



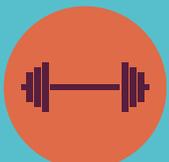
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THIRD QUARTER IMPACT REPORT



Food Value
\$296,109



Pounds Distributed
150,309 LBS



Number of Meals
125,258

CONNECTIONS AND STEWARDING THE MODEL



Dear Urban Recipe Community,

Every month at Urban Recipe, I'm reminded that our work is powered not just by food, but by connection. Each co-op meeting, mobile pantry delivery, and shared story reflects the strength of a community that shows up for one another, and it's these connections that continue to open doors to new opportunities.

Those relationships often lead us to explore new partnerships, new communities, and new ways of making our co-op model work. Each conversation helps us imagine where the Urban Recipe model might take root next and how we can reach more families with stable and dignified access to food.

In many ways, we are all stewards of this model. We nurture it, adapt it, and help it find the right place to thrive. Stewardship means caring for what we've built while remaining open to what comes next. It also means recognizing that we cannot do this work alone.

These last few weeks in particular, we have relied on our community to help serve our neighbors here in Atlanta in a time of crisis, and because of these partnerships, we've been able to feed families outside of our normal network.

As we look toward the months ahead, we are preparing to grow more co-ops around metro Atlanta. To do that well, we need the continued energy, ideas, and generosity of this community. Whether you volunteer, share our story, or give financially, your connection to Urban Recipe helps make this work possible.

Thank you for being part of this community of care. Together, we are not only feeding families, we are helping a model grow that changes lives across our city.

With gratitude, *Jeremy Lewis*

Jeremy Lewis
Executive Director



ADDRESSING THE NEED FOR STABILITY

“How do I start a co-op?” Many organizations come to Urban Recipe with this question and a desire to serve their neighbors in need. We developed our Cooperative Pathway Program (CPP) exactly for this purpose: to help other organizations steward our model in their communities with our operational support and continued mentorship. It’s essential, however, to emphasize our commitment to sustained support in the community.

Co-ops are not modeled to be a short-term fix, but rather a solid stepping stone families can rely on when they need it. This month especially, we are seeing the difference that having a stable source of food can make for families. For this reason, we ask all of our partners to take ownership of the model before implementing it in their communities.

We currently have two joint partners, Israel Missionary Baptist Church and Immanuel Anglican Church, that are doing just that. These churches have done a wonderful job of learning deeply about the Urban Recipe Food Co-op model before launching a co-op in their community. They began their CPP training this fall, but their research began before then. Micah Dalton of Immanuel Anglican, has intentionally connected with our other CPP partners, shadowing co-op at Decatur First United Methodist and engaging in extensive conversations with other CPP coordinators.

In response to the immediate crisis in their community, Israel Missionary Baptist has opted to start with Mobile Pantry distributions this month as they finish preparation for a co-op.

Other CPP partners have modeled the same. Decatur First United Methodist coordinator, Laura Rappold, for example, met with the staff at St. Anne’s Episcopal Church, home of an Urban Recipe co-op since 2021. The staff at St. Anne’s Episcopal originally had shadowed a co-op back at Urban Recipe’s original location: Georgia Avenue Church.

Together with our ongoing CPP training, this ownership of the model, and these relationships have allowed our partners to serve their communities with reliable, consistent support. We are excited for Israel Missionary Baptist to continue their training and launch a co-op in 2026, becoming a resource not only for their own community, but for future co-ops as well.



MOBILE PANTRY AS A SHUTDOWN RESPONSE



The government shutdown caused thousands of Georgia residents to be furloughed and lose access to their paychecks for over 7 weeks. Additionally the delay, reduction, and uncertainty around SNAP benefits has affected millions nationwide. Many are experiencing an unexpected financial strain and needed assistance feeding their families. Thanks to our partnership with St. Luke's Presbyterian Church and Dodd Sterling United Methodist Church, we were able to distribute additional emergency aid to people in need throughout October and November.

