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GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN

McMaster activates fund to help food banks

Bella Carpentier
Greenville News
USA TODAY NETWORK – SOUTH CAROLINA

Gov. Henry McMaster has activated a fund usually used for storm and disaster assistance to help direct money to South Carolina’s food banks.

South Carolina’s food banks are bracing for an influx of people after the U.S. Department of Agriculture announced it will not disperse Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits on Nov. 1 due to the government shutdown. More than 260,000 South Carolina households receive food assistance through SNAP, according to the South Carolina Department of Social Services (SCDSS).

McMaster was joined by representatives from the South Carolina Department of Social Services, major food banks, the state guard and the Central Carolina Community Foundation in Columbia on Oct. 28, where he announced the activation of the One SC Fund.

The governor has also activated the South Carolina State Guard, a volunteer organization that helps support emergency response efforts including assisting food banks across the state by unloading trucks, running traffic flow and keeping order at the pantry sites.

The One SC Fund, run by the Central Carolina Community Foundation, was established in 2015 to serve as a

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Gov. Henry McMaster announced the activation of the One SC Fund from the South Carolina Emergency Operations Center on Oct. 28 in response to the lack of November Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits.
BELLA CARPENTIER/HERALD-JOURNAL



United Way of Anderson County distributed a grant from Duke Energy, funding non-profit groups to help those affected by Helene in Anderson County. KEN RUINARD/GREENVILLE NEWS

Greenville food pantries accepting new clients

A.J. Jackson
Greenville News
USA TODAY NETWORK – SOUTH CAROLINA

Food banks, grocery pantries, and soup kitchens will be tasked with assisting a portion of nearly 42 million Americans who may lose Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits if funds “run dry” on Nov. 1.

Beginning on Oct. 1, more than 700,000 federal workers were furloughed, and many are working without pay as the federal shutdown has halted funding for the 2026 fiscal year.

If the shutdown continues, Nov. 1 will be the first date SNAP recipients will lose their benefits, leaving many low-income Americans without their usual monthly means to buy food. According to the USDA website, no benefits will be issued on Nov. 1, citing “the well has run dry.”

The following food banks and free

pantry services will offer help to those in need in Greenville and the surrounding area:

FOOD PANTRY PROGRAMS IN GREENVILLE COUNTY

Project Host (Soup Kitchen)

525 S. Academy St.
864-235-3403
Sunday to Friday: 11 am to noon.

Project Host outreach services, including to-go meals, bag lunches, and casseroles, are held at the San Souci Church, 3100 Old Buncombe Road, Wednesdays between 11 a.m. and noon, and the Nicholtown Community Center parking lot, 112 Rebecca St., Thursdays between 12:30 p.m. and 1:30 p.m.

United Ministries

606 Pendleton St.

864-232-6463
Monday to Friday: 8 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Must be a Greenville County resident with a valid driver’s license or picture ID and a social security card. Walk-ins are accepted Monday, Tuesday, and Friday between 8 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.; to sign up online, visit www.united-ministries.org/ea.

Catholic Charities - Our Lady’s Pantry

2300 Old Buncombe Road
864-274-0141
Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday: 9 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.

Hosts a client-choice pantry, set up like a grocery store, where clients can walk with a volunteer and select items that meet dietary needs. New clients must complete an intake form and can

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SC public health officials report 8 more measles cases in Spartanburg

Baker Maultsby
Spartanburg Herald-Journal
USA TODAY NETWORK

Eight more Spartanburg County residents have been infected with the measles, according to a report by the South Carolina Department of Public Health.

That brings the total number of cases in the state to 33 in 2025. Thirty of those cases are part of the ongoing outbreak in the Upstate.

In its ongoing efforts to respond to the Spartanburg County outbreak, SCDPH will continue offering vaccinations at its mobile health unit through Nov. 6.

The clinic-on-wheels was in Spartanburg County last week to promote the MMR vaccine, which is considered the best preventive measure against measles.

Overall, Spartanburg County has an MMR vaccination rate of about 90 percent. Public health experts say that 95 percent is the target to achieve herd immunity against measles.

Public health officials consider the measles virus highly contagious. “A person is contagious four days before and after a rash begins, meaning someone can spread measles before they know they are infected,” SCDPH officials said in an Oct. 28 news release.

During a call with news reporters on Oct. 22, state epidemiologist Linda Bell said, “We remain concerned that additional cases may occur.”

Earlier this month, the SCDPH informed Spartanburg County School District 6 and Global Academy of South Carolina, a charter school, that students had contracted the virus.

The vaccination rates at Fairforest Elementary in District 6 and at Global Academy are below the county average.

According to DPH, Fairforest Elementary serves about 760 students and has a vaccination rate of 85 percent.

Global Academy, which serves about 600 children, has a vaccination rate far lower than that of almost any

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