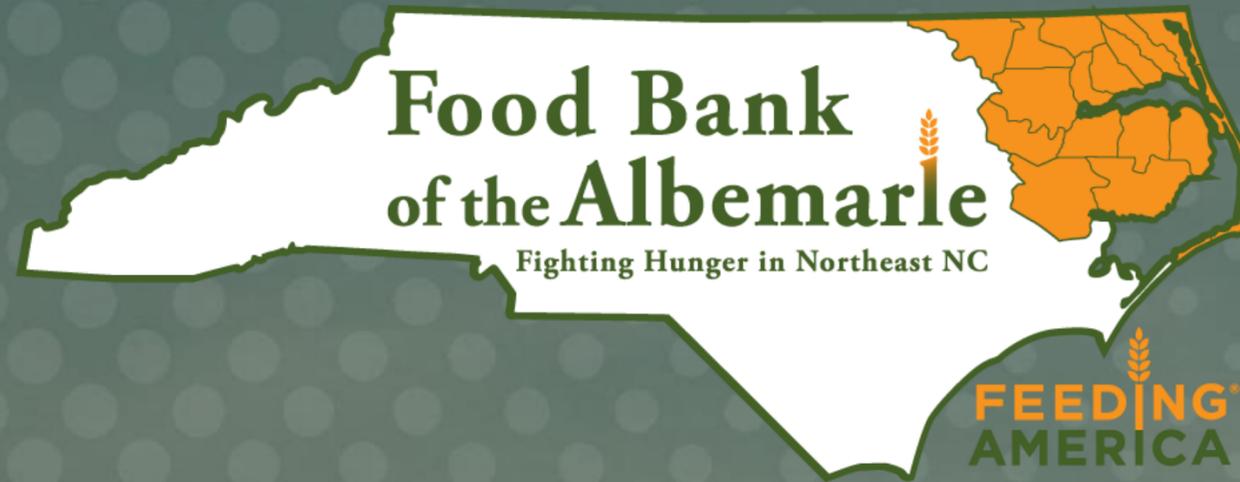


Welcome to the Food Bank's

Legislative Breakfast

2026



Food insecurity in our region has increased from 36,000 to 46,440 neighbors (14.7% of the population).

1 in 6 Neighbors

are Food Insecure

1 in 4 Children

are Food Insecure





Liz Reasoner, Executive Director



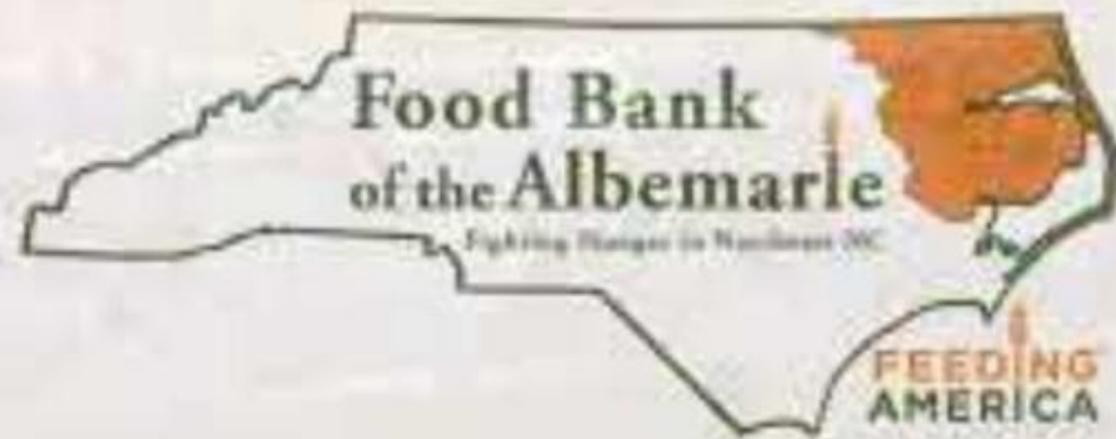
NC Appropriations Budget

State Appropriations to NC Food Banks have been in place since 1997, providing essential funding used to purchase food. The state does not currently have an approved budget, and Food Bank of the Albemarle **is not in the State Appropriations budget.**

- The loss of this appropriation of \$1 million to Food Bank of the Albemarle is a loss of 800,000 meals to the communities we serve, and public donations cannot make up that difference.
- Together, the seven North Carolina Food Banks serve all 100 counties by partnering with over 2,700 distribution organizations, including faith-based, private nonprofit, healthcare, and school partners.
- We purchase food from more than 47 farmers in Northeastern NC. These efforts are about feeding people and investing in local economies.



