



SKIP LUNCH FIGHT HUNGER AND CITY HARVEST FACTS

The Campaign

Skip Lunch Fight Hunger is a citywide initiative that asks individuals to form teams and donate what they normally spend on lunch to help fight hunger in New York City. *Skip Lunch Fight Hunger* was conceived in 2002 by City Harvest board member Dana Cowin, editor in chief of *Food & Wine* magazine. Last year over 7,000 New Yorkers, including hundreds of corporate offices and individuals participated in the campaign, raising over \$535,000 in a single day—enough to help feed over 25,000 children and their families for the entire summer.

Meeting the Need

Every summer, thousands of New York City children who depend on school lunches the rest of the year may face hunger. According to data collected by Gallup from 2008-2009 and released by Food Research and Action Center (FRAC), 1 in 4 families in New York City have difficulty affording food.¹ *Skip Lunch Fight Hunger* raises critical funds to help provide these children and their families with the food they need during the summer months.

Our Roots

Now serving New York City for more than 25 years, City Harvest is the world's first and the city's only food rescue organization. When it was founded in 1982, City Harvest was run entirely by volunteers who connected a handful of neighborhood restaurants to food programs serving meals to those in need.

Our Mission

City Harvest works to end hunger across the five boroughs. We do this by rescuing and distributing excess food, educating lower-income people to encourage self-sufficiency, and forging innovative partnerships within communities to bring thousands of hungry New Yorkers their next meal.

The Simple Facts

This year, City Harvest will rescue 28 million pounds of excess food from food establishments throughout the city and across the country.

- More than 90 staff members and 2,200 volunteers
- A fleet of 17 trucks and 3 bikes
- Food delivered nearly 24 hours a day, 7 days a week

Once rescued, food is delivered to soup kitchens, food pantries, homeless shelters, AIDS care providers, senior centers, and children's daycare centers that serve hungry New Yorkers in all five boroughs.

¹Data is from Congressional districts 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, and 17, which include New York City.