

# Emergency Food Services

## Purpose

The Alameda County Community Food Bank operates a toll-free Food Helpline that connects callers to emergency food providers in their neighborhoods for same-day free hot meals or bags of food (1-800-870-3663). The Food Bank also offers referrals and application assistance toward food programs, such as Food Stamps, School Meals, and WIC (*Women, Infants and Children*).

## Who is Eligible?

- Alameda County residents
- Families and individuals who need help with emergency food

## What Verification is Needed?

- One form of ID for every household member (*i.e., driver's license, library card, MediCal card, school ID, etc.*)

## What Resources/Income Can I Have?

- Low income and few or no resources

## What Happens When I Call the Helpline?

When you call the Food Helpline, press the option for “Food Today”. You will then speak to an operator who will ask you a few questions. Based on your zip code, that operator will search for locations in your neighborhood that are distributing food bags or serving hot meals. The operator will then let you know where to go for help with emergency food that same day. If you are calling for help in applying for other food programs like Food Stamps, let the operator know or press the option for “Food Stamps” at the beginning.

**Alameda County Community Food Bank  
Food Helpline**

**1-800-870-3663**

Monday thru Friday  
9:00 AM - 12:00 PM and 1:00 - 4:00 PM