

Food For The Poor Overview March 2025

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 \$18.5 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 is providing assistance in 10 distinct program 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 Programs

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. In 2024, the charity provided more than 207.9 million meals to malnourished children and their families. Through a network of 2,152 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 Plaine du Nord, Hinche, Fort-Liberté, Port-de-Paix, Baie-de-Henne, Gonaïves, Jacmel, Anse-à-Veau, Les Cayes, and Jeremie.

Among the newest initiatives is an 18-month feeding program established in 2024 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. 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.

The program is providing Biofortik to an additional 60,000 children, aiding the fight against anemia and malnutrition among more than 400,000 total schoolchildren in El Salvador, while also supporting 500 small-scale farmers.

Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) Projects

The need for 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, 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 2024, FFTP installed three wells.

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. 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. In addition, FFTP and Water Mission partnered on four projects in 2024, including a reverse osmosis project in Peru, a solar-powered pumping and chlorination system in Honduras, a reverse osmosis system in Mexico, and a surface water treatment plant in Mexico.

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 2024, FFTP completed 15 water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) projects that benefited 81,677 people. The charity also initiated 12 projects that will benefit approximately 207,900 people.

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 launched in 2004 to help address the lack of clean drinking water globally. A 4-gram packet of P&G Purifier of Water transforms 10 liters of contaminated water into clean drinking water in 30 minutes, using simple tools like a bucket, a spoon, and cheesecloth.

In partnership with the P&G CSDW Program, FFTP began a pilot project that will distribute 240,000 water purification packets to be divided into 1,000 WASH kits that will be sent to Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador, and Haiti. Each WASH kit will contain 240 water purification packets, two buckets, a spoon, cheesecloth, and clips. An additional 214,000 packets will be included in disaster preparedness kits for distribution in 2025 and 2026 to countries that are not part of the WASH kit pilot project.

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 also are required to share a portion of their earnings with those in need. 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 end of 2024, Food For The Poor donors have built 95,964 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 13,895 homes in Haiti since the January 2010 earthquake through the end of 2024.

In early 2024, FFTP began the implementation of a sustainable community development (SCD) project in Guatemala. SCDs, 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. FFTP is currently implementing 15 SCD projects, with locations in Guatemala, Colombia, El Salvador, Honduras, and Nicaragua.

On Dec. 7, 2024, FFTP marked a historic milestone with a ceremonial groundbreaking for the Zion Entrepreneurial Community, the charity's first SCD in Jamaica. The development is being created in partnership with Entrepreneurs Across Borders and the UpMobility Foundation. The Catholic Church and the Diocese of Montego Bay generously donated the land for the community, which is located on Jamaica's Northern Coast within the Martha Brae community in the Parish of Trelawny.

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 one container of education-related goods in 2024, including school furniture, books, and educational supplies to schools, providing children with valuable tools for learning.

In addition, 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 has supported approximately 30 school feeding projects in Latin America and the Caribbean. Four are currently in progress, providing meals for more than 60,900 students. In addition, FFTP-Haiti currently supports school feeding programs in 700 schools that provide meals for more than 184,700 students, as

well as a breakfast program consisting of cassava and peanut butter in 29 schools located in the Northeast.

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 2024, a total of 304 containers of pharmaceuticals, medical supplies, medical furniture, and medical equipment were sent to help care for the sick in the countries where we help.

Child Well-Being

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.

Angels Of Hope is sponsoring 8,479 children living in 87 children's homes in Haiti, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Colombia, and Peru, where they receive food, clothing, shelter, education, and love. We encourage our donors to build a relationship with sponsored children to encourage them and let them know that they are loved and valued.

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, in 2024 the FFTP holiday gift catalog offered a curated selection of products made by artisans who have developed their skills at training centers supported by the charity's donors and in partnership with Mercado Global. By purchasing one of the purses from the artisan shop, donors shared a vision of empowerment, self-sufficiency, and compassion that resonated far beyond the holiday season.