**For every meal the
Feeding America
network provides**



**SNAP
provides**

9



MEALS



**ALBEMARLE AREA
UNITED WAY**

**Welcome
Bill Blake, Executive Director
2025 ALICE REPORT**

Delay SNAP Cost Shift to NC

- Ensure **SNAP** aligns with rising grocery prices and provides adequate support during tough economic times.
- Allow North Carolina more time to reduce **SNAP** error rates.
- If the cost shift happens too quickly, North Carolina would need to absorb **\$480 million**, which could strain the state budget and potentially affect families who rely on SNAP.
- Alaska, New York, and New Jersey have been granted 2 year extensions



Sources of Food for North Carolina's Food Banks in 2025

Federal programs like The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) move over 120 types of nutritious foods from farms through food banks to people facing hunger.

TEFAP is the cornerstone of the charitable food system that also provides farmers a reliable market, reduces waste, strengthens rural communities and ensure taxpayer investments in agriculture benefit growers, producers, ranchers and families facing hunger in America.



TEFAP & USDA Food:

117.9M+ meals in North Carolina



Donated Food:

79.6M+ meals in North Carolina



Purchased Food:

10.8M+ meals in North Carolina

Strengthen TEFAP & SNAP

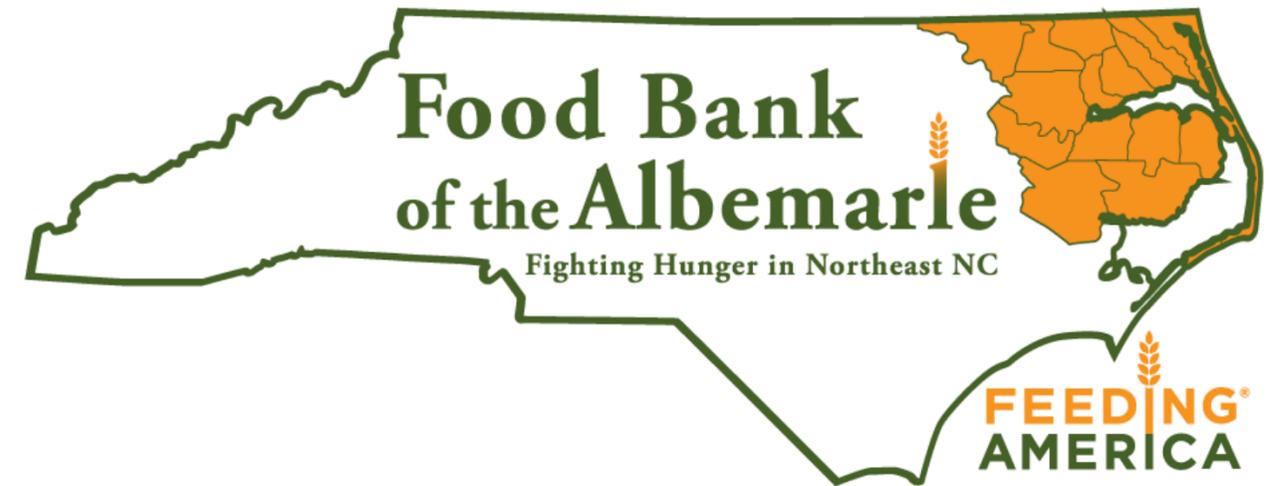
- Double funding for TEFAP Food purchases
- Increase funding for TEFAP storage and distribution to \$200 million a year
- Continue to provide \$15 million per year for TEFAP infrastructure grants
- Boost funding for the TEFAP Farm to Food Bank Program
- Ensure SNAP aligns with rising grocery prices and provides adequate support during tough economic times.
- Simplify SNAP eligibility and enrollment
- Delay the shift of SNAP cost share to NC
- Allow Puerto Rico and other U.S. Territories to participate fully in SNAP and extended flexibility to Native communities



Growing Hope: Expanding Our Intentional Planting Program

- \$88K investment in 2025 → **35 acres** of crops grown exclusively for hunger relief
 - Almost 408,000 lbs of fruit/vegetables – Broccoli, Cabbage, Corn, Cucumbers, Melons, Okra, Peppers, Potatoes, Squash, Tomatoes
- Less than .22 cents per pound
- Provides **consistent, nutritious, locally grown produce** beyond traditional donations
- Strengthens **local farms** and supports rural economic vitality
- Thousands of pounds of produce distributed across our **15-county region**
- Environmentally responsible farming with lower waste
- Funding needed to expand acreage, infrastructure & long-term farm partnerships
- **High impact:** better nutrition, economic development, and increased resilience for our communities





Call to Action

We need YOU to contact your state and federal representatives and urge them to:

- **Delay the SNAP Cost Shift**
Protect vulnerable families from increased food insecurity.
- **Strengthen Investments in TEFAP**
Ensure a stable supply of nutritious food for food banks and communities.
- **Support Legislation for North Carolina Farmers**
Build a stronger local food system and sustain the farms that feed our region.

Thank You

**for your time, your empathy,
and joining us in raising
our collective voice for the
families, veterans, and seniors
in our community.**

