

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 \$19.1 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. We are committed to facilitating paths out of poverty and transforming lives. 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 provides assistance in 10 distinct focus areas, including hunger relief and nutrition; water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH); agriculture and food security; community development; education; economic empowerment; health; emergency preparedness and response; outreach to vulnerable groups; and child well-being. Over the course of our 2025-2027 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 Focus Areas

Hunger Relief and Nutrition

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 Feed My Starving Children, the Order of Malta, and others. Since 2006, the charity has provided more than 4.69 billion meals to malnourished children and their families, including more than 76.19 million meals in the first six months of 2026.

Through a network of 1,472 local organizations in Haiti, the charity works with its many partners to feed our hungry brothers and sisters. These organizations are located throughout the country and are served by warehouses and regional distribution facilities in Fort Liberté, Plaine du Nord, Port-de- Paix, Baie-de-Henne, Artibonite, Jeremie, Les Cayes, Paix, Jacmel and Hinche.

Food For The Poor's "Saving Families From Hunger in Villavicencio" project in Villavicencio, Colombia, is an example of our efforts to make a difference in Hunger Relief and Nutrition. We partnered with local organizations to reduce the risk of malnutrition among vulnerable mothers and young children by delivering monthly food and hygiene packages and providing nutrition education and health monitoring.

Thanks to our donors' generous support, the project was completed successfully with the delivery of 10 months of complementary food packages, exceeding the original plan due to favorable exchange rates. Alongside food assistance, families participated in workshops focused

on safe water use, hygiene, breastfeeding, and healthy eating habits, helping address both immediate hunger and long-term nutritional well-being.

Food For The Poor is participating in an 18-month feeding program in partnership with World Food Program USA to support the World Food Programme's school meals and nutrition efforts in El Salvador with a \$2 million investment. Established in 2024, this first-of-its-kind initiative strengthens local grain producers and enhances the production of Biofortik, a nutritional supplement enriched with amino-chelated iron, specifically designed to combat iron deficiency anemia.

In 2025, the program reached more than 650,000 students nationwide. Our partnership also supported 500 local farmers – most of whom were women – by strengthening their capacity to supply the essential ingredients for Biofortik. Through technical assistance and training, farmers improved their production practices and gained access to additional market opportunities.

Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH)

The need for access to clean water is critical in the countries where we help. 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 and 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. A total of five Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) projects were active or completed in 2026.

Solar-powered water purification and chlorination units are used to treat water. FFTP's trusted partner, Water Mission, designs customized solutions utilizing the latest innovations in water quality and distribution, solar power, community development, and remote monitoring. Since 2008, FFTP and Water Mission have installed 2,210 water filtration units across Latin America and the Caribbean, including one unit each in Honduras and Mexico during the first six months of 2026.

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 March 2025, FFTP partnered with the Procter & Gamble (P&G) Children's Safe Drinking Water (CSDW) Program to distribute water purification kits to families in need. The P&G CSDW Program was launched in 2004 to help address the lack of clean drinking water globally. A 4-gram (almost 1 ounce) packet of P&G Purifier of Water transforms 10 liters (approximately 2.5 gallons) of contaminated water into clean drinking water in 30 minutes, using simple tools included in the kits like a bucket, a spoon, and cheesecloth.

In partnership with the P&G CSDW Program, FFTP began a pilot project that distributed 240,000 water purification packets to countries in Latin America and the Caribbean. In the initial phase of the project, St. Lucia, Peru, El Salvador and Guatemala received 250 water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) kits individually containing 240 water purification packets, two buckets, a spoon, cheesecloth, and clips. Additional water purification packets are planned for distribution in 2026.

Agriculture and Food Security

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.

Among its numerous partnerships is a collaboration with Acceso, an organization focused on creating positive economic change in the lives of rural smallholder farming families. Through this partnership, FFTP provides 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.

FFTP's fishing village program empowers vulnerable coastal communities through self-help initiatives. A fishing cooperative is formed and equipped with boats, gear, storage, and deep-sea fishing training. This enables fishermen to access deeper waters, catch larger fish, and increase profits. The entire community benefits as fish are sold wholesale and locally, while fishermen are also required to share a portion of their earnings with those in need. There are 50 fishing villages in operation 14 in Jamaica and 36 in Haiti.

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, Food For The Poor donors have built 96,846 safe and secure homes for children and families in need, including 235 built during the first six months of 2026. 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.) Since the January 2010 earthquake in Haiti, the charity has built 14,213 homes in Haiti, including 39 homes built during the first six months of 2026.

