

## CONTACT US

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## Offering Nourishment to Hungry Neighbors

We are called to love, not just in words, but in deeds and truth. This serves as the foundation for all that we do. We provide opportunities for others to help, fostering renewal in people's lives, congregations, and communities in which we thrive. Whether it's gleaning fields of corn that go as far as the eye can see or picking blueberries from someone's backyard bush, the goal is always the same: get good food to the places it's needed most. By partnering with SoSA, you made it possible to transform overlooked food from Georgia's farms into nutritious and nourishing meals for families who might otherwise go without.



Georgia volunteers gleaned over 30,000 pounds of corn in 2022!



## 2022 Georgia Impact Summary

### The Mission

The Society of St. Andrew brings people together to harvest and share healthy food, reduce food waste, and build caring communities by offering nourishing food to hungry neighbors.

Thank you! You've gleaned more markets, harvested more fields, and moved more loads, all to feed more people in need and keep more good food from going to waste.

2022 was a year full of unexpected obstacles and you turned every one of them into opportunities to care for your hungry neighbors.



SoSA Georgia's primary goal is to consistently make fresh fruits and vegetables more accessible to people who receive food assistance. When food stamps run out, usually midway through the month, families turn to food pantries and shelters to help get them through the rest of the month (i.e., the meal gap). Our goal is to make sure when they go to the pantry to pick up groceries; there is healthy produce available for them. We distribute to over 100 food pantries, food banks, and shelters in Georgia. Many of our agency partners are providing simple recipes and cooking classes to teach clients how to prepare and eat fresh produce.

### 2022 By the Numbers

Pounds gleaned	Servings distributed	Volunteers	Food providers	Feeding agencies	Donors/Grants
<b>367,796</b>	<b>1,431,184</b>	<b>935</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>121</b>
pounds	servings	volunteers	providers	agencies	financial gifts

# Bringing People Together

Each year volunteers from schools, churches, civic groups, colleges and even growers come together in service to their neighbors. Some volunteers even begin to recognize each other from various events throughout the year. Serving is a great way to be involved in your community, and even make a few friends. Most volunteers end up coming back again and again as they get to know the local farmers, food pantries, and make a few friends.



# Building Caring Communities

One powerful component of hosting large-scale events is the ability to build a network of connections and relationships. People begin to recognize the abundance of resources in their own lives and are more willing to come together to help their neighbors using things that are readily available.

The Georgia Gleaning Network is unique because it simultaneously addresses hunger relief and nutrition. Heart disease and diabetes affect marginalized communities across the South. Fresh produce is often high-cost or unavailable in these communities. However, because of GGN's work, this healthy, nutritious food is made accessible to all. Our goal is simple- bolster local hunger-relief efforts and provide fresh, nutritious fruits and vegetables to those at risk for food insecurity. In providing nutritious produce, the outcome is to have healthier individuals making healthier communities.

By partnering with SoSA, your readers, donors, and volunteers aren't just rescuing and sharing good food. They're helping build systems, train leaders, and establish communities that will be able to sustain this effort.



*Georgia Department of Health Volunteers bagging brussel sprouts for a community food distribution.*



SoSA addresses climate solutions, hunger relief, nutrition, and health equity by providing low-income and BIPOC communities with a plant-rich diet through direct distribution of fresh salvaged fruits and vegetables at no cost.

We have identified key waste points in the food chain and intervened by reallocating excess or unwanted produce from farms, packing/processing facilities, and retail rejected semi-truck loads.

What you see here is 53,000 pounds of unmarketable sweet potatoes redirected into areas with low access to fresh foods.