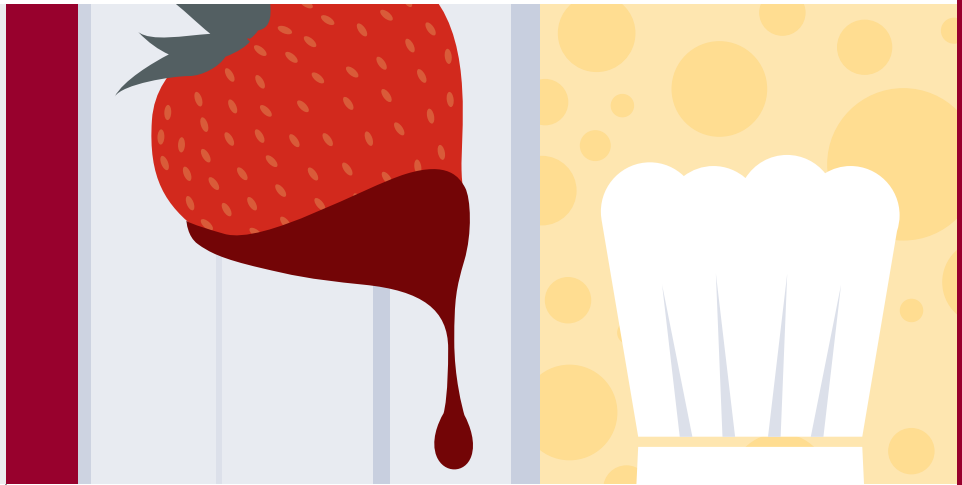




SHARE OUR STRENGTH'S
TASTE OF THE
NATION
NO KID HUNGRY
PRESENTED BY
AMERICAN EXPRESS®



OUR PARTNERS

Taste of the Nation is presented by American Express, with national support from:

- SYSCO Corporation
- Food Network
- Brown-Forman Corporation
- S.Pellegrino Sparkling Natural Mineral Water
- WineStyles
- National Pork Board

Our national sponsors, combined with local supporters, *ensure that 100 percent of ticket sales support Share Our Strength's efforts to make sure no kid in America grows up hungry.*

OUR IMPACT

Since 2004, our Taste of the Nation grant recipients have achieved impressive results towards our plan to end childhood hunger. Together, we have:

- Served 35 million meals to children
- Grown 2.5 million pounds of produce in low-income community gardens
- Taught more than 200,000 children in nutrition education classes
- Provided 2.5 million hours of nutrition education
- Referred nearly 2 million people to government or community programs
- Spent 110,000 hours advocating for federal Child Nutrition programs

THE NATION'S FINEST CULINARY BENEFIT TO END CHILDHOOD HUNGER.

WHAT IS SHARE OUR STRENGTH'S TASTE OF THE NATION?

Share Our Strength's Taste of the Nation®, presented by American Express®, is the nation's largest and finest culinary benefit dedicated to making sure no kid in America grows up hungry. Each spring, the nation's hottest chefs and mixologists donate their time, talent and passion at more than 55 events across the United States and Canada, with one goal in mind: to raise the critical funds needed to end childhood hunger in America.

Since its inception 20 years ago, Taste of the Nation has raised more than \$70 million.

WHY WE ARE FOCUSING ON CHILDHOOD HUNGER

In the world's wealthiest nation, no child should grow up hungry. **Yet, more than 12 million children in America are at risk of hunger.** That's one in six with limited or uncertain access to the nutritious foods they need to develop to their full potential.

Despite its devastating and highly visible consequences, **childhood hunger is invisible.** You can't see it just by looking, and you can't measure it in pounds, but it is among us: It affects black, white, Asian and Hispanic, short and tall, thin and chubby.

Poverty is complex; feeding a child is not. Despite the good efforts of governments, private-sector institutions and everyday Americans, not all of our children have daily access to the nutritious meals they need to live active, healthy lives. Through dedicated, committed volunteers and community organizations, **Share Our Strength finds childhood hunger where it hides, and works to end it.**



WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING

“As the only national culinary benefit dedicated to ending childhood hunger, Taste of the Nation unites the most creative culinary minds behind a critical issue affecting our country’s children every day.” — Chef David Burke, National Spokesperson for Taste of the Nation’s 20th Anniversary

“Generous support from Share Our Strength ensures that the Children’s Alliance can continue to lead the way in the fight against hunger in Washington. This work is core to our mission and critical to children and families across our state.” — Paola Maranan, Executive Director, Children’s Alliance, Seattle

HOW WE WILL END CHILDHOOD HUNGER

In 2004, Share Our Strength developed its national strategy to end childhood hunger in America. This strategy is focused on long-term solutions that support access to nutritious food and healthy food choices — the difference between feeding a family tonight, and ensuring that they never have to worry about when their next meal will come. **It is designed to bridge the gaps between existing, effective programs and the families who need them.**

At its core are three sensible goals:

- **Increase access** to public and private programs that provide food to children and their families
- **Strengthen community infrastructure and systems** that connect children to healthy food
- **Improve families’ knowledge** about available programs and how to get the most from limited resources.

HOW WE INVEST TASTE OF THE NATION FUNDS

We support the most successful anti-hunger organizations in the United States through our national strategy.

Domestically, we work with state and local organizations across America to implement our national childhood hunger strategy and its supporting 10-point plan. We do this in two ways:

- We provide funding from Taste of the Nation events to establish state partnerships with organizations that demonstrate statewide influence and success in childhood hunger relief. Our funds help these organizations develop and execute their own state-specific plans modeled after our strategy.
- Through funds raised at Taste of the Nation events, we award grants to organizations whose efforts support our 10-point plan to end childhood hunger. This includes funding for *Share Our Strength’s Operation Frontline*®, our chef-led nutrition education program.

Internationally, Share Our Strength has granted more than \$10.3 million to organizations in our priority regions that are working toward sustainable solutions to underdevelopment, poverty and hunger. Taste of the Nation raised 85 percent of these funds.

In all these ways, Share Our Strength’s Taste of the Nation is helping weave a net of community groups, activists and food programs to catch children at risk of hunger, and surround them with nutritious food where they live, learn and play.

For more information or to get involved with a Taste of the Nation event in your city, visit www.tasteofthenation.org.



The Official Card of Taste of the Nation®