Guatemala, including the Order of Malta Guatemala and Caritas Arquidiocesana, provided food, medical supplies, and Liquid I.V. oral rehydration solutions to firefighters fighting a forest fire that ignited on February 22, 2024, along the slopes of the Agua volcano, about 6 miles from Antigua.

Responding to Crises in the United States

Tornado in North Florida

FFTP shipped a disaster relief kit and 60 family food kits to the Florida Catholic Conference to help families in Jackson County in Florida's Panhandle recovering from a tornado on January 9, 2024. The items were distributed by the Jackson County Long Term Recovery Group.

Flooding in California

On February 26, 2024, FFTP shipped two pallets of relief supplies to Catholic Charities of Santa Rosa, Calif., which distributed items to families affected by devastating floods in northern California. Supplies included tarps, disaster hygiene kits, women's care kits, and children's activity kits. The shipment was coordinated with the American Logistics Aid Network.

Outreach to Marginalized Groups

Working with various organizations, we have assisted individuals and groups in communities where they experience discrimination or exclusion because of their age, gender, disability status or other demographic factors. For example, FFTP works with Free Wheelchair mission to provide wheelchairs to individuals who are isolated or bullied because of their disability. Since our collaboration began with Free Wheelchair Mission in 2014, we have shipped more than 36,000 wheelchairs to Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Jamaica, Haiti, Colombia, and Guyana. During the first six months of 2024, the charity shipped more than 2,900 wheelchairs to Guatemala, Jamaica, Honduras and Colombia.

In addition, FFTP works with Off-The-Grid (OTG) Missions, an international organization that supports members of the Deaf, Hard-of-Hearing, Deaf-Blind, and Deaf-Disabled (DHHDBDD) community. In 2023, following a rise in cholera cases in the aftermath of severe flooding and an earthquake, we provided food, including rice from longtime partner Taiwan, and hygiene items for individuals living in a community in Léogâne, Haiti. FFTP continued its collaboration with OTG Missions during the first six months of 2024, providing rice, MannaPack rice meals from trusted partner Feed My Starving Children, blankets, beans, mackerel, and cleaning kits to DHHDBDD individuals impacted by gang violence in neighborhoods in Port-au-Prince.

FFTP launched its Prison Ministry Program in 1998, in a show of compassion for people who are imprisoned for nonviolent offenses and are unable to pay their accumulated fines. Thanks to the generosity of its donors, FFTP secures the release of prisoners twice a year, at Christmas and Easter.

In 2023, FFTP donors helped gain the release of 476 prisoners, including 242 just before Christmas and 234 during Holy Week. Prisoners released during Holy Week included 232 in Haiti and two in Jamaica, with each receiving a Holy Bible, a change of clothes, personal care items, food, and a monetary gift to help with transportation back home.

Inmates who gained their freedom just in time for Christmas, included 237 from six different prisons in northern and central Haiti, four in Jamaica and one in Guyana. Each released inmate also received a hot meal and drink, plus dry rations such as rice and beans, and money to cover travel expenses to get home.

During the first six months of 2024, Haiti postponed its participation in the program due to the ongoing crisis marked by gang violence and civil unrest, while Guyana released one inmate.

Child Sponsorship

FFTP has specially selected children's homes to participate in our child sponsorship program, known as Angels Of Hope. These children's homes are safe havens where boys and girls can grow and develop mentally and physically. Additionally, the charity supports homes for at-risk children and the elderly.

During the first nine months of 2024, Angels Of Hope sponsored more than 7,900 children living in 75 children's homes in Haiti, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Mexico, where they receive food, clothing, shelter, education, and love.

Distribution

FFTP works directly with churches, the clergy, missionaries, and other nongovernmental organizations in the countries where we help. The organization asks what's needed and then supplies the requested items. This direct distribution method helps to ensure that only items needed are shipped, and it also helps keep operational costs to a minimum.

Since 1982, FFTP has shipped more than 102,027 containers of goods. Agreements with the governments of the countries that receive aid often allow these shipments to enter the countries duty-free.

Partnerships

FFTP partners with various organizations in the execution of development projects and the distribution of supplies and services. Some of our major partners include Acceso, Caritas Spain, CEPUDO, CESAL, CODESPA, Fundación Legado, FUSAL, Living Water International, Minuto de Dios, Order of Malta, Taiwan ICDF, TECHO El Salvador, World Pediatrics, and Water Mission. Additionally, we have established partnerships with donors of in-kind goods, such as Brother's Brother Foundation, Feed My Starving Children, MAP International, and other organizations to further support our programs and initiatives.

Mission

Hunger and Poverty Relief is Our Purpose

Our purpose is to bring urgent relief to vulnerable families affected by poverty. We designed our assistance programs to empower our beneficiaries to become self-sufficient and ultimately inspire them to build strong communities so their members can help each other. We constantly seek simple, efficient strategies to fight hunger and poverty without adversely impacting our aid recipients or their country. While our charity organization was founded on the religious principle that it is our moral duty to clothe and feed the poor (Matthew 25:40), Food For The Poor is neutral, impartial, apolitical, and encompasses all religions and beliefs. FFTP holds preserving human dignity and caring for those in need as a universal value. Our short-term focus is to demonstrate that poverty is not inevitable, and that people can break out of poverty with the proper assistance. We partner with subject matter experts, local and international NGOs, universities and colleges, churches, and service organizations to achieve our goal.

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