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Raley's funding Food For Families infrastructure grant program

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Raley's has awarded \$340,241 in grant funding via its new Food for Families infrastructure grant program. The retailer made the grant funding available through its 12 existing Food for Families food bank partners, as well as their partner agencies that represent more than 2,400 partner agencies in total.

"We are grateful for our loyal customers and their Food for Families contributions that allow us to provide food to organizations serving those in need, every day through our point-of-sale donations," said Carol Barsotti, Raley's Food For Families' board member. "These grants really expand the impact of those food donations by ensuring our partners have the infrastructure to safely and effectively distribute that food."

The inaugural round of Food for Families grants was awarded to provide for critical infrastructure needs, including the following examples of how the funding will be used:

- 22 refrigeration devices to help keep high-demand perishable food, such as produce, dairy, meat and eggs, fresh for longer
- Nine pallet jacks or forklifts – one pallet jack can save 76 trips for a staff/volunteer per truckload
- Three box trucks or vans to distribute food throughout the community
- Variety of other shelving units, reusable bags, insulated bags, shelving, display shelves, etc.

"We are grateful to Raley's Food for Families for providing our new refrigerator, which will significantly enhance our ability to distribute fresh, nutritious products to our clients," said Cynthia A Rodriguez, co-director, Carson Valley Community Food Closet. "As the number of individuals and families turning to food banks continues to grow, this generous support comes at a critical time. With this new equipment, we'll be able to safely store and offer more fresh food to more people in need — ensuring no one in our community has to go without healthy options."

Grant funding was awarded to 21 different food security organizations throughout communities that Raley's serves to help them improve and/or expand their services.

"The infrastructure grants are ultimately about helping support organizations on the frontlines of lending a helping hand," said Barsotti. "We are grateful to play a role in creating a meaningful, long-lasting ripple effect as part of our efforts to address food security in our communities."

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