



CARE AND SHARE FOOD BANK

2025 PARTNER AGENCY AGREEMENT

Care and Share Food Bank (hereinafter, Care and Share) agrees to supply food and other product, as available, to _____ (**Agency Name**),

providing the Agency represents and agrees to the following:

MEMBERSHIP

1. Agency must be a non-profit, tax-exempt organization or sponsored by a non-profit, recognized by the IRS under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Service or be a federally tax-exempt religious organization. Agency must be incorporated for the purpose of serving the ill, needy, or infants.
2. Agency serving both people facing hunger and those who do not qualify as ill, needy, or infants, or where overriding indicators of need are self-evident will:
 - Establish a priority system that assures that primary program benefit is to people facing hunger, and that the program exclusively serves at least one of the ill, needy, or infant populations.
3. Agency will be licensed by the state, county and/or city according to the service it provides.
4. Agency will comply with the IRS eligibility requirements for receipt, storage, transfer, and use of donated product under section 170(e)(3) as contained in Appendix I.
5. Agency will not engage in discrimination, in the provision of service, against any person because of race, color, citizenship, religion, gender, national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, disability, sexual orientation including gender identity or expression, unfavorable discharge from the military or status as a protected veteran.

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

1. An agency is considered active if they meet the following criteria:
 - Must meet all terms and conditions of this document.
 - Must receive product from Care and Share at least once every 6 months.Agencies that fail to meet the above criteria will be inactivated and may reapply for membership.
2. Agency must complete the annual Agency Information Update Form and notify Care and Share in writing/email of any changes including but not limited to agency leadership, contact information, program location, or hours of operation.
3. Agency will ensure at least one volunteer/staff member holds a current approved safe food handlers' certificate.
4. Agency agrees to receive emails via Constant Contact to receive important information and updates.
5. Agency agrees to track their budget if they choose to participate in Care and Share's Voluntary Food Access Program or any other program where Care and Share funds Agency activities.
6. Agency agrees to collaborate with Care and Share, as well as other partner agencies and interested stakeholders to improve food access and support the development and implementation of our Operational Response Plan.
7. Agency agrees to consult with Care and Share's Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Outreach team to connect neighbors to SNAP benefits.

RECEIPT OF FOOD

1. All food from Care and Share distribution centers and food donors must be transported directly to the program site, adhering to time and temperature food safety regulations in transit using an active or passive temperature retention system and in a clean vehicle.
2. Agency agrees to be responsible for acquiring, storing, and handling all products supplied by Care and Share in a safe and secure manner.
3. Agency agrees that product will be inspected by its authorized representatives upon receipt and found fit for human consumption.
4. Agency agrees to notify Care and Share within two (2) business days of any invoice discrepancies, including missing or damaged product, or immediately following any complaint or claim of liability from clients regarding product.
5. Agency agrees to immediately destroy or discard product that is found to not be fit for human consumption.

6. Agency agrees that product will be stored only at locations approved by Care and Share. Product may not be stored at a private residence or any other space where product may be easily accessible to be used for a purpose other than the approved program.
7. Agency agrees product will only be used for the approved program. e.g. If you are designated as an emergency food pantry, you may not use product to serve a community meal or alternate activity.
8. Agency hereby agrees to assume all responsibility for product liability related to any act or failure to act by the Agency, associated with transportation, storage, preparation, distribution, or service of the product after the Agency assumes possession.
9. Agency affirms that the original donor, Care and Share, and Feeding America:
 - Are released by the Agency from any liabilities resulting from the donated product. Agency also releases Care and Share from any liability resulting from the condition of the donated food, except for liability resulting from gross negligence or intentional misconduct of Care and Share.
 - Are held harmless from any claims, losses, causes of action, lawsuits, or obligations to the Agency or the donated product.
 - Offer no express warranties in relation to the product. No person is authorized to give warranties on behalf of Care and Share or to assume any liability for Care and Share.
 - Agency agrees to take all food ordered from Care and Share without rejecting food that is fit for human consumption based on U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and common safe food sorting guidelines.
10. Agency must be willing to adhere to additional donor stipulations if required.
11. Agency agrees to pick up all orders during the scheduled appointment time. Agency will notify their Regional Manager ahead of time if they will not be able to complete a scheduled pickup. If an appointment is missed for any reason, the agency agrees to coordinate a new pickup time within 2 days of the canceled appointment. After two (2) days food will be transferred to another agency. Repeated missed pickups may result in suspension or inactivation.

