



# MASSACHUSETTS EMERGENCY FOOD ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (MEFAP)

## Feeding Neighbors in Need across the Commonwealth

The Massachusetts Emergency Food Assistance Program (MEFAP) supplies nearly one-third of the food that the four Massachusetts (MA) food banks—collectively known as the Food Bank Coalition of Massachusetts—purchase and distribute at no cost to a network of 900+ community food providers. These organizations reach every district in the state, ensuring food insecure people have access to quality, nutrient-dense meals.

### Meeting Unprecedented Need



As many as **1 in 3** MA residents faced food insecurity in 2024.



The Food Bank Coalition of Massachusetts reports serving over **twice as many individuals** per month as they did in 2019.



**96.7%** of the MEFAP food purchased and distributed by The Greater Boston Food Bank meets rigorous nutrition standards.



Since 2021, MEFAP has **tripled the amount of fresh produce** it distributes.

### Investing in Local Food Producers



**Over 50%** of FY24 MEFAP funds supported Massachusetts farmers, fisheries, and food producers.

Regional food banks distributed **3,360,058 pounds** of Massachusetts-grown produce, dairy, and poultry in FY24.

## MEFAP Needs Your Support

FY26 Budget Request: \$55.5M • Line Item: DAR 2511-0105



### Why Support MEFAP?

Sustained MEFAP funding is crucial as the Food Bank Coalition of Massachusetts continues to tackle historic levels of hunger across the Commonwealth while also facing cuts to federal funding.

These funds will help us ensure that our food banks can continue to provide fresh, Massachusetts-grown produce to our neighbors in need—while supporting local farmers, food manufacturers, and fishermen.

“MEFAP has transformed our ability to supply high-quality, consistent produce at scale. In 2024, MEFAP funding helped us provide nearly one million pounds of produce annually to Massachusetts food banks and to the tables of food-insecure people. This has also allowed us to control costs—Farmer Dave’s also hires local workers from Lowell and Lawrence, keeping jobs and food dollars in the community.”

– Dave Dumaresq, Cultivator  
Farmer Dave’s, Dracut, MA



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