

[Home - mealrecoverycoalition.org](https://mealrecoverycoalition.org)

Introducing THE MEAL RECOVERY COALITION

An innovative new alliance, the **Meal Recovery Coalition (MRC)** brings together New Jersey corporations, hospitals and educational institutions, government entities, nonprofit organizations and individual volunteers, to work together to make meal recovery the norm in New Jersey.

WHAT IS MEAL RECOVERY?

Meal recovery is an innovative approach to addressing the significant issues of food insecurity and food waste.

Everyday, thousands of healthy meals prepared in corporate and other large cafeterias and food service programs are uneaten and sent to landfills, where they generate greenhouse gases and impact the environment.

Meal recovery programs collect the surplus meals from cafeterias and food service providers and deliver them directly to local families in need at their homes or through a network of community partners.

Meal recovery complements the efforts of traditional food resources such as food pantries and community kitchens, and substantially increases the amount and types of healthy food available to those who are hungry in our communities.

Ambitious GOALS in New Jersey

The Meal Recovery Coalition estimates that 5 million prepared meals each year are sent to landfills from large cafeterias and event venues.

In 2024, NJ food rescue organizations collectively recovered 774,505 prepared meals. ([Table to Table](#), [Food Recovery.org](https://www.foodrecovery.org) and [Share My Meals](#)).

Ambition in 2025 is to recover 1M meals collectively.

MRC members are working to enable the recovery of 5 million meals per year that will complement existing food emergency efforts.

Ultimately, The MRC strives to recover all the excess prepared meals, increasing the food resources available to fight food insecurity and make meal recovery the norm in New Jersey.