DISTRIBUTION OF FOOD

1. An Agency that acts as an emergency food pantry or feeding site must provide food to the public and cannot exchange Care and Share products for money, fundraising events, or other property or services.
2. Agency may not require participation in prayer, religious services, or other services, including volunteer service.
3. Agency may not promote any political candidates or parties in the distribution of food.
4. Agency will hold regular, scheduled hours for food distribution at least once per month for a minimum of 90 minutes.
5. Agency may, with the permission of Care and Share, transfer excess Care and Share product to another Care and Share partner agency.
6. Agency will not take Care and Share product out of Care and Share's service area.
7. Agency may not request donations from neighbor. Agency may have a donation box provided if it is located away from the neighbor check-in or distribution area so that donations remain anonymous. A donation amount may not be suggested.
8. Agency staff and volunteers:
 - May use donated foods for taste testing and demonstration cooking, or
 - May consume a meal in community with neighbors at meal sites, if directly involved in the preparation of a meal or other services, or
 - May receive donated foods and access those foods in the same manner with no clear priority or different access, if they meet the same criteria used to determine eligibility for any neighbor.

MONITORING & REPORTING

1. Agency agrees to be monitored by a Care and Share representative a minimum of once every two (2) years, and Agency agrees to provide all information requested during monitor visits.
2. Agency agrees to provide accurate and timely monthly reports about clients served and the distribution of Care and Share products. Reports are due by the 10th of the following month. Agencies participating in the Direct Retail Program have additional reporting requirements. **Agencies that have not submitted complete and accurate reports by the deadline may be suspended until their reports are brought up to date.** Agencies will only be placed in suspension for three months. If the cause for suspension is not corrected in the three-month suspension period, the agency will be inactivated and will need to reapply.
3. Agency agrees to participate in Service Insights on MealConnect (SIMC) or another approved data collection platform as part of its partnership with Care and Share (Colorado institutions where neighbors are protected under the *Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)* are exempt from this requirement). The chosen platform must enable a deeper understanding of the populations served by collecting data from all neighbors, including first and last name, date of birth or age, gender, race/ethnicity, zip code, and the same information for all household members.

Participation in this data collection is mandatory for all Care and Share partners. **Care and Share will provide the necessary infrastructure, training, equipment, and software to support SIMC at no cost to the Agency.** If the Agency chooses another data collection platform, they will incur all costs and be required to submit aggregate data monthly.

4. Agency must have appropriate administrative and technical measures in place to ensure the privacy, confidentiality, and security of individual neighbor data.
5. Agency agrees to abide by the policies, procedures, and record keeping requirements of Care and Share, including the maintenance of food safety and statistical records. Agency agrees to keep these records on-site for a minimum of 3 years which accurately reflect:
 - a. The total amount of product received through Care and Share's programs. e.g. Care and Share invoices.
 - b. Neighbor data collected in a safe and secure manner, e.g. utilizing Service Insights on MealConnect (SIMC).
 - c. The procedure that assures that primary program benefit is to people facing hunger, and that the program exclusively serves at least one of populations—ill, needy, or infant.

PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT

1. Agency agrees to treat all Care and Share employees, volunteers, and representatives, as well as the neighbors the agency serves, with respect and dignity.
2. Agency agrees not to use abusive or foul language or make derogatory statements to Care and Share employees, volunteers, representatives or neighbors.
3. Care and Share's responding to emails and calls in a timely manner and notify partners of secondary contacts if we are out of the office. We ask that partners direct all communication to their Regional Manager, Quality Assurance Team, or Agency Hotline, and respond to communications from Care and Share.
4. Agency agrees that violations of the professional conduct section of this agreement will be handled in the following manner:
 - a. The first violation will result in an initial verbal warning from the Regional Manager with a follow up letter or email documenting the incident.
 - b. The second violation will result in a 90-day suspension and the Regional Manager will provide a letter or email documenting the incident and the suspension.
 - c. The third violation will result in inactivation for a period of no fewer than six months. The Regional Manager will provide a letter or email documenting the incident and the suspension.

AGENCY SIGNATURE

Both parties reserve the right to terminate membership at any time, for any reason, with written notice.

Agency Name: _____		
Address: _____		
City: _____	State: _____	Zip Code: _____
Executive Director or Pastor: _____		
Signature: _____	Date Signed: _____	