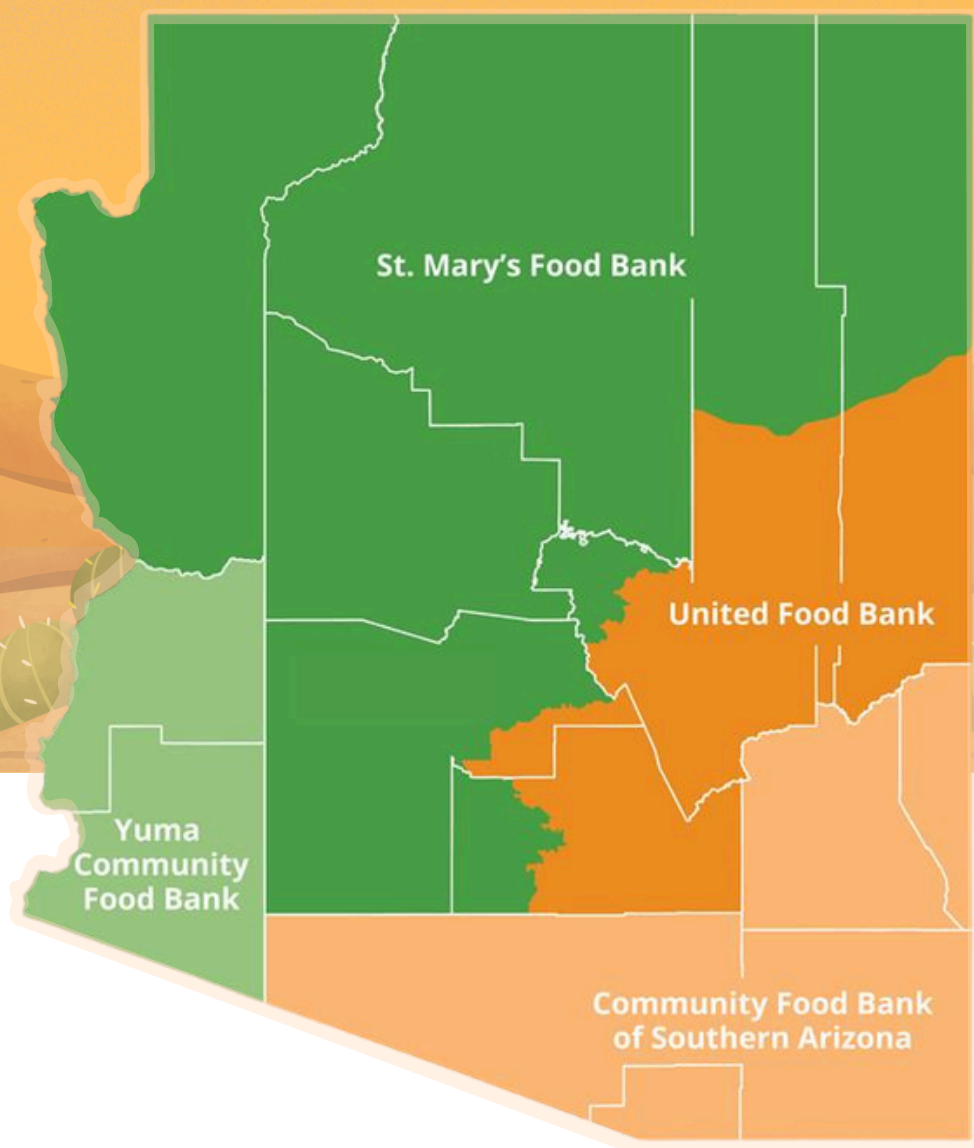


41st Annual Anti-Hunger Conference

Change Grows Here



Arizona
Food Bank
Network

May 1st, 2026



2026 Anti-Hunger Conference Agenda

Change Grows Here

Friday, May 1, 2026

8:00am - 9:00am Registration & Breakfast

9:00am - 9:45am *Opening Remarks*

April Bradham, President and CEO of AzFBN
Angie Rodgers, Deputy Director of Programs at
Arizona Department of Economic Security

9:45am - 11:30am *Panel Discussion: YOU & AzFBN*

11:30am - 11:45am Break

11:45am - 12:00pm Vendor Table Introductions

12:00pm - 12:30pm Lunch

12:30pm - 1:30pm *The Changemaker's Toolkit*

"How to Drive Impact in a World That Needs Hope"
Catherine Alonzo, Author & Speaker

1:30pm - 1:45pm Break

1:45pm - 3:00pm *From Wins to What's Next*

"Building a Stronger Food System Together
through Advocacy"
Ashley St. Thomas, Director of Public Policy at AzFBN

3:00pm Raffle - You must be present to win!