Sustainable community development projects, which typically take about five years to complete, involve identifying and addressing economic, social, and spiritual challenges that arise in a community, and empowering families to be self-sufficient and able to thrive long-term. Food For The Poor is currently implementing 19 sustainable community development projects, with locations in Guatemala, Colombia, El Salvador, and Honduras. Since 2019, FFTP has completed four sustainable community projects, bringing the total to 23 completed or in progress.

In 2025, families in the rural community of Cucuyagua, Honduras, began moving into safe, sturdy homes built through the generosity of parishioners at St. Mary's Church in Greensburg, Ind., with FFTP. For years, families in the area lived in fragile homes of cardboard, plastic, or rented spaces without reliable water or power. With the parish's commitment to raise \$1 million, 53 homes, an air-conditioned community center, and vital infrastructure including clean water and electricity, are under construction.

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. FFTP shipped 11 containers of education-related goods in 2025, including school furniture, books, and educational supplies to schools, providing children with valuable tools for learning.

In addition, FFTP repaired five schools, including four in Honduras and one in Jamaica, expanded one school in Honduras, and built two new schools in Honduras during the first six months of 2026.

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.

FFTP operates two school feeding programs in Latin America and the Caribbean, and FFTP-Haiti currently supports school feeding programs in 567 schools.

In northern Haiti, SHINE (Strengthening Hope through Inclusion, Nutrition, and Education), a school-based feeding project spearheaded by FFTP in northern Haiti, is improving student learning and attendance while strengthening local agriculture and economic stability across multiple communities.

The program serves 29 schools, providing nutritious morning meals to thousands of students, including 425 students at one school in northern Haiti. Students receive a breakfast sandwich made with peanut butter and cassava bread, which offers a balance of healthy fats, protein, and carbohydrates, promoting fullness, managing blood sugar levels, and sustaining energy – an ideal nutritional combination for helping children perform their best in school.

SHINE also helps local farmers and businesses that supply the ingredients for the sandwiches, with assistance from in-country partners Acceso and Met Fey Vet. The cassava bread is sourced from small farmers across communities in Haiti's north and northwest, and locally sourced peanut butter helps support peanut farmers through training, fair contracts, and stable prices.

Health

Medical care and treatment often are minimal or underfunded in the countries where we serve. FFTP 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.

The charity solicits donations from major medical suppliers of equipment and medicine for distribution throughout Latin America and the Caribbean. During the first six months of 2026, FFTP sent a total of 218 shipments of pharmaceuticals, medical supplies, medical furniture, and medical equipment to help care for the sick in the countries where we help.

Child Well-Being

FFTP has specially selected children's group homes to participate in our child sponsorship program, known as Angels Of Hope. These group homes offer safe havens for vulnerable children who have faced extreme poverty, abandonment, abuse, or the threat of human trafficking, providing a place where boys and girls can grow and develop mentally and physically.

Angels Of Hope currently supports 8,092 children living in 87 children's homes in Colombia, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico and Peru, where they receive food, clothing, shelter, education, and love. We urge our donors to build a relationship with sponsored children to encourage them and let them know that they are loved and valued.

Economic Empowerment

Providing people living in extreme need 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, Food For The Poor partnered with Mercado Global to launch the Indigenous Designs project in the heart of Guatemala's rural communities to empower Indigenous women through artisan training and market access. Thanks to our generous donors, hundreds of women have received comprehensive technical training, business education, sewing machines, looms, and access to U.S. markets through partnerships with major brands like Levi's®, StitchFix, and Free People.

The first two years of this project have exceeded expectations, transforming participating women into Mercado Global partner artisans who are now earning good incomes, supporting their families, and becoming community leaders.

In 2025, we completed our Honduras Transportation School Scholarships program in Puerto Cortés, Honduras. Developed in partnership with a local transportation school, the program provided training to teach 10 students to operate commercial vehicles and heavy equipment. These are practical job skills that employers are actively seeking in the region. All the students graduated, and several are already pursuing employment in transportation and equipment operation.

Other economic empowerment projects supported by FFTP include animal husbandry, bakeries and sewing enterprises. Together, these projects reflect FFTP's mission to provide sustainable solutions that help families remain and thrive in their home countries with restored dignity, opportunity, and long-term stability.

Outreach to Vulnerable Groups

Working with various organizations, FFTP has 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, FFTP has shipped more than 51,000 chairs to Latin America and the Caribbean, including 3,000 that were sent during the first six months of 2026.

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 2026, FFTP collaborated with OTG Missions by providing rice, mackerel and MannaPack rice meals from trusted partner Feed My Starving Children to DHHDBDD individuals impacted by gang violence in neighborhoods in Port-au-Prince.

