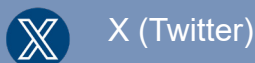


Behind the Scenes

Be sure to keep up with the New Hampshire Food Bank on the following social media platforms:



Facebook



X (Twitter)



Instagram



LinkedIn



YouTube

Your comments

Thank you for your continued support. We would love to hear from you! Please email us at nmellitt@nhfoodbank.org or write to:

Nancy Mellitt
New Hampshire Food Bank
700 East Industrial Park Drive
Manchester, NH 03109

Grants

Thank you to the following organizations and individuals for their generous support through grants to the New Hampshire Food Bank:

Cogswell Benevolent Trust: Thanksgiving turkeys

Farm Credit East: NH Feeding NH

Feeding America – CVS: General operations

Feeding America Cargill: Food safety

Feeding America Policy and Government Programs: SNAP Advocacy

HCA Healthcare Foundation: General operations

Lincoln Financial Foundation: Mobile Food Pantry program

Merrimack County Savings Bank: Food purchase for agencies in the Merrimack County area

NH Electric Coop: Two Mobile Food Pantries

Salem Community Benefit: Food purchase for agencies in Salem

Speare Memorial Hospital Foundation: Community health

William Evans Trust: Food Purchase for Rochester

WMUR's 2025 Spirit of Giving Food Drive

WMUR's 2025 Spirit of Giving Food Drive benefiting the NH Food Bank is being held **December 12, 13 and 14**, at Hannaford, Shaw's and Walmart stores statewide.

To learn more or donate, visit:
nhfoodbank.org/spirit-of-giving



December 2025

The New Hampshire Food Bank, as the only food bank in the state, works through a network of partner agencies, providing food and services to empower people to become more food self-reliant and secure.

Events and Fundraisers Benefiting the NH Food Bank

WMUR's Spirit of Giving Food Drive

December 12, 13, 14

Learn more and donate at:
nhfoodbank.org/spirit-of-giving

New Hampshire Liquor & Wine Outlet's New England Winter Wine Spectacular

Presented by M&T Bank | Wilmington Trust

January 22, 2026

For info & tickets, visit:
nhwineweek.com

NH Food Bank's 10th Annual Steel Chef Challenge

March 16, 2026

For tickets and info, visit:
nhfoodbank.org/steelchef

For the most up-to-date
information, visit: nhfoodbank.org

Food *for* thought

Chef Robert Irvine is Set to Return for NH Food Bank's 10th Annual Steel Chef Challenge

We're excited to share that celebrity chef, Robert Irvine, is returning as host for the NH Food Bank's 10th Annual Steel Chef Challenge, taking place on **Monday, March 16, 2026**, at the DoubleTree by Hilton Manchester Downtown in Manchester, NH!

Irvine first brought his talent, personality and passion for serving others to the NH Food Bank back in 2016, as the Steel Chef Challenge's first-ever host and we're thrilled to be able to recognize this milestone year with him!



On March 16, the Food Bank will transform the Armory Ballroom at the DoubleTree by Hilton Manchester Downtown into a grand dining room, seating approximately 700 guests.

Attendees will watch live as the competition between four of NH's best chefs heats up, and enjoy a fabulous dinner curated by Chef Irvine. The evening also includes both live and silent auctions - *all to benefit the NH Food Bank and our neighbors experiencing hunger here in the Granite State.*

Haven't attended before? Take a look at highlights from last year's show by visiting: nhfoodbank.org/steelchef

Tickets are on sale now -
you won't want to miss it!
nhfoodbank.org/steelchef



Sponsorship Opportunities

*Sponsorship opportunities
are available!*

*For more info, contact
Nancy Mellitt at
603-669-9725 ext. 1129
or nmellitt@nhfoodbank.org.*

Herb Roasted Chicken with Vegetables

A Cooking Matters Recipe



Ingredients

- 1 pound carrots
- 1 large onion
- 1 clove garlic
- 1 pound root vegetables, such as red potatoes, beets, turnips, rutabagas, or parsnips
- 1 large lemon
- ¼ cup water
- ¼ cup canola oil
- 1 teaspoon dried oregano
- 1 teaspoon dried basil
- ¼ teaspoon salt
- ¼ teaspoon ground black pepper
- 3 pounds boneless, skinless chicken pieces
- 1 teaspoon fresh or ¼ teaspoon dried rosemary

