

Frequently Asked Questions

How much of my donation goes to the food? 94 percent of all income goes directly to the food program.

How much does the food cost? Each meal costs us only 15 cents to produce.

Do you sell the food? No. All of our food is donated to the recipients. We do ask that the partnering (or recipient) organization pay for the shipping charges.

How do you determine who receives the food? We receive requests for food daily. The distribution committee meets and reviews each request, evaluating them on several different categories. At the end of the discussion, the committee prays for God's guidance and then rates each request. Food is allocated based on the rating each request receives.

Where do you send your food? All over the world. In 2005, for example, we sent food to more than twenty countries, including Haiti, Jamaica, Bolivia, Dominican Republic, Tanzania, Lesotho, Liberia, Ghana, Guatemala, Malawi, Cambodia, East Timor, Nicaragua, Sri Lanka, India, and Indonesia.

Do you feed children here in the United States? Feed My Starving Children targets feeding programs to children who are in the most severe circumstances, those suffering from severe malnutrition and threatened with death from starvation. The U.S. does not have that level of hunger. In the past, we have supplied food to several Indian reservations and to hurricane victims in the U.S.

Where do you get your financial support? Most of our support comes from individuals, followed by churches, foundations and corporations.

Do you buy the ingredients for the meals? Yes. We purchase all of the ingredients, soy, rice, vegetables and the vitamin, mineral, flavoring mix.

Who started Feed My Starving Children? A Minnesota businessman started FMSC after he saw devastating hunger on a mission trip to Honduras.

How long have you been doing this? Feed My Starving Children started in 1987, with the first shipment of this meal sent in 1991.

Have you tested different flavors? Yes. None have been as universally accepted as the current flavor.

Who are your distribution partners? Worldwide Christian and humanitarian relief organizations, including Salesian Missions, Operation Blessing, OC Ministries, Kids Around the World, OrphanAge, UMCOR, and others.

Have you ever lost a shipment? Yes, but only one, which we believe was stolen by the government of an eastern European country. Before every shipment leaves our warehouse, we pray over it asking for God's protection. We know God hears our prayers and provides the necessary protection.

Do you have to be a Christian to pack? No. We welcome people of every faith to participate in our life-giving mission.

Do you require delivery of a Christian message when the food is served? No. Our food is given to the neediest children, regardless of their faith or whether a Christian message is delivered. All of God's children deserve to be fed.

Can the hunger problem ever be solved? The model Feed My Starving Children has created works. With many people working together—and with your support—we can have a significant impact on hunger and malnutrition worldwide.