On another front, 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 in Haiti, Jamaica, and Guyana twice a year, at Christmas and Easter.

While no inmates were eligible for release in Jamaica, FFTP donors helped gain the release of 53 nonviolent offenders in Haiti and Guyana in April 2025 during Holy Week, and seven people experienced the joy of restored freedom in Haiti and Jamaica, just in time for Christmas 2025.

In addition, during the 2026 Easter season, FFTP secured the release of eight prisoners in Haiti, one in Jamaica, and three in Guyana, bringing the total number to 12 individuals freed.

Emergency Preparedness and Response

Whenever the need arises, FFTP stands ready to send immediate assistance to those affected by natural disasters. While FFTP's mission primarily is to help internationally in Latin America and the Caribbean, the charity has responded to disasters in the United States and elsewhere in the world.

Venezuela Earthquakes

When two devastating earthquakes struck northern Venezuela on June 24 – striking just one minute apart at magnitudes 7.2 and 7.5 respectively – FFTP made the decision to respond with emergency aid. The earthquakes left more than 6,301 people dead and 24,400 living in transitional camps. Although it is not among the countries that FFTP serves, the loss of life and overwhelming destruction compelled the charity's leaders to shift their focus and respond to the crisis in Venezuela.

In response to the earthquakes, the charity mobilized more than 399,002 pounds of aid, providing essential goods to thousands of earthquake survivors. At the charity's Coconut Creek, Fla., headquarters, volunteers contributed 3,500 hours, packing 20,510 family hygiene kits, 7,080 family food kits and 720 infant care kits destined for families impacted by the disaster.

Working alongside trusted partners including the Wayuu Taya Foundation, CADENA International, Caritas Venezuela and Order of Malta Venezuela, FFTP has provided medicine, medical supplies, hygiene kits, food, access to clean water and other essential relief supplies to displaced families, many of whom remain in temporary shelters in and around Caracas and La Guaira.

FFTP and its partners have sent seven emergency airfreight shipments and 17 ocean freight containers. Within a month, the charity sent 491 pallets of aid, including bulk food, MannaPack® meals, medicine and medical supplies, hygiene kits, diapers and wipes, orthopedic items, mattresses, walkers, wheelchairs, crutches, toilet paper, masks and gloves, water, and family food kits.

Together with its partners, FFTP has reached more than 185,950 people. Through partner CADENA International, the organization has also helped provide access to safe drinking water for more than 4,000 internally displaced people. Order of Malta Venezuela's medical brigade has reached more than 29,000 beneficiaries.

Colombia Earthquake

Food For The Poor began working with trusted partners, including Minuto de Dios, the Order of Malta, CADENA International, and others to help families affected by the 7.4-magnitude earthquake that struck western Colombia in the Chocó region on Aug. 10. The Colombian government declared a state of national disaster, with reports of more than 319 people killed, 4,506 injured, and 260 missing.

Working in partnership with FFTP Minuto de Dios provided enough food to help 400 families in heavily impacted areas for 16 weeks; Order of Malta provided medicine and medical supplies for 500 people and secure access to clean water for 1,000 families, and CADENA International provided medical or psychosocial care to more than 300 people, restoring or improving access to safe water for 2,000 people, and providing emergency shelter kits for 500 households.

At the charity's Coconut Creek, Fla., headquarters, volunteers contributed 534 hours to assemble, inspect and pack 5,600 Disaster Hygiene Kits onto 14 pallets planned for shipment to Colombia.

As part of the charity's efforts, a four-member team from FFTP worked alongside in-country partners in Colombia, where they visited a humanitarian aid storage and logistics hub in Pereira, distributed food and hygiene kits to families in the La Lorena and San Nicolás neighborhoods. The team also toured a shelter at Coliseo Mayor Pereira, and visited several impacted communities, including one of downtown Pereira's hardest-hit areas to assess conditions, learn more about local government response and coordination efforts, and better understand the needs of affected communities.

In addition, the team:

- Visited the community of El Retiro, near Roldanillo in Valle del Cauca, where implementing partner CADENA International is providing 200 families with safe drinking water through the distribution of household water filtration and disinfection units.
- Visited Barrio Bella Vista in Cartago, where FFTP and Minuto de Dios distributed 150 family food and hygiene kits. The effort is part of a broader humanitarian response coordinated by Minuto de Dios in collaboration with Manuelita, the Association of Sugar Cane Companies, the Municipality of Cartago, and local community leaders.
- Met with the Order of Malta to review their emergency response scope and examine how it links to long-term recovery and visited southern Cali to assess areas impacted by significant earthquake damage.
- Met with Order of Malta and ProPacífico, a private non-profit organization that promotes sustainable development in Cali, Valle del Cauca, and Colombia's Pacific region through public, private, and community partnerships.

