

# FULFILL 2020 REPORT:

## A PANDEMIC YEAR IN REVIEW



(Since March 13, 2020)

### A SHARP RISE IN NEED

- Fulfill experienced a 40% increase in the demand for food from the onset of the pandemic.
- Fulfill went from serving 136,000 people in Monmouth and Ocean Counties, 50,000 of them children, to 215,000 people, 70,000 of them children.

### INCREASE IN FOOD DISTRIBUTION

- Fulfill provided 3,286,946 more meals than the same time the year before.
- Fulfill provided 10,884 more meals per day to families, children, seniors, and veterans.
- Fulfill distributed 14,950,282 pounds of food to people in need in 2020, up from 11,114,602 in 2019.
- From March 2020 through August 2020, Fulfill spent \$2.1 million on food compared with \$494,000 for the same period in 2019. That's a 442 percent increase for shelf-stable food.
- Fulfill distributed 112,885 crisis boxes filled with non-perishable food to sustain a family of four for four days.
- Fulfill never provided these crisis boxes before and averaged 2,160 crisis boxes per week.



[fulfillnj.org](https://fulfillnj.org)

# NEW PROGRAMS



## RESTAURANT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

- Fulfill’s innovative Restaurant Partnership Program was launched on March 16, 2020 and provided 262,253 meals to help us meet the demand for food.
- Local participating restaurants were paid a \$5 per meal stipend by Fulfill, increased later in the year to \$7 per meal.

## “FIND FOOD” TEXT PROGRAM

- Fulfill launched its “Find Food” Text Program in Spanish and English, which provides the nearest food pantries to a given zip code for families in need.
- In 2020, 2,630 people used the service to find food distribution near their homes.

## COVID SAFE BENEFITS BUS

- Fulfill launched its First-In-The-Nation COVID Safe Benefits Bus, bringing assistance for SNAP (food stamps), affordable housing, affordable health care, and Medicaid to people in need “right where they are”.
- Fulfill’s Resource Connections Team also assists with tax preparation, budgeting and money management, utility expenses, and senior services.
- Our Resource Connections Team was able to assist 1,200 clients with SNAP (food stamps), 3,567 tax returns, and 603 health insurance applications.

## HOSPITAL PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

- Fulfill launched a Hospital Partnership Program in November 2020 with local hospitals aimed at helping hospital employees, new and expectant mothers, and patients with severe COVID-19 cases, cancer, and other long-term illnesses, who are struggling during the pandemic.
- In just a short time in 2020, Fulfill served more than 6,000 meals to our neighbors in need who were identified through this program.