*Happy Hour to follow immediately
after at [Pinnacle Brewing Co.](#)

YOU & AzFBN A Panel Discussion



Teresa Hensley
Senior Communications Manager
Communications Team



Terri Shoemaker
Executive Vice President
Leadership Team



David Robinson
Senior Program Manager
Innovation Team



Braden Jones
Program Manager
Innovation Team



Andi Barrios
Director of Member Services
Member Services Team



Brandon Krupp
Public Policy Manager
Advocacy Team

How to Drive Impact in a World That Needs Hope

with **Catherine Alonzo**
Author of *The Changemaker's Toolkit*



Catherine Alonzo is a social change leader, keynote speaker, and entrepreneur on a mission to create a kinder and more equitable world. Alonzo is the co-founder and CEO of Javelina, a branding, marketing, and advocacy agency that helps organizations and campaigns craft powerful stories to drive systemic change. She also consults directly for nonprofit organizations, government agencies, and foundations to advance their social impact by applying the framework in her book, "The Changemaker's Toolkit."

From Wins to What's Next *Building a Stronger Food System Together Through Advocacy*



with **Ashley St. Thomas**
AzFBN Director of Public Policy

Your Voice Matters!

There's a place for everyone in AzFBN's advocacy network.
YOU are an advocate!



STAY INFORMED

The Inside Scoop

Our monthly advocacy e-newsletter covers food policy at the state and federal level, SNAP, Medicaid, the social safety net, and upcoming elections. Know what's happening before it affects your community.

Subscribe → [AzFBN's monthly advocacy e-newsletter The Inside Scoop](#)

JOIN THE CONVERSATION

Monthly Friday Anti-Hunger Calls

At noon on the first Friday of every month,* grab your lunch and join AzFBN & the Arizona Food Systems Network to talk about the bills we're tracking, supporting, and opposing. No expertise required, just curiosity.

*The May 1st call will be rescheduled
Register → [2026 Anti-Hunger & Food Systems Monthly Advocacy Calls](#)

GO DEEPER

Food Policy 101 Webinar Series

Quarterly deep dives into pressing food policy topics with historical context, an Arizona lens, and all the wonky details. Launched in 2025 to unpack sweeping changes to SNAP in federal law, this series keeps going—because there's always more to the story.

Next webinar: July 21 at 11am.
Register → <https://bit.ly/AzFBNPolicy101>

GET SUPPORT

Advocacy Office Hours

Quarterly virtual drop-ins for member food banks and their partner agencies. No agenda, no prep needed—just bring your policy and advocacy questions, and we'll work through them together.

Reach out for upcoming dates → [Advocacy Office Hours](#)

LIVED EXPERIENCE AT THE TABLE

Community Advisory Council

Our first cohort of Arizonans with firsthand experience of food insecurity and lived expertise on food policy launched in January 2026. Their voices are shaping the future of this work and AzFBN's advocacy efforts.

Subscribe → [AzFBN's e-newsletter Anti-Hunger Bytes](#)

NEW IN 2026

The Council co-developed a Food Justice Leadership Series—a curriculum focused on storytelling, advocacy, and policy—to sharpen and share skills and center lived experience in AzFBN's work.