Hurricane Melissa

On October 28, 2025, Hurricane Melissa struck Jamaica as a Category 5 storm, devastating the western and south-central regions. FFTP's response to Hurricane Melissa was swift and far-reaching, delivering critical relief to communities in need, much of which was pre-positioned before the hurricane made landfall and distributed immediately after it was safe to do so.

During the first six months since the hurricane, FFTP delivered more than \$10 million in aid, including 229 ocean containers, 21 air shipments of essential supplies, and 125,000 relief kits, including over 85,000 food kits and 40,000 hygiene kits, assisting more than 85,000 families across the island.

This operation was made possible by the dedication of more than 3,000 volunteers, who contributed over 4,190 hours of service and packed upwards of 137,000 kits. An additional 14 containers of aid were delivered through a strategic partnership with Puerto Rico, further strengthening the response.

Beyond immediate relief, meaningful progress has been made in restoring livelihoods and rebuilding communities. Looking ahead, FFTP's Jamaica Rebuild Campaign has been launched as a multi-phase housing initiative, starting with \$1 million in seed funding. This effort will scale the construction of new homes across affected communities, helping families move from recovery to long-term stability.

Humanitarian Crisis in Haiti

Since the July 7, 2021, assassination of President Jovenel Moïse, Haiti has been wracked with multiple crises: a 7.2-magnitude earthquake and Tropical Storm Grace in August 2021, and in subsequent years, persistent political instability, civil unrest, soaring inflation, a resurgence of cholera, and an unprecedented surge in gang activity.

Humanitarian needs rose sharply in 2025, with approximately 6.4 million people projected to require humanitarian assistance in 2026, up from 6 million in 2025. Violence-related internal displacement affected 1.4 million people, or 12% of the population, by September 2025, with 69% of the displacement occurring outside Port-au-Prince from January to September 2025, mainly in the Centre and Artibonite.

Food insecurity remains critical, with 5.9 million people projected to face insufficient food consumption between March and June 2026. The health system is severely disrupted, with only 10% of the nation's health facilities with inpatient capacity fully operational. In the Port-au-Prince metropolitan area, only 11% remain functional.

FFTP is uniquely positioned to respond in Haiti because we have been on the ground providing support in the country since 1986 and continue to provide much-needed aid. During the first six months of 2026, FFTP-Haiti served 2,393 people, including vulnerable children, breastfeeding mothers, pregnant women and people living with HIV through its nutritional recovery center.

FFTP-Haiti also distributed over 500 prepositioned kits containing hygiene supplies, school materials, bedding items, and water treatment products to support families living in precarious conditions in camps or with host families.

Response to Hurricane Melissa in Haiti

Hurricane Melissa caused at least 46 deaths, damaged or destroyed approximately 842,400 homes and critical infrastructure, and disrupted livelihoods for thousands of families. Cholera cases increased in 2025, reversing improvements recorded in 2024. In October 2025, FFTP-Haiti assisted 1,138 families affected by Hurricane Melissa along Haiti's southern coast, particularly in Les Cayes and Jérémie, with support from churches and regional staff serving the impacted communities.

Guatemala Earthquake

When a 5.6-magnitude earthquake struck Guatemala and triggered a deadly landslide near the community of El Tablón on July 8, 2025, FFTP joined trusted partner Caritas Arquidiocesana in delivering critical aid to a local church serving as the Santa María de Jesús community's main relief hub. With roads blocked by landslides, supplies had to be carried in on foot to reach those in need.

Responding to Crises in the United States

Floods in Central Texas

FFTP sent critical aid to support 250 families affected by the Texas floods in mid-July 2025. The supplies, including tarps, hygiene kits, diapers, and more, were sent to Kerrville, Texas, where Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of San Antonio set up an office in partnership with Notre Dame Catholic Church to operate a distribution center for impacted families.

Distribution

FFTP works directly with churches, the clergy, missionaries, and other nongovernmental organizations in the countries where we help. The organization finds out 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 its inception in 1982, FFTP has shipped more than 106,323 containers of goods through, including 908 shipped during the first six months of 2026. 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 Arquidiocesana Guatemala, CEPUDO, CODESPA, Fundación Legado, FUSAL, Living Water International, Minuto de Dios, Order of Malta, Taiwan ICDF, TECHO, World Pediatrics, World Vision, and Water Mission. Additionally, we have established partnerships with donors of in-kind goods, such as Brother's Brother Foundation, Feed My Starving Children, Free Wheelchair

Mission, 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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