

Welcome

- We have all participants on Mute.
- Please share your name & Agency,
and any questions in the Chat.



Agenda

- Current state of the shutdown
- What we are doing
- What you can do
- Q&A

Current State of Hunger

Food Insecurity was already at an all-time high, as food prices and cost of living continues to rise.

70,000 of our neighbors across our region rely on SNAP.

40% of Neighbor Survey respondents stated they rely on SNAP.

1 SNAP dollars spent = \$1.50-\$1.80 in economic impact

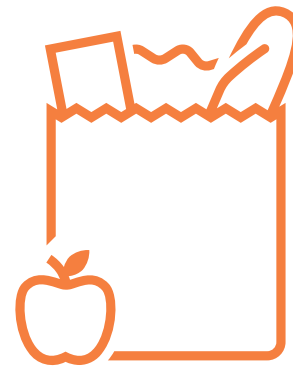
What is happening

- ❖ The Federal Government has been shut down since Oct 1.
- ❖ Federal workers may be furloughed. Our region is home to ~2,500+ federal workers.
- ❖ SNAP benefits are expected to be partially funded for November, though timing is unclear.
- ❖ Currently, Georgia has no plan to replace these critical benefits.
- ❖ SNAP & WIC already loaded on EBT cards WILL continue to be available for use in November.

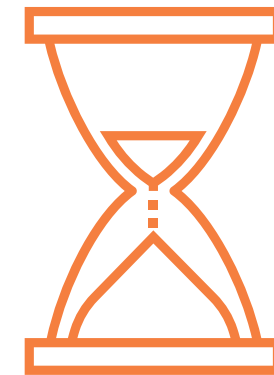
What this means for our Neighbors



This delay will pose new challenges for our neighbors.



Neighbors who use SNAP will be looking to us for even more food



And possibly for the first time.

What this means for our us



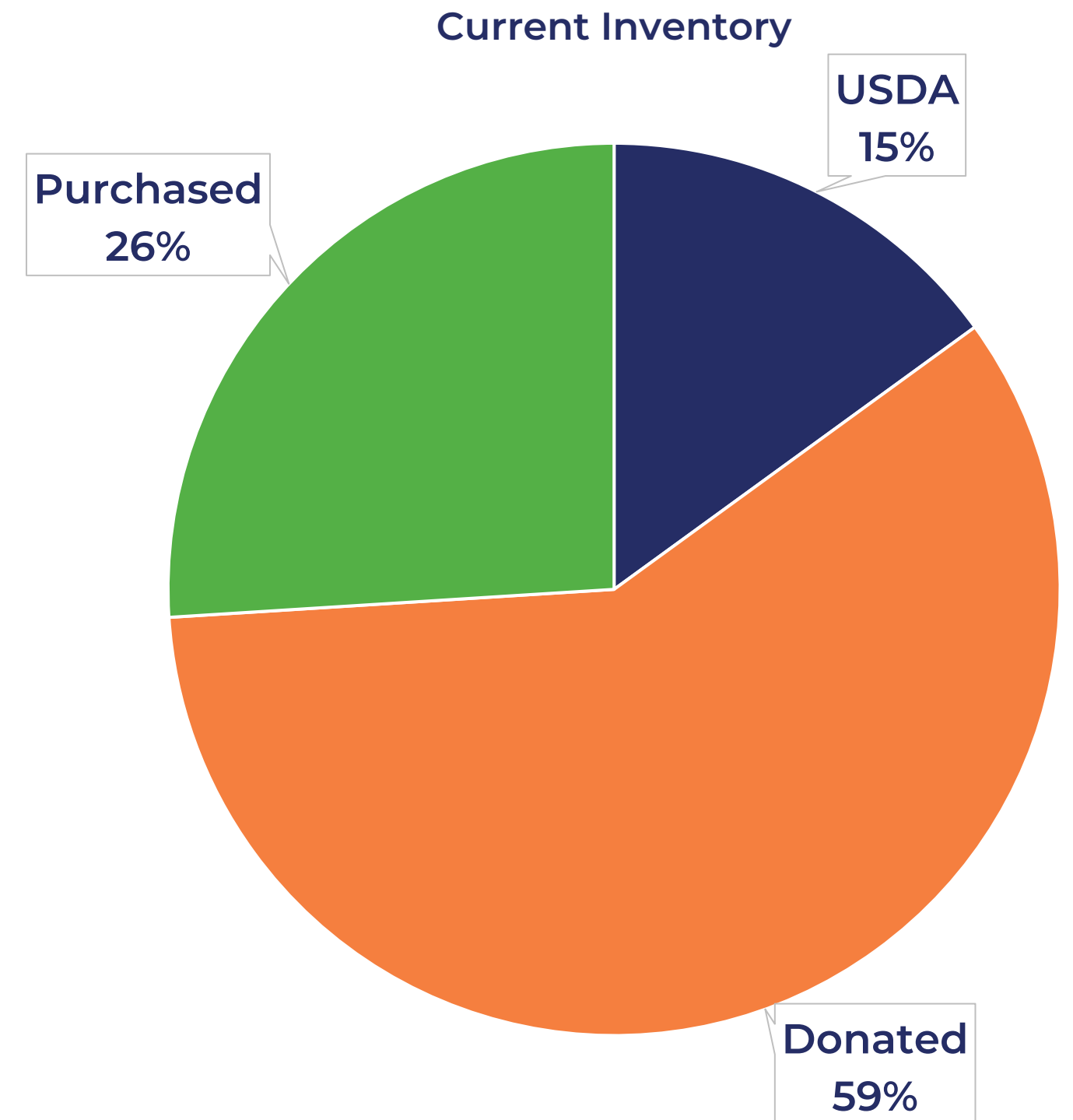
We CANNOT slow down our efforts.



