

Mercy Brown Bag Program (MBBP)

City of San Leandro

Janice Roberts - Executive Director

5/27/2026



Serving Alameda County for 44 Years

- Started in 1982 by the residents of Mercy Retirement and Care Center, and The Sisters of Mercy, to serve Fruitvale neighbors
- Focused on fresh, healthy groceries, 2X month, for low-income older adults over the age of 60
- Slogan still: Seniors helping Seniors
- Team of Twelve, augmented by 600 (seniors) volunteers





MERCY BROWN BAG PROGRAM

SENIORS HELPING SENIORS

Focused on serving low-income, food-insecure adults, aged 60+, across Alameda County

Berkeley/Albany:
2,361 / 27,700
Households served: **633**
Bags distributed: **9,160**
A value of: **\$353,600**

Emeryville:
310 / 1,840
Households: **184**
Bags: **2,723**
A value of: **\$105,100**

Oakland:
Food Insecure Seniors: **12,675** / 81,693 total seniors*
We served **4,893**** households in FY25
and distributed **75,094***** bags
with a value of **\$2,898,600******

Alameda:
1,418 / 18,106
Households served: **211**
Bags distributed: **2,987**
A value of: **\$115,300**

San Leandro:
2,327 / 21,634
Households served: **1,065**
Bags distributed: **13,622**
A value of: **\$525,800**

Pleasanton:
921 / 16,816
Households served: **346**
Bags distributed: **3,025**
A value of: **\$116,800**

Hayward/San Lorenzo:
2,856 / 35,871
Households served: **737**
Bags distributed: **9,476**
A value of: **\$365,800**

Livermore:
987 / 17,345
Households served: **199**
Bags distributed: **3,282**
A value of: **\$126,700**

Newark:
570 / 8,713
Households served: **291**
Bags distributed: **4,180**
A value of: **\$161,300**

Totals Across Alameda County - Jul 1st 2024 - Jun 30th 2025:
Total Seniors: **229,718**
Food Insecure Seniors: **24,425**
Total Households Served: **8,559**
Total Bags Distributed: **123,549**
A Total Value of: **\$4,769,000**

*From Census Data 2021
<https://api.census.gov/data/2021/acs/acs5/subject>

**From Link2Feed Households Served FY25

***From MBBP Counts by Site FY25

****Calculated at 20lbs/bag x Feeding America's \$1.93/lb

Mercy Brown Bag – Covering Alameda County

The Basics:

- **2,349,022** pounds of Groceries Distributed
- **124,000** bags given out
- **80** Distribution sites
- **8,559** Households served monthly (non-)



Mercy Brown Bag in San Leandro

- Serving San Leandro seniors twice monthly at the following locations:
 - Broadmoor Plaza
 - Eden Lodge
 - Estabrook Plaza
 - Fargo Senior Center
 - Loro Landing
 - San Leandro Marina Community Center
 - San Leandro Senior Community Center
 - SOS Meals on Wheels (MOW) bags to augment meals with snacks and breakfast items
- To qualify - 3 questions:
 - Age 60+
 - Alameda County resident
 - 232% of Federal Poverty line (Single: \$2940/ Dc household - \$4002)



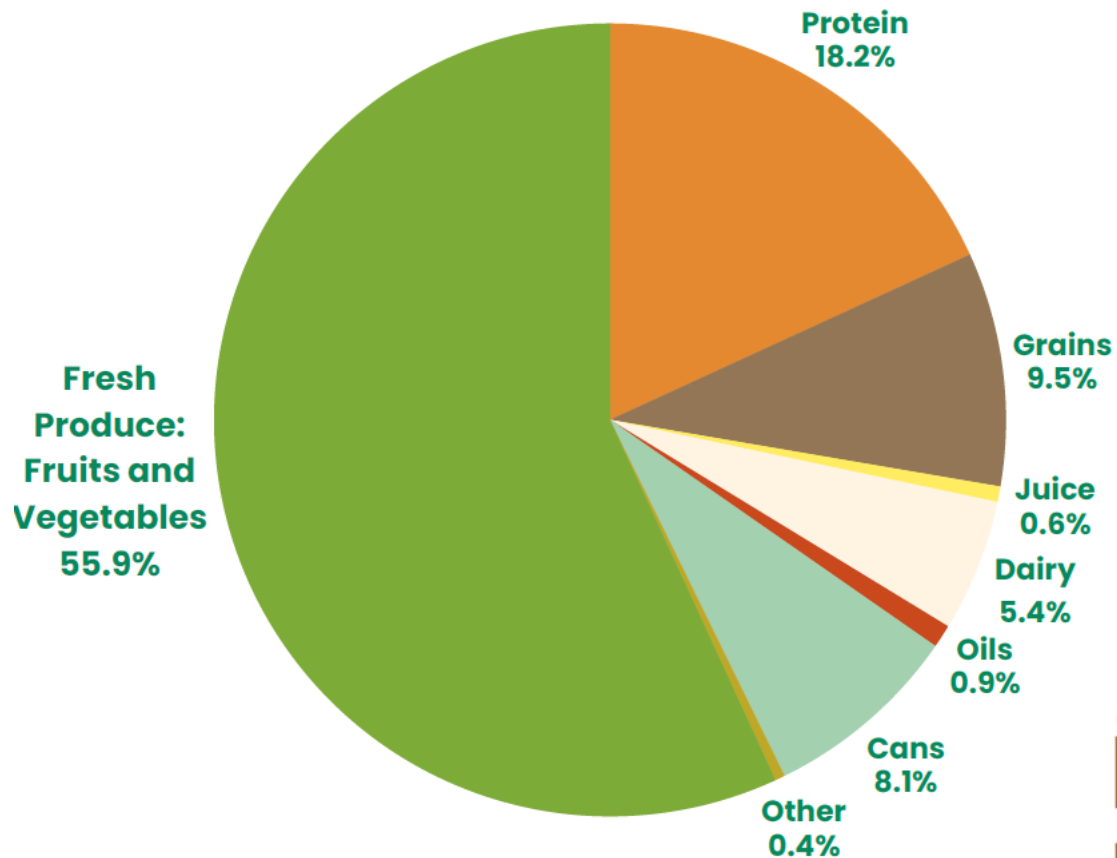
San Leandro Brown Bag Clients

- 962 households served from May 2025 - April 2026
- 1250 Individuals served
- 177 new registrants in that year
- 60% female - 37% male - 3% unknown
- 86% people of color
 - .5% Native American
 - 64.5% Asian and Pacific Islander
 - 12% African American
 - 9% Hispanic
 - 4% None/Other/Unknown
 - 10% White

\$1229 Average monthly income

Contents of a Bag

Calendar Year 2025



Expect improved health outcomes

San Leandro MBBP participants surveyed:

- 100% of participants reporting improved access to nutritious groceries
- And 100% reported a positive effect on their overall health and well-being
- **80% reporting concern about going hungry without Mercy Brown Bag support**
- **100% reporting that groceries help them remain living in their homes**



Thank you!

For more information:

www.mercybrownbag.org