You don't have to be a policy expert to make a difference. Join us!

azfoodbanks.org →



Meet the Phoenix AzFBN Team

340 E Coronado Rd.
Phoenix, AZ 85004




April Bradham *She/Her*
President and CEO 



Dustin Brannen *He/Him*
Executive Assistant 



Terri Shoemaker *She/Her*
Executive Vice President 



Teresa Hensley *She/Her*
Senior Communications Manager 



Wendy De La Pena *She/Her*
Communications Manager 



Randelee Gleason *She/Her*
Development Manager 



Ashley St. Thomas *She/Her*
Director of Public Policy 



Jessica Herbert *She/Her*
Public Policy Manager 



Brandon Krupp *He/Him*
Public Policy Manager 



Sewit Ghermay *She/Her*
Controller 



Tara Jensen *She/Her*
Senior Business Manager 



Ben Whitmire *He/Him*
Business Manager 



Meg Sneed *She/Her*

Director of Programs 



David Robinson *He/Him*

Senior Community
Programs Manager 



Isabel Hoggatt *She/Her*

Community Programs Manager 



Braden Jones *He/Him*

Program Manager 



Erica Uhl *She/Her*

Friends of the Farm
Program Manager 


For other contacts, reach out to
info@azfoodbanks.org

Meet the **Rio Rico** **AzFBN** **Team**

13 Calle Cristina
Rio Rico, AZ 85648


AzFBN's Produce Program operates out of our warehouse in Rio Rico, AZ, just outside of Nogales. This incredible team sources, repacks, and distributes produce to food banks across Arizona and beyond!



David Detmer *He/Him*
Vice President, Supply Chain Operations




Alex Dabdoub *He/Him*
Warehouse Operations Manager 

Moises Figueroa *He/Him*
Warehouse Lead 

Alan Mendivil *He/Him*
Warehouse Associate 



Tomas Lopez *He/Him*
Senior Sourcing Manager 




Jesus Chavez *He/Him*
Produce Sourcer 



Octavio Moraga *He/Him*
Produce Sourcer 



Christian Jimenez *He/Him*
Repack Operations Manager 

Ruth Y Nieblas Salomon *She/Her*
Repack Lead 

Jacqueline Aileen Perez Baron *She/Her*
Quality Control Specialist 

Produce Repack Line Operators

Imelda Ham *She/Her*

Brenda Morales *She/Her*

Melissa Lopez *She/Her*

Natalia Gomez *She/Her*

Nataly Zavala *She/Her*

Hannya Martinez *She/Her*

Ana Lourdes Villa *She/Her*

Jesica Nataly Figueroa *She/Her*

Dariana Guadalupe Sanchez *She/Her*





Andi Barrios *She/Her*


Director of Member Services 




Lisa Corridan *She/Her*

Member Services Coordinator 

Adrian Juarez *He/Him*

Logistics & Fleet Compliance Manager 

Maria Mercedes Hernandez *She/Her*

Driver Lead/Dispatch 

Eduardo Portillo *He/Him*

Class A Driver 

Ernesto Velderrain *He/Him*

Class A Driver 

Luis Marcel Figueroa *He/Him*

Class A Driver 

Our Values

Integrity

Our words match our actions and we hold to our promises. We are accountable to our partners, communities, and each other.

Collaborative

We value our partners as well as our talented staff to connect ideas, gain perspectives and leverage resources as we work together to end hunger.

We approach everyone with dignity, respect, and kindness. We answer all Hunger Hotline calls with patience and understanding.

Compassion

We strive to find creative solutions to energize and engage communities as we drive progress toward a hunger free Arizona.

Inspired Leadership

Our Impact Together



Food Distribution and Produce Program

Food banks need product in order to support the people and agencies they serve. The AzFBN Member Services team assesses the needs of member food banks, responds to incoming donations from Feeding America's centralized donation system, sources product in Rio Rico/Nogales, and manages all of the logistics that are needed to ensure transport of food to food banks. By focusing on collaboration, communication, and problem solving, AzFBN efficiently and effectively coordinates food distribution for member food banks. The AzFBN team dispatches drivers, confirms that trucks and trailers are well maintained and clean, and ensures compliance with all Department of Transportation regulations.

During FY25, AzFBN facilitated the distribution of 60,050,186 pounds of food to 56 food banks in 16 states through the Southwest Produce Co-Op, AzFBN Produce Program, and national Feeding America network.