We must work together to reduce the hardship for our neighbors.

Actions we are taking

- Increasing our food purchasing by 400%
- Increasing meat purchasing because USDA is offering no/limited meat
- ADDITIONAL product online as of Monday, 11/3
- Increasing the volume and frequency of mobile pantries
- Increasing the volume of school-based pantries
- Continuing to engage in SNAP outreach
- Thoughtfully engaging elected officials



Actions YOU can take

- Hold our values of Belonging, Compassion and Dignity close as you serve both new and returning neighbors.
- Remember that compliance with Civil Rights and Food Safety are important in how we safely and respectfully serve more neighbors.
- Review the recent trainings with your volunteers.
- Ensure your Vivery/Find Food page is up to date, including your hours of distribution and location so Neighbors can find you!
- Stay in regular communication with your assigned Food Access Coordinator regarding what you are seeing and hearing, as well as any challenges you are facing. We are here to support you!

How to plan

These are not normal times. With increased need, a first come-first serve approach will be essential.

It is hard to predict how many people we might serve and many of them may be new to receiving food via food pantry/ mobile pantry.

Please offer more compassion, dignity and belonging for our neighbors .

Remember to manage your inventory as best as you can and adjust based on your line.

We suggest you start conservatively with your give-away, so you can get a sense of how many to expect.

Your first distribution in November is important to get a sense of what to expect in the future.

What to tell Neighbors

If neighbors have benefits still available, they can still use them!



The Food Bank can still complete and submit applications to be processed by DHS.



Neighbors can visit more than 1 pantry or distribution this month, and every month



Refer Neighbors to other distributions and pantries, which can be found on foodbanknega.org



We have resource handbills available for you to give to neighbors.

Final Thought



Gather at Home

- Share with donors what you are seeing and going.
- Invite donors to be part of your response by donating to Gather at Home or another donation option.
- Thank your donors and volunteers.



**“What is
essential
cannot be
negotiable.”**

foodbanknega.org

OUR VALUES



ACCOUNTABILITY

We commit to continuous improvement and transparency in all that we do.



BELONGING

We create a place of welcome and hospitality for all.



COMPASSION

We acknowledge that hunger is a burden that no one should bear alone.



DIGNITY

We honor the humanity of all people.



EFFICACY

We get things done, and we understand the urgency of our work.



STEWARDSHIP

We honor the power of giving by applying resources in a mission-driven and thoughtful manner.