Farmers Feeding Utah is a project of the ‘Miracle of Agriculture Foundation,’ which is the charitable arm of the Utah Farm Bureau Federation. Farmers Feeding Utah is a combined effort between the Utah Farm Bureau, Utah State University, and various community partners and volunteers across the state hoping to address hardships related to the current food supply chain challenges and family food insecurity. This effort simultaneously helps sustain Utah’s family farmers and ranchers who have been impacted by the pandemic.

“‘We have been thrilled at the response so far for this campaign from everyday Utahns and even others beyond our state’s borders. To be able to take something that has been as devastating as this virus, and turn it around to help hungry families and our state’s farmers and ranchers, has been inspiring. We have been able to see farmers and ranchers helped, all while making sure those among us in greatest need of food receive help they need. I know we can continue to rise to meet the needs in front of us.’”

Ron Gibson, Utah Farm Bureau Federation President

“USU has been a proud partner of the Farmers Feeding Utah campaign. We have friends and neighbors all over the state who are struggling with food insecurity right now, and we are committed to doing all we can to help them. The Salt Lake City area is hit especially hard because of their higher population concentration, and we are happy that Farm Bureau, USU Extension and other partners can come together to make these miracle projects happen. We look forward to supporting future projects all over the state.”

Ken White, Utah State University Extension Vice President

Challenge

Processing shortages and market losses have left many Utah farmers without an outlet for their products.

There has been a 300% increased need for food assistance. Access to healthy, high-quality foods is critical to helping families gain food security.

Due to higher demand and lower supply, many pantries do not have enough food for the families they serve.

Solution

Launched by the Utah Farm Bureau Federation in early May, the Farmers Feeding Utah campaign has a two-fold goal of helping sustain farmers and ranchers impacted by COVID-19 and providing food to Utah families in need.

Funds are raised

Agricultural commodities are purchased and (if needed) processed

Food is distributed to those in need with the help of community-based organizations

UTAH helping UTAH
Food Distribution Sites

"I am a single momma of 4 growing boys. Everyone was so kind and thoughtful. By the time I left I had a huge lump in my throat and tears in my eyes. GRATEFUL for the kindness. Incredibly grateful for the beautiful food we received."
Food Recipient

"Thank you so much! I know me and my husband worried we wouldn't have food the next few days. This helped us so so so much!"
Food Recipient

"For the Navajo People, sheep is life. People tell me it has given them hope and helps them know someone cares about them. Sheep are very symbolic of hope and prosperity. You will see people here very happy to get sheep, and they will utilize every bit...."
Rebecca Benally, Volunteer

"The donation from Farmers Feeding Utah was INCREDIBLE!...We will be using this product to send to agencies for their local food boxes and using it for our mobile distributions...in Washington County and in rural counties such as Kane, Garfield, Beaver, Iron, to name a few...During these trying times a protein product such as salami is such a wonderful treat for [pantry clients]."
Linda Trujillo, Utah Food Bank Southern Distribution Center Director

Over $1,000,000 worth of food donated
Over 1,000,000 lbs. of nutrient-dense food distributed
Over 20,000 Utah families served
24+ local pantries assisted
25 Utah farmers supported

Future
Washington County will be our next project on January 29. Keep watching our social media as it is current with projects. Donations and help are always needed.

To contribute as an agency, individual donor, corporate donor, volunteer, or have farm products to sell or donate to this campaign, visit FarmersFeedingUtah.org.

For more information about Farmers Feeding Utah, visit FarmersFeedingUtah.org or contact Clayton Beckstead at (801) 830-7694 or clayton.beckstead@fbfs.com

For more information about USU’s Hunger Solutions Institute and the Create Better Health (SNAP-Ed) program, contact Heidi LeBlanc, Director | (435) 760-0925 | heidi.leblanc@usu.edu
Casey Coombs, Assistant Director | (435) 797-3725 | casey.coombs@usu.edu