Usually, these partners distribute 580 boxes a month, serving around 280 families. In October, they increased their distribution to 660 grocery boxes, feeding 330 families, and are on track to feed even more in November. They even distributed produce at their food distributions to supplement the non-perishable and frozen food.

Additionally, many other partners have stepped up to help minimize the impact of this crisis. Through our Mobile Pantry, we've delivered over 2,100 boxes to families in need since the shutdown began.

LOOKING FOR WAYS TO HELP?



SPREAD THE WORD

Follow us on social media, share Urban Recipe emails with your network, and invite others to learn about Urban Recipe!

 @urbanrecipe  /urbanrecipeatl  Urban Recipe

DONATE

Your support fuels our mission. If you'd like to aid our current relief efforts and sustain our food security programming, donate today!

Give now at urbanrecipe.org/donate



HOST A DRIVE

While our partners the Atlanta Community Food Bank provides us with so many resources, we could always use support!

Email Reed: reedstewart@urbanrecipe.org

VOLUNTEER

Volunteer sessions are available multiple times a week! Sign up or email us to pick another time to sign up your group in 2026.

urbanrecipe.org/volunteer



THANK YOU TO OUR MOBILE PANTRY PARTNERS THIS MONTH

The Atlanta Braves Foundation
Decatur First United Methodist Church
Dodd Sterling United Methodist Church
Focused Community Strategies
Family Ties
Fresh Harvest
Friends of Refugee
Harambee Church
Immanuel Anglican Church
Israel Missionary Baptist Church
SPARC
St. Luke's Presbyterian Church
and others in progress



THE IMPORTANCE OF PARTNERSHIPS

In our model, in our history, and in our partnerships, Urban Recipe is built on community. We are reminded again and again of the importance of these relationships as our work evolves.

Our partnerships with Lake Forest Elementary and Peachtree Church exemplify committed relationships. Starting in 2020, the Lake Forest Elementary Co-op serves families and staff members associated with Lake Forest Elementary School in Sandy Springs. They've been meeting every two weeks for five years, currently serving 31 active families, but have directly served 91 families over its lifespan, providing over 232,000 lbs of food.

This co-op exists thanks to our partnership with Peachtree Church. Back before the pandemic, Peachtree Church wanted to steward the co-op model for families they identified in their community that were in need. Some church members leveraged partnerships within Atlanta Public Schools to partner with Lake Forest Elementary for a co-op site. Working through a brief hiccup due to the pandemic where food was temporarily distributed out of Peachtree Church's parking lot, the co-op has continued to grow, operating now on campus.



Lake Forest co-op members at Peachtree Church in 2020



Lake Forest co-op members at Lake Forest Elementary this month

Lake Forest Elementary's new principal, Jennifer Rosenthal, has made a concerted effort this school year to share the co-op with the school community, ensuring all families know about the opportunity for free food if they need it. This co-op has traditionally grown by word of mouth recommendations, but we are excited to see where this new relationship will take the community, expanding it for even more families.

DONOR SPOTLIGHT

"Some of my earliest memories are of going with my mom to Georgia Avenue Church to serve lunch to residents of the Grant Park neighborhood who were struggling. At that time I met Chad Hale (Urban Recipe's Founder) and got a glimpse of his efforts to bring dignity and community to people experiencing food insecurity through the formation of a community food cooperative.

Chad's example of living out his calling as a minister through practical acts of empowerment stuck with me, and it is so gratifying now, more than 40 years later, to see this vision multiply across the metro Atlanta." - Glenn Goldsmith



Glenn and Kim Goldsmith

A THANK YOU TO OUR COMMUNITY

We would like to extend a huge and sincere thank you to every donor, volunteer, partner, and community member that joined us in responding to need in the last 2 months. Our co-op members and their families, as well as thousands of others in Atlanta, received support during this turbulent time thanks to your immediate and ongoing support of Urban Recipe.