



together, we can feed everyone



To: Members of the Nevada Interim Finance Committee

Through: Senator Marilyn Dondero Loop, Chair; Assemblymember Daniele Monroe-Moreno, Vice Chair

From: Beth Martino, President & CEO, Three Square

Date: October 28, 2025

Re: Three Square: Emergency Food Response Plan (Southern Nevada)

Three Square serves as the primary food bank for Southern Nevada, providing emergency and supplemental food assistance across Clark, Nye, Lincoln, and Esmeralda counties through a network of 150+ community distribution partners. Demand across our region has been trending upward for the past several months, with pantry visits increasing by more than 16% since early summer, with approximately 75% of those being first-time visitors.

The ongoing federal government shutdown and the suspension of November SNAP benefits are expected to significantly intensify this demand. In addition to the roughly 395,000 individuals receiving SNAP benefits across Southern Nevada, thousands of furloughed federal employees are also likely to need temporary food assistance. Together, these conditions create the most acute food access risk Southern Nevada has faced since the 2020 pandemic response.

Drawing on our experience from prior emergency operations, including pandemic food distributions, federal worker furloughs, and regional supply disruptions, Three Square anticipates an immediate and sustained surge in need through November and beyond. Our modeling suggests at least a 25–30% increase in overall demand, with concentration in urban core neighborhoods, senior populations, and transportation-constrained areas.

Multi-Phased Response Plan

Phase 1 – Immediate Activation (Saturday, November 1): Three Square will operate two high-capacity drive-through distributions. Two additional anchor partners will double their regular Saturday distributions to extend reach. Events will utilize pre-boxed and palletized products for speed and efficiency, and to increase accessibility and safety coordination for vulnerable individuals.

Phase 2 – Beginning the week of November 3, Three Square will fully activate our regional partner network to deliver a sustained, high-volume response. This includes expanding household allocations and increasing pounds per household across our 150+ community partners, while also conducting pop-up distributions in areas with the highest levels of food insecurity. Extended weekday, evening,



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and weekend service hours will be supported through our anchor partners, enabling continuous access across the valley.

In addition, Three Square will continue to utilize and expand home-delivery options for vulnerable individuals to ensure equitable reach for those unable to attend in-person distributions. The scope of this operation represents a major logistical lift, requiring coordinated sourcing, transportation, volunteer mobilization, and real-time communication across hundreds of distribution points. This multi-pronged strategy is designed to keep food moving efficiently and equitably throughout all four Southern Nevada counties while maintaining the flexibility to scale or pivot as conditions evolve.

Public communication will center on clarity and consistency. Three Square will provide information on its website landing pages, align with 211 for wayfinding, and direct households to the Three Square Food Finder for real-time information on nearby distributions. Messaging will emphasize that assistance is available to all affected individuals, such as SNAP households, furloughed workers, and others experiencing hardship.

Three Square stands ready to meet the rising food-access needs of Southern Nevadans through a coordinated, data-driven response. With support from NDA, the Nevada National Guard, and our extensive partner network, we will ensure that nutritious food continues to flow rapidly, safely, and equitably to every corner of the region during this emergency period.