



 Open Hand

2025 Impact Report

1,251,160
meals cooked,
packed, and
delivered

13,482
Georgians
served

\$352,298
Open Hand's
average monthly
grocery bill

63
counties
served

Expanding What's Possible

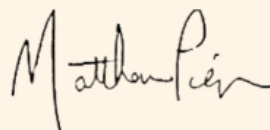
This year marked a powerful step forward, one that builds on our strong foundation while expanding what is possible for the individuals in the communities we serve. In our new home, we are not only operating more efficiently, we are reaching further than ever before.

2025 was a landmark year. We launched Georgia's first Food is Medicine Summit with Emory Healthcare and became the first (and only!) Food is Medicine Coalition accredited organization in the Southeast. At the same time, we deepened our commitment to addressing the root causes of health and economic instability through the launch of the Stephen Woods Culinary Workforce Development Program. Even during the most challenging and uncertain times, you came through for our neighbors, keeping life-changing programs like our SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) Education cooking classes, funded.

Open Hand's work has never been more relevant. With your support, we are continuing to expand access to nutrition-based care, ensuring that every Georgian who needs it can receive it, regardless of their ability to pay.

Together, we are not only meeting this moment: we are defining what comes next and shaping the future of health.

In Good Health,



Matthew Pieper
Chief Executive Officer
Open Hand



Carmen Titelman
Board President
Open Hand



Meals that Matter: *Client Impact, Delivered*

ADDRESSING CHRONIC HEALTH CONDITIONS



KIDNEY DISEASE OR ESRD



DIABETES (ALL TYPES)



HYPERTENSION



HIV/AIDS



NEURO-DEGENERATIVE DISEASE

IMPROVING HEALTH OUTCOMES



85%

had fewer or the same ER visits



93%

improved or maintained cholesterol



95%

improved or maintained ease of taking medications



79%

agreed or strongly agreed that they can better take care of themselves now



73%

never or rarely worry about food since receiving Open Hand's services



62%

saved more than \$50 weekly on food due to Open Hand's services



"The meals I get from Open Hand are helpful, especially because I can't prepare my own meals. I look forward to seeing my delivery guy, Tre, every Wednesday when he comes to the door. He's very nice to talk to, and it's very nice to see him."

MR. DAVIS, CLIENT SINCE 2021 (R); PICTURED WITH TRE (L)

*Data is pulled from our 2025 Client Survey. Conditions list is non-exhaustive.



Generosity: *The Power of Community*



\$4.3 MILLION RAISED PHILANTHROPICALLY

WITH 89¢ OF EVERY DOLLAR DIRECTLY SUPPORTING OUR MEAL AND NUTRITION PROGRAMS



2,014 GENEROUS DONORS

AN ADDITIONAL 160 SUPPORTERS JOINED US



400+ MEDICALLY TAILORED MEALS

THE NUMBER OF HOME-DELIVERED MEALS AN AVERAGE EPICUREAN (\$1,000+) DONOR SUPPORTED



CONTINUE TO STRENGTHEN THIS IMPACT WITH A GIFT TODAY.

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Matthew Pieper

“One of our first ‘ins’ was Party in the Kitchen - just wow! So much energy towards something we believed in: helping support our communities become healthier and stronger through something we sometimes take for granted – a nutritious, tasty meal. We stay because of the commitment, the dedication to the mission, the hugs and smiles on the faces of our clients, the impact on our communities... Do you need more? If so, come find us... you’ll never look back!”



SUDEVI GHOSH, BOARD SECRETARY (R); PICTURED WITH HER HUSBAND SEKHAR GHOSH (L); DONORS SINCE 2014



Volunteers: Neighbors Nourishing Neighbors



Our volunteers are an essential part of our impact, and always have been. In fact, 17% of our volunteers have been with us for more than a decade, forming a community rooted in service and compassion.



NEARLY 5,500

UNIQUE VOLUNTEERS GAVE THEIR TIME



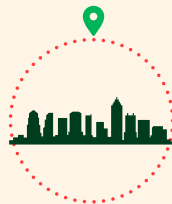
28,000+

VOLUNTEER HOURS LOGGED



324

CORPORATE VOLUNTEER GROUPS



166,000 MILES

DRIVEN BY VOLUNTEER DRIVERS (ENOUGH TO CIRCLE THE CITY 2,500+ TIMES!)

“There are so many good things about volunteering with Open Hand...but the main thing is the people we serve. They are so grateful, it means so much to them to get that food every week and you find out all about their lives. It's just very rewarding.”

CAROL WILLIAMS, VOLUNTEER SINCE 2017
THIS GROUP OF FRIENDS TAKES A DELIVERY ROUTE EVERY FRIDAY TOGETHER. WE LOVE SEEING THEM PULL UP TO OUR LOADING DOCK!
Pictured from L to R: Carol, Mary Jane, Happy, and Ann





2025 in Action: Culinary Workforce Development Program

In January 2025, we opened the doors of our Teaching Kitchen for the newly minted Stephen Woods Culinary Workforce Development Program. Named after our late Executive Director, this program launched with a clear goal: empower our unemployed and underemployed neighbors with the skills and resources they need to launch a culinary career.

At a Glance:



11 Weeks



**Real
culinary
training**



**ServSafe
Certification**



**Career and
financial
literacy**



**Free
to all**



Year One Impact:



76%
of all apprentices
graduated



90%
of all graduates
are employed in
culinary

"I'm so proud that I took the leap to do this program. You guys not only gave me the necessary skills, but you made an environment where I could learn and feel welcomed and open."