SOUTHWEST PRODUCE

CO-OP

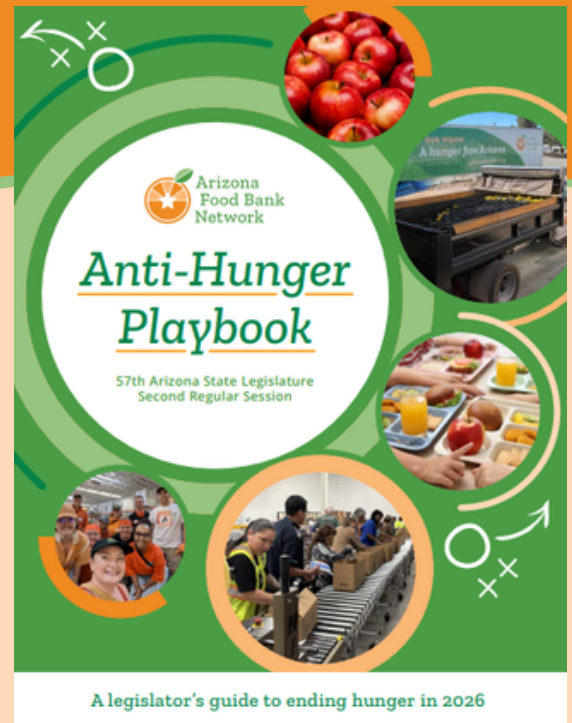
Southwest Produce Cooperative

The Southwest Produce Co-Op (SPC) was created to find outlets for produce that AzFBN sourced in Arizona. This collaborative model, currently including 18 member food banks, equitably facilitates sourcing, sharing, coordination, and transportation of fresh produce. The SPC coordinates donations at the lowest possible cost – free whenever possible – and its members are Feeding America food banks.

Advocacy

As the only statewide hunger-focused advocacy organization in Arizona, AzFBN recognizes that long-term, lasting policy change is the path to a hunger free Arizona. AzFBN's advocacy team raises awareness about the realities Arizona communities face, partners with policymakers to make informed choices that impact Arizonans facing hunger, and amplifies the voices and insights of the people the network is serving. AzFBN produces an annual legislative playbook to help those in power make the most informed decisions possible on hunger-related policy.

Most recently, AzFBN secured \$3.8M in the FY25 state budget for school meals for the first time in Arizona history, and streamlined the SNAP application process for older adults: huge wins for two of the most vulnerable populations.



Read the **2026 Legislative Playbook**, the [AzFBN Blog](#), and [more!](#)



Hunger Hotline
602-528-3434

Our hotline and online directory tap Arizonans into the largest database of emergency food options (food banks, pantries, soup kitchens, shelters, and others that distribute emergency food) in Arizona.

Innovation

The vulnerable communities AzFBN serves are unique and require innovative, specialized engagement. AzFBN has the capacity and team to develop and implement community-driven solutions for sustainable outcomes. These communities include but are not limited to...



Children and Youth

Gov. Katie Hobbs and the Arizona State Legislature extended the first-time \$3.8 million investment in school meals in the state budget, thanks to years of effort from our Advocacy Team and their partners.

Equity-Focused Job Training

Piloted in 2024, the No Limits Job Training Program provides more than 12 hours of training for people in the local produce industry by providing OSHA certification, forklift training, language skills, and much more.



2SLGBTQIA+

AzFBN formed a committee of 25 partners who are active and dedicated to increasing food access for 2SLGBTQIA+ Arizonans. First-time data will be reported soon to illustrate the needs and possible solutions for this community.



Friends of the Farm (FoF)



Danielle, White Lotus Farm

A farm-to-food bank program that helps Arizona's small growers and farmers by purchasing Arizona-grown fruits, vegetables, dairy, eggs, and meat for distribution throughout our network of food banks and pantries.



Learn more:



FoF provides a reliable market that pays a living wage, offers unique variety to food bank clients, and invests in a strong local food system.



The **Farmer Development Series** is a new virtual series where farmers can gain practical knowledge, essential tools, and valuable connections to grow their farm and community. Virtual classes are led by farmers and partners across AZ.