FFTP also equipped 425 beekeepers, as well as 10 institutions and groups, throughout Jamaica with supplies and training to generate income by harvesting quality honey and other apiary byproducts.

Other economic empowerment projects supported by FFTP include animal husbandry, bakeries and sewing enterprises.

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

Outreach to Vulnerable 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 41,360 wheelchairs to Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Jamaica, Haiti, Colombia, and Guyana. In 2024, the charity shipped more than 5,386 wheelchairs to Honduras, Guatemala, Colombia, Jamaica, and Haiti.

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 2024,

FFTP collaborated with OTG Missions by providing rice, MannaPack rice meals from trusted partner Feed My Starving Children, hygiene kits, blankets, beans, mackerel, and cleaning kits to DHHD 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 2024, FFTP donors helped gain the release of 45 nonviolent offenders. Highlights From the 2024 Prison Ministry Program:

- **Haiti:** 38 inmates were released from four prisons between Dec. 4 and Dec. 6. The released inmates each received one bag of rice, one bag of beans, one case of MannaPack rice meals, mackerel, bedding, blankets, clothing, footwear, lines, shoes, a tote bag, plus money to cover travel expenses to get home.
- **Jamaica:** Three inmates were released from St. Catherine Adult Correctional Center on Dec. 12. In addition to having their fines paid, each received a package containing food items and a stipend to assist with transportation.
- **Guyana:** Three inmates were released during a ceremony at FFTP-Guyana's office on Dec. 13. Each newly freed person received a Bible, a loaf of bread and a care package consisting of personal care items, a pillow, and food supplies including rice and beans. They also received a fruit cake in keeping with Guyanese Christmas tradition. A fourth person was released earlier in 2024 in time for the Easter holiday.

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 in the past to disasters in the United States and elsewhere in the world.

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, civil unrest, soaring inflation, and a resurgence of cholera in 2022.

In 2024, the country was besieged by a surge of gang activity that left almost half the population of 11 million at critical levels of food insecurity and more than 1 million people were left homeless after fleeing their communities to escape gang violence.

FFTP is uniquely positioned to respond in Haiti because we have been on the ground providing support in the country since 1986 and continues to provide much-needed aid. Some of the highlights of assistance in 2024 include:

- Assembling volunteers in FFTP's Coconut Creek, Fla., 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, as well as 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 of essential items, such as hygiene products, water purification sachets, buckets, and solar-powered lights, from GlobalMedic.
- 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. 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 to raise funds and provide aid for Haiti. In addition, partners Airlink and Amerijet sent 3,840 hygiene kits from Heart to Heart International to Port-au-Prince for distribution to various organizations in Haiti. A second flight through Airlink and American Airlines delivered an additional 2,200 hygiene kits from Heart to Heart International.

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, 5,500 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 Procter & Gamble to fund building materials for 100 homes in Grenada and working with Cedella Marley, of the Rita and Bob Marley Foundation, to provide zinc roofing and hurricane straps to repair thousands of homes.
- Providing \$10,000 grants to Caritas Grenada and Caritas Antilles for transportation and assessments and securing \$20,000 in Amazon gift cards through a donation from Good360.
- Partnering with Sandals Foundation and Caritas Antilles to provide transportation and additional support in Grenada, as well as FEEL in Trinidad and Tobago to deliver tarps, disaster blankets, hygiene kits, diaper packs, and other essential items.
- Supporting FFTP-Jamaica in supplying more than 2,400 families in nine Jamaican parishes with food, care packages, tarps, tools, water, MannaPack rice meals, IV hydration solutions, and

emergency supplies, plus food and hygiene kits from partner GlobalMedic. In addition, GlobalMedic donated 720 family emergency kits and emergency food kits, transported at no cost by Air Canada.

- Mobilizing volunteers at FFTP's Coconut Creek headquarters to assemble nearly 5,000 disaster hygiene and more than 1,500 women's care kits, with additional support from the Jamaican Consulate, United Way, and community groups.

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 Cáritas 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.

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 103,260 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, 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.

June 2025