

\$1.5 Million Grant Funding to Sacramento County Nonprofits for Food Recovery



Abound Food Care has managed the distribution of \$1.5 million in expansion grant funding to eleven organizations in Sacramento County on behalf of the **Capital Food Access Alliance (CFAA)**, a working group composed by the cities of Citrus Heights, Elk Grove, Galt, Folsom, Rancho Cordova, Sacramento, and the County of Sacramento. The Expansion Grant program focused on transportation, Tier 2 food recovery, repurposing kitchens, and innovative projects which were the key areas identified to build the required food recovery capacity in the region. Abound assisted applicants to refine project concepts and develop applications, with a focus on connecting resources and ideas. This process led to the formation of many applicants' partnerships and ultimately to the submission of collaborative applications. Abound Food Care will continue providing grant implementation support, evaluation, and technical assistance through June 2026, while exploring additional funding opportunities to sustain and expand regional food recovery efforts. Planned priorities include expanding the website as a resource hub, launching a Tier 2 pilot project, and strengthening partnerships that align food recovery goals with broader community health and food access initiatives.

[Learn more about Abound Food Care and CFAA](#)

SNAP Relief in Action: Targeted Community Support

While SNAP funding cuts were heavily impacting families across Orange County, Abound Food Care and the OC Hunger Alliance stepped in to help close the growing gap in access to food and essential supplies. In partnership with the County of Orange and the City of Irvine, these efforts focused on mobilizing resources quickly for food banks and frontline nonprofit organizations serving the most affected communities. Abound Food Care identified the need for targeted fundraising efforts that allowed donors to make financial contributions to Orange County's food banks or to support local nonprofit organizations serving people in need. Funding for the food banks represented the greatest value through their association with the government subsidized 'Cal Foods' program. For local nonprofit organizations, funds were used to secure food and essential supplies tailored specifically to the needs of the populations they serve. These organizations also had direct access to Abound Food Care's Enhanced Procurement Program, enabling them to receive discounted food and supplies within 48 hours of the request.

This rapid turnaround ensures organizations can maximize funding and respond immediately to increased demand in order to continue serving families without interruption.

Abound Food Care also joined fellow OC Hunger Alliance members for a regional convening featuring the CEO of CalOptima, the Director of OC Social Services Agency and the Nutrition Services Director for Capo Unified School District to discuss the impacts of HR1, known as the "Big Beautiful Bill." This session focused on how legislation may affect food access, nonprofit operations, and vulnerable communities, while fostering shared strategy and cross-sector collaboration to prepare for emerging challenges.

Read more about Abound Food Care and the OC Hunger Alliance's effort to support communities during SNAP funding cuts:

[Learn More](#)

Community Partnership in Action: Wild Fork Day of Giving

Abound Food Care participated in Wild Fork's National Donation Day in Long Beach and Costa Mesa, engaging directly with customers to share how they can support local hunger relief efforts. Wild Fork matched each pound of select items sold by donating the same amount of protein to Abound Food Care which was then directed to nonprofit organizations serving communities with the greatest need.

Wild Fork

Driving Savings and Access: Our First Procurement Webinar

Abound Food Care successfully hosted its first Enhanced Procurement webinar, introducing organizations to new ways to access food, supplies, and services more efficiently and at the best possible price. The strong turnout and engagement highlighted growing interest in the program, and organizations can continue learning more at aboundfoodcare.org/procurement.

[Learn more about the Enhanced Procurement Program](#)



Additional Support for Wildfire-Impacted Families

With the generous support of the **Angels Baseball Foundation** and other donors, Abound Food Care mobilized to support individuals and families impacted by the Eaton wildfire. Abound identified that while disaster victims often receive immediate resources in the aftermath, long-term support is limited, even though the need continues for months. To help fill this gap, Abound committed to supporting families well beyond the initial response period.

Through collaboration with multiple partner agencies, we provided nutritious meals prepared by our network of repurposing kitchens, including

nonprofit partners such as **California Culinary Coalition** and **Monkey Business Café**, as well as nutritious food sourced through our procurement partners.

Meals were delivered to the City of Pasadena for distribution to city employees directly affected by the fires. Union Station Homeless Services also received meals and food support for clients impacted by the disaster, including pallets of fresh produce and dairy products to support both Thanksgiving distributions and hot meals served directly within the burn zone.

These efforts continue to expand as Abound Food Care brings additional nonprofit partners into the response network, strengthening the capacity to deliver meals and essential food support to communities impacted by wildfire emergencies.

Leading Regional Collaboration on Food Security

Abound Food Care was asked to expand its work in Sacramento County beyond food recovery to support a broader scope of food security efforts. Abound will serve as a Co-Chair of the Sacramento Food Security Working Group, with the goal of strengthening stakeholder engagement across sectors, coordinating participation, and collecting data to guide the development of a regional, collaborative food security plan. This role reflects Abound's growing involvement in addressing the wider challenges of poverty and food access. Abound was also asked to step in during the recent SNAP crisis to coordinate working groups in Sacramento County and provide immediate support, consultation, and direction on the most effective use of available resources. This work includes partnering directly with public-sector leaders and supporting the nonprofit network as they navigate ongoing food access challenges in the region.

Now Hiring: Join Abound Food Care

Abound Food Care is growing and currently has four open positions:

Bookkeeper, Marketing Specialist, Fund Developer, and Regional Program Coordinator. Interested candidates can learn more and apply at aboundfoodcare.org/job-opportunities and join a team dedicated to strengthening food systems and community health.

[Apply Now](#)



Helping Schools Donate Safely and Efficiently

SB 1383 requires school districts to comply with SB 1383 edible food recovery law by donating excess edible food, and jurisdictions are responsible for providing education. To support the Waste Free Ventura County Working Group, which includes jurisdictions across Ventura County, Abound Food Care developed SB 1383 Edible Food Recovery Procedures for Schools.

This document outlines several program models that districts can implement to reduce food waste by donating or repurposing excess edible food within their schools.

Recovering Food Safely: Tier 2 Pilot Program

Through capacity studies and needs assessments, Abound Food Care identified a significant gap in the capacity to safely recover food donations from Tier 2 generators that often include prepared foods that require additional precautions to ensure safe handling. To address this issue, Abound developed a Tier 2 Food

Recovery Procedures guidance document for food recovery organizations, services, and generators and a Tier 2 Food Safety Self-Assessment based on the

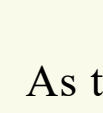
procedures and input from Registered Environmental Health Specialists. The goal of this assessment is to evaluate food safety practices, identify organizations that maintain elevated standards, and support others instrengthening their Tier 2

food recovery efforts. Abound has already initiated the Tier 2 Food Safety Self-Assessments with Ventura County food recovery partners and will replicate this work with capacity expansion grantees in Sacramento County in the first quarter

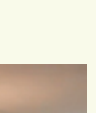
of 2026. Abound will assist jurisdictions and food recovery organizations in promoting certified organizations to Tier 2 edible food generators and onboarding

generators to be compliant with SB 1383. Following the pilots, Abound will evaluate outcomes and provide recommendations for improvement or regional

scaling.



Wishing You a Healthy and Happy Holiday Season



As the year comes to a close, the Abound Food Care team is ready to celebrate the spirit of giving. With a fully decorated office, we wish all partners and supporters a safe, joyful, and happy holiday season.



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