📍 Merchant's Garden

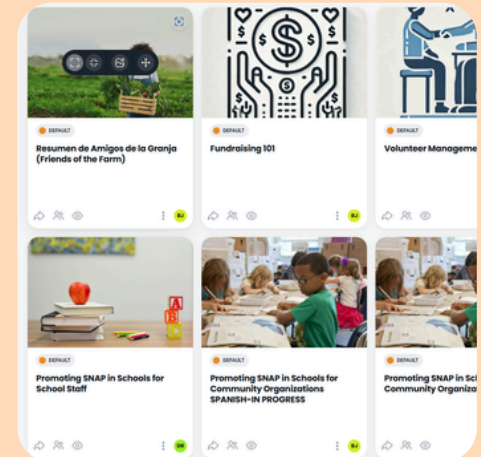
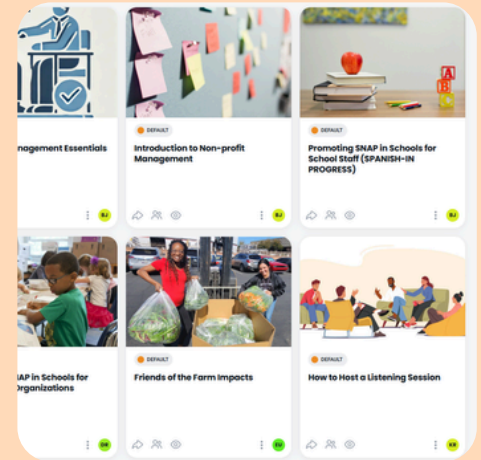
Coassemble

Last year we introduced you to our learning management system, **Coassemble**.

In that year, members of our network, along with their communities, engaged over one thousand times with our platform, gaining foundational knowledge in topics such as fundraising, emotional intelligence, conflict de-escalation, volunteer management, and much more!

Our goal in the coming year is to further develop this one-stop resource, providing practices and considerations that increase capacity, knowledge, and, ultimately, impact for non-profit and anti-hunger organizations statewide.

So where do you come in? **We're offering two incredible opportunities for partner and community organizations to support and engage with the material we offer.**



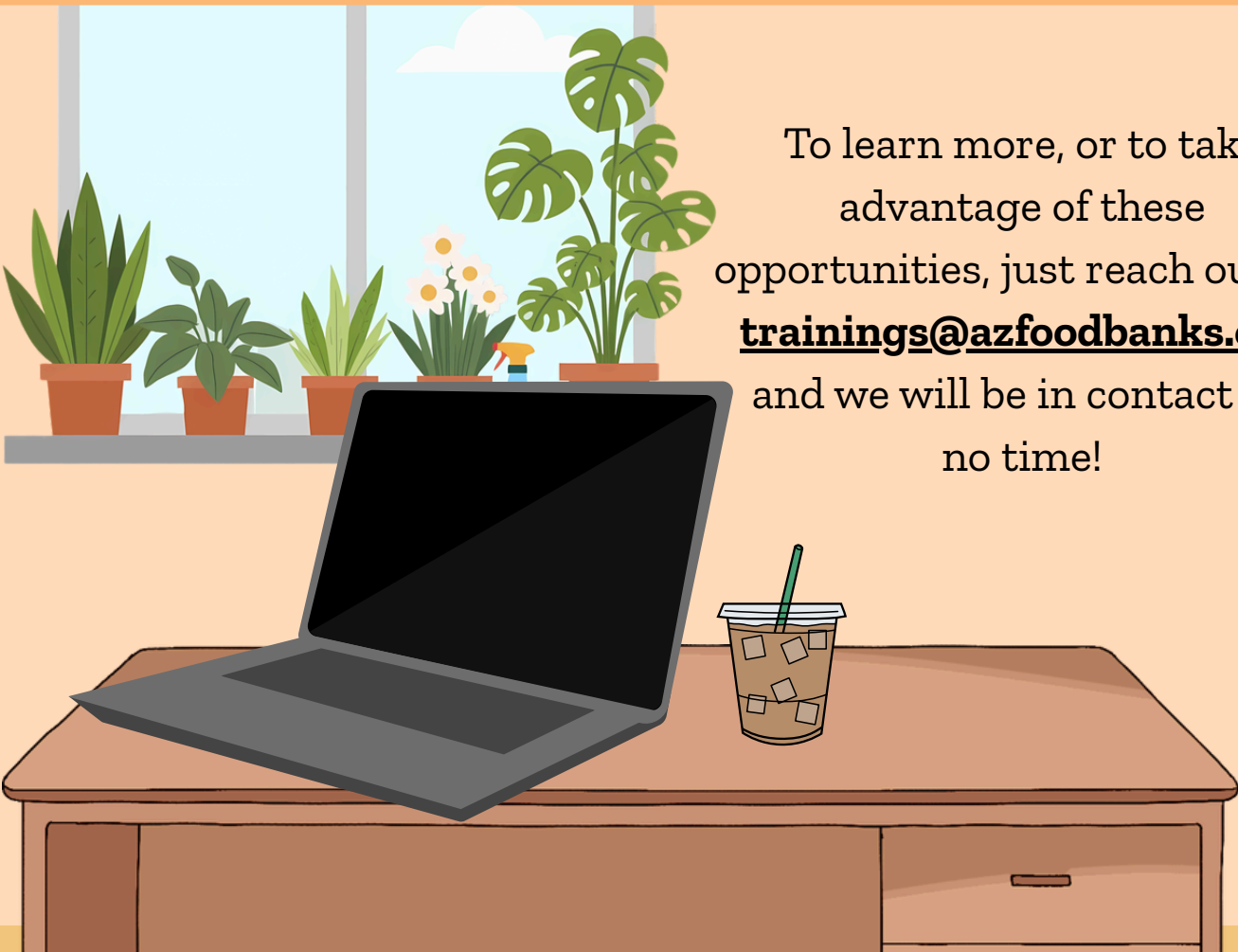
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Create a sign-in for Coassemble; there's no better way to see what's on offer than to experience it for yourself. The courses offer foundational knowledge across a wide range of topics. If you take a course and want more details, or want to explore how the information is pertinent to YOUR organization, Arizona Food Bank Network will provide a subject matter expert to host a presentation or discussion at your agency, anywhere in the state!