**KANEKI, COHORT 3 GRADUATE, NOW
A LINE COOK AT NATALIE BIANCA**



Pictured: two of our Cohort 5 graduates.



Learn More

Details on how to partner,
apply, and support.



2025 in Action: *Georgia's Leader in Food as Medicine*



In April, Open Hand became the first and only agency in the Southeast accredited by the Food is Medicine Coalition. This accreditation recognizes what we've always known: medically tailored meals, designed and delivered with clinical precision and care, play a powerful role in improving health outcomes, reducing healthcare costs, and giving people the dignity of better health through better nutrition.



Accreditation means that we deliver consistent, high-quality care to Georgians in need. It tells health care providers, policymakers, and the broader community that we're a trusted partner — not just in feeding people, but in caring for them through lifesaving medically tailored meals and nutrition interventions. Beyond that, accreditation recognizes our operational excellence: from quality assurance to logistics, Open Hand is the gold standard when it comes to nourishing our neighbors in need.

We knew we wanted to use our accreditation to better advocate on behalf of our clients for food as medicine initiatives. In partnership with Emory Healthcare, Open Hand held the inaugural Georgia Food is Medicine Summit at the end of October, bringing together experts in healthcare, community, and research. Representative Nikema Williams kicked off the summit with the opening remarks, and what ensued was resounding. Time and again, speakers illustrated clear health impact that pointed towards Food Is Medicine integration. Attendees left invigorated and poised to continue working together to accelerate Georgia towards better health outcomes.





Food Heals: *Teaching. Nourishing. Caring.*



4,868

Group Nutrition Education Clients



331

One-on-One Appointments



443

Produce Prescription Clients



30

Georgia Counties



Our Nutrition Services team includes eight Registered Dietitian Nutritionists who, along with our other nutrition educators, go into the community to provide tailored and evidence-based training across the socioeconomic spectrum.

Thank you to everyone who made 2025's work possible, and who believed in it enough to power us through this upcoming year.

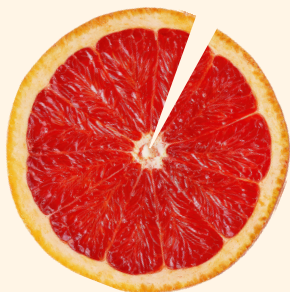
Because of you, we can look forward to another year of impact for those most in need in 2026.



Learn More
Including nutrition education opportunities and additional resources.

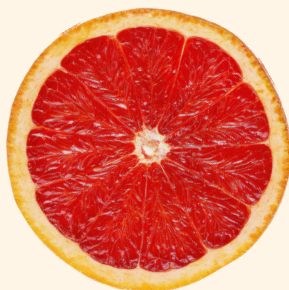


Our Community: Partnering for Greater Impact



95%

Rated 4 or 5 (out of 5)
on overall experience



100%

Gave Open Hand a 5/5 for a
smooth client referral
process.

**Data is pulled from our 2025 Referral Partner Survey*

"I'm so grateful for Open Hand's leadership and creativity in serving early care providers across Atlanta. I've really enjoyed our partnership the last few years, and have loved working with the child care programs in the Open Hand community. One of my favorite memories was from a visit at one of our sites, and the director leaped over the desk to hug me and say how much she appreciated the partnership with Open Hand. She then showed me all the photos of children making veggie recipes and trying new foods. It was the best day of the year! Thanks for all you do!"

**SMALL BITES
ADVENTURE CLUB**

A Few of Our Referral Partners:





Impact in Action: *Tito's Story*

Tito grabbed a bus ticket in Rhode Island and decided to stop at the end of the line in his search for a new life. He was at a low point emotionally, financially, and spiritually: he ended up at the Atlanta Mission while on his road to recovery. Until one day, when he noticed a flyer on the bulletin board: a free workforce development program for those aspiring to work in the culinary industry.

Since he was young, Tito loved to cook. "I had experience working in kitchens, but I learned things I didn't even know I didn't know, and once I started classes at Open Hand I ended up just wanting to stay here all day and keep learning." In early spring 2025, Tito became one of our very first graduates from our Culinary Workforce Development Program.

Chef Tito's ultimate goal post-graduation is to run his own fusion food truck. Until then, you can find him on the lines in the Open Hand kitchen, cooking up love and nutrition. Best of all, merely a month after employment, Chef Tito proudly reported that he had moved out of Atlanta Mission and into a home of his own.



"How I was then, and who I am now is a huge difference. I don't know, I guess it's a miracle that I met all the people over here at Open Hand and at Atlanta Mission. It couldn't be better."

**TITO, COHORT 1 GRADUATE
CURRENT OPEN HAND CHEF**



Looking Ahead

Join the Movement

Keep up to date with our full event calendar at openhandatlanta.org/events, or scan the QR code.

28th Annual Neighborhood Nights at The Colonnade

Thursday, July 28th, 2026 | The Colonnade Restaurant

22nd Annual Party in the Kitchen

Thursday, September 24th, 2026 | The Foundry at Puritan Mill

2nd Annual GA Food is Medicine Summit

Thursday, October 29th, 2026 | The Carter Center



Build Your Legacy

Include Open Hand in your estate giving and join some of our most compassionate supporters committed to nourishing our neighbors and strengthening our community for generations to come.

Learn more by scanning the QR code or visiting openhandatlanta.org/legacy.



Meet Our Mission-Makers

2025 was made possible because of the ongoing love our neighbors continue to share with each other. Thank you to every neighbor who continues to reach out an open hand.



See our 2025 donor list at the QR code below.





Open Hand

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Atlanta, Georgia, 30318

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