



World Central Kitchen

Founded in 2010 by Chef José Andrés, World Central Kitchen (WCK) is a nonprofit organization that is first to the frontlines providing fresh meals in response to crises.

Applying our model of quick action, leveraging local resources, and adapting in real time, WCK has served more than **600 million nourishing meals** around the world.

When disaster strikes, WCK's Relief Team mobilizes with the urgency of now to start cooking and serving meals to people in need. By partnering with organizations on the ground and activating a network of local restaurants, food trucks, or emergency kitchens, WCK serves comforting meals to survivors of disasters quickly and effectively. To support regional economies, WCK prioritizes purchasing local ingredients to cook with or distribute directly to families in need.

Wherever there is a fight so that hungry people may eat, we will be there – we must be there.

Core Pillars of WCK's Relief Response

- Providing **hot, fresh, and culturally appropriate meals** to vulnerable communities or people facing food insecurity.
- Identifying and **working alongside influential community leaders** to gain familiarity with local dynamics and help lead the emergency response.
- Investing in impacted communities by **purchasing from local vendors, hiring local catering partners, and employing local staff** to support WCK operations.
- Working with chefs, logisticians, and local team members to tackle and **meet the unique needs of the community** that might otherwise seem unattainable.
- Leveraging WCK's **vast network of supporters and resources** to fuel and sustain emergency response efforts.

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Recent Relief Responses



CONFLICT IN THE MIDDLE EAST

Following an extreme escalation of violence, **WCK teams mobilized to Gaza, Israel, Lebanon, and Egypt to support families displaced by the conflict.** Ongoing bombardment and a years-long blockade had dwindled food supplies in Gaza and destroyed vital infrastructure, causing major loss of life. WCK teams and partners on the ground work tirelessly to support families desperately seeking safety. In Israel, WCK worked with local restaurants, serving meals to people displaced from their homes as a result of ensuing shelling close to Gaza. Attacks along the Israel-Lebanon border also displaced families in Lebanon and WCK is working with longtime partners to reach all pockets of need. WCK teams have served more than 173+ million meals across the region, including fresh meals from our kitchen, bulk groceries, and ready-to-eat-kits.



WILDFIRES IN CALIFORNIA

When **wildfires tore through Los Angeles** in January, WCK teams were among the first on the ground, partnering with local Chef Corps members and restaurants to feed families who had lost everything. Food trucks mobilized across dozens of locations, adapting as fires shifted. As recovery began, WCK supported the community through gift cards, farmers' markets, shared kitchen space for displaced small businesses, and the establishment of community and school gardens. Our teams served more than 1.6 million meals in the weeks immediately after the blazes spread and remain on the ground supporting long-term recovery.



INVASION OF UKRAINE

As the situation has evolved, **the war in Ukraine has turned into a war for food.** Day after day, Russian missiles and rockets fall on communities, further deteriorating access to food, water, and other basic necessities. WCK teams work daily to provide immediate support following attacks. The efforts are locally led—staff, partners, and volunteers in Ukraine have all been impacted by the war. Still, they show up every day for people in need and have provided more than 287+ million meals to neighbors in need.



DANA FLOODS, SPAIN

In October 2024, communities along **Spain's eastern coast suffered the worst flooding the region had seen in decades.** Our teams mobilized quickly to distribute meals across the region, working hand in hand with local communities, businesses, and volunteers. WCK served more than 6.2 million meals and distributed over 3.9 million pounds of produce and ingredients, while also providing essential equipment such as generators, water pumps, and cleaning supplies to help business restart operations.



HURRICANE MELISSA

When **Hurricane Melissa made landfall as a Category 5 storm in late October, it caused widespread devastation across Jamaica and Cuba.** In Jamaica, WCK teams and local partners quickly mobilized, operating Field Kitchens in Montego Bay and Negril and reaching even the most remote and hard-hit western parishes, including Westmoreland. Alongside volunteers and Chef Corps members, our teams have served more than 5 million meals to families in need.