Coassemble

2

Do you possess special knowledge or expertise that would benefit others in our field? Our AzFBN Coassemble program manager will work with you by providing a platform tutorial along with the details and best practices of course creation, and provide 1:1 support for you to develop a course that not only increases statewide knowledge, but also raises awareness of YOUR organization and its associated engagements and expertise. Any course created in Coassemble is immediately available, at no cost, statewide, and it's a fantastic way to raise your visibility in Arizona.



To learn more, or to take advantage of these opportunities, just reach out to: **trainings@azfoodbanks.org** and we will be in contact in no time!



Summer Food Service Program Fact Sheet



All children and teens 18 years of age and younger can participate.



All meals served are FREE to any participant. Some sites offer low-cost meals for parents and caregivers.



Summer meals follow a meal pattern that ensures kids and teens get healthy meals.



No sign-up or registration is required to participate at an open site.



Students do not need to be enrolled or attending open school sites to participate.

Find a site in your community

AZSummerMeals.org



 Scan me



For locations near you, visit AZSummerMeals.org

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.



Hoja Informativa del Programa de Servicio de Comidas de Verano



Todos los niños y adolescentes de 18 años de edad y menores pueden participar.



Todas las comidas que se sirven son GRATUITAS para cualquier participante. Algunos sitios ofrecen comidas a bajo costo para los padres y cuidadores.



Las comidas de verano siguen un patrón de comidas que garantizan que los niños y adolescentes reciban alimentos saludables.



No se necesita anotarse o registrarse para participar en un sitio abierto.



Los estudiantes no necesitan estar matriculados o asistir a las escuelas que tienen sitios abiertos, para participar.

Busque un sitio en su comunidad

AZComidasdeVerano.org

**SUN
MEALS**



Escanee



Para ubicaciones cerca de usted, visite AZComidasdeVerano.org.

Esta institución es un proveedor que brinda igualdad de oportunidades.

Thank You

to our Vendors and Sponsors!



VALUE-ADDED
— FOOD SALES —



CommunityCares
contecture® | powered by UNITE US



Coffee



Breakfast



Lunch



Raffle Prizes



Phoenix Art Museum

urbAna



DESERT BOTANICAL garden®





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info@azfoodbanks.org

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