Instructions

1. Preheat oven to 375°F.
2. Rinse and peel carrots and onion. Peel garlic. Rinse and peel root veggies (if using potatoes, leave the skin on).
3. Cut onion into quarters. Cut each quarter in half. Chop garlic. Dice carrots and other root veggies into ½-inch pieces.
4. Rinse lemon and cut in half. In a large bowl, squeeze juice. Discard seeds.
5. Add vegetables, water, oil, oregano, basil, salt, and pepper to bowl. If using rosemary, add now. Toss to combine.
6. Use your hands or a slotted spoon to transfer vegetables to a baking sheet. Leave marinade in the bowl. Place baking sheet in oven. Bake for 10 minutes.
7. While veggies bake, toss chicken in the remaining marinade. Let sit at room temperature about 10 minutes.
8. Remove baking sheet from oven. Add chicken pieces on top of veggies. Return to oven.
9. Continue roasting until chicken is cooked through and a food thermometer reads 165°F, about 40 minutes more. As the chicken roasts, use a mixing spoon to baste chicken and turn vegetables about every 15 minutes. Baste by pouring juices from the baking sheet over the chicken.
10. Serve immediately.

Supporting our Neighbors Across the State in Times of Uncertainty

In times of uncertainty, the New Hampshire Food Bank remains committed to supporting the thousands of Granite Staters experiencing hunger across NH. During the recent months, many Granite Staters faced new challenges, including delays in receiving federal benefits, like SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program), and lost income for federal employees and contractors. For many families, these disruptions created real hardship and anxiety about how to put food on the table.

Thanks to the generosity of our community, the agility of our partner agency network and strength of our community partnerships, the Food Bank was able to respond quickly.

Critical Collaboration

In addition to our existing and ongoing daily work supporting all those experiencing food insecurity throughout New Hampshire, we expanded our outreach to assist those newly affected by the shutdown.

In partnership with the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services, we increased mobile food pantries in areas of greatest need, and expanded food distributions through our statewide network of partner agencies.

A number of our partner agencies stepped in to help support expanding resources to SNAP recipients across the state, including: Vaughan Community Services in Conway, North Country Missions in Colebrook, Claremont Food Pantry in Claremont, LISTEN in Lebanon, Gather in the Seacoast, Christ the King in Concord, Families in Transition in Manchester, Nashua Soup Kitchen in Nashua, and The Community Kitchen in Keene.

We're grateful for the partnership of the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services, our partner agencies and our volunteers and donors in helping make this expanded support for our neighbors possible.

Your Generous Support

During this time, we've heard from so many of you - by phone, in person and online - looking to help support our work and our neighbors in so many different ways. We've been truly humbled by your generosity and your compassion and care for our neighbors throughout the Granite state — ***thank you for your support.***



Nourishing Connections — A Quarterly Donor Call

The New Hampshire Food Bank has launched a new, quarterly donor call to allow you to hear directly from the NH Food Bank!

Register today and join us via Zoom on **Tuesday, February 19 at Noon ET.**

We welcome you to join NH Food Bank's executive director, Elsy Cipriani, as we discuss topics and updates like: Fundraising Efforts, Programs, Operations, and more.



Register via Zoom at: nhfoodbank.org/donorcall

Questions?
Contact Abby at asprackland@nhfoodbank.org

Give the Gift of Hope this Holiday Season



Approximately 1 in 9 NH residents are food insecure - including 1 in 7 NH children.

Please consider making a donation in the name of a friend or family member for the perfect gift! For a minimum donation of \$25 per card, we will send a card to every person on your list — or, if you prefer, we will send the cards to you so that you may deliver them personally.

To order: Call Lisa at (603) 669-9725 ext. 1121 with your list, have a credit card ready, and leave the rest to us or visit nhfoodbank.org/holiday

Please place your order by December 17, 2025.

New Hampshire Liquor & Wine Outlet's New England Winter Wine Spectacular



Tickets are on sale now for the New England Winter Wine Spectacular, presented by M&T Bank | Wilmington Trust.

Since 2023, this event has raised more than \$148,000 to support the NH Food Bank.

The Spectacular is the premier event of New Hampshire Wine Week, and benefits the New Hampshire Food Bank featuring over 1,800 wines - paired with a variety of delicious food from some of the best restaurants from around New Hampshire.

To learn more and get your tickets, visit: nhwineweek.com

Join our Email List

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Sign up today by scanning the code below or visit nhfoodbank.org/connect-with-us.

