



World  
Central  
Kitchen



“**Wherever there is a fight  
so that hungry people  
may eat, we will be there.**”

Founded in 2010 by Chef José Andrés, World Central Kitchen (WCK) is first to the frontlines, providing meals in response to humanitarian, climate, and community crises. WCK has served more than **100 million meals** to communities in the aftermath of natural and man-made disasters.



When disaster strikes, WCK mobilizes with the urgency of now to start cooking and provide meals to people in need.

By partnering with organizations on the ground and activating a network of food trucks, restaurants, or emergency kitchens, WCK provides freshly made meals to survivors of disasters quickly and effectively.

We know that good food provides not only nourishment, but also comfort and hope, especially in times of crisis.





WCK has responded to emergencies in about 40 countries including the U.S., Haiti, Indonesia, Guatemala, Mexico, Spain, Mozambique, Colombia, Venezuela, Lebanon, Madagascar, Bangladesh, Brazil, Afghanistan, and more and are continuing to expand our efforts to ensure food is a human right for all.

Our teams have been cooking every single day since September 2017. Deploying our model of quick action, leveraging local resources, and adapting in real time, we are able to respond to multiple disasters at once.

# Why Chefs?

“When we need to take care of the health of people, who do we send? Doctors and nurses. When we need to rebuild homes, who do we send? Architects and engineers. Well, when we need to feed people, we should send cooks like me.

At World Central Kitchen, we’re working to make sure that wherever there are hungry people, especially under very difficult circumstances, they have the dignity of a plate of hot food.” - José Andrés



# How WCK Works With Chefs

As José likes to say ... Everyone is part of World Central Kitchen ... you just may not know it yet!



**Relief Team +  
Volunteers**

WCK may need to establish a kitchen capable of bulk meal production. Staff and volunteers prepare fresh, nurturing meals from this central location driven by what the local community typically eats in times of comfort.



**Restaurant  
Partners**

WCK can get cooking quickly and keep money in the local economy by partnering with food trucks, restaurants, and caterers. These small businesses get reimbursed for the meals they prepare for their neighbors in need.



**Chef Corps**

The Chef Corps is a global network of culinary leaders whose generosity, adaptability, and visibility help WCK maximize what we can accomplish. Members buoy their communities and make WCK more nimble around the world.

# Chef Corps Members Contribute By:

- Serving as city or regional champions who are willing to be among our Relief Team's first calls as crises unfold. They plug WCK into their local networks and resources. We may be on the lookout for restaurant partners, catering kitchens, equipment, or early eyes and ears on the ground.
- Volunteering alongside our Relief Team by volunteering in a WCK kitchen where assigned duties could range from cooking and logistics to meal distribution. Some Chef Corps members have traveled great distances to volunteer with us others prefer to stay close to home.
- Fueling our work through fundraising.
- Amplifying our mission on social media.

Interested? [laura@wck.org](mailto:laura@wck.org)





# WCK Activates

WCK monitors climate data to proactively pinpoint locations most likely to be impacted by natural disasters, but we have to be ready to respond anywhere because we've also supported communities recovering from gun violence, migrant and refugee crises, explosions, the pandemic, and more.

Hurricane Dorian is the most powerful Atlantic storm in recorded history to ever hit land. The Category 5 Hurricane devastated the northern islands of The Bahamas in 2019, stalling over Grand Bahama Island for more than 24 hours. WCK was on the ground in Nassau—just 80 miles away—before the storm hit, cooking immediately for families in need.



In Grand Bahama, we established a second kitchen to provide lunch and dinner to impacted communities. Serving 30,000 daily meals, we totaled more than 1 million meals in just over five weeks.



In 2018, the Camp Fire became the state's deadliest and most destructive fire in history – almost the entire town of Paradise was destroyed. In response, WCK established 2 kitchens serving 55 locations including shelters, emergency operations centers, and firefighters on the frontlines. WCK has set up relief efforts for fires in California every year since 2017.



# Hunger Relief Response During a Global Pandemic

**COVID-19 RESPONSE**

## During the coronavirus outbreak, WCK:

- Prepared & served individually packaged, nutritious meals directly to the communities most impacted by the effects of COVID-19.
- Worked with local restaurants around the country through the Restaurants for the People program, purchasing and distributing fresh meals as a way to both feed families in need and keep hospitality staff working.
- Packaged & distributed produce and pantry staple boxes through WCK Farmers Markets and direct delivery to families isolating themselves at home.



# Meet Oakland's Chef Oumar Diouf

"I want to extend our thanks to you for not only saving our business from closing down but also for helping our great team stay employed. Your generosity reflects our mission statement of nurturing growth and building community. With WCK's great partnership, The Camel is focusing on thriving and not surviving."





Since WCK's pandemic response first began in February 2020, operations have taken place in:



**400 US cities**



**35 US states & territories**



**36 towns & cities in Spain**



**10 cities in India**

WCK Relief efforts have continued in Venezuela, Colombia, and Mexico with new responses to COVID-19 beginning in the USVI, Puerto Rico, the Dominican Republic, India, and Indonesia.

**WCK partner restaurant Queens Bully prepares fresh meals for seniors in Queens, NY**



**Meal distribution at Greater  
Liberty Baptist Church in  
New Orleans, LA**





# Food kit preparation and delivery on the Navajo Nation

# 440

MILLION  
MEALS  
SERVED





# #ChefsForUkraine

MEETING THE NEEDS OF UKRAINIANS AND UKRAINIAN REFUGEES



WCK began serving hot meals within hours of the initial invasion of Ukraine.

Our response grew rapidly. We distributed nourishing food & fresh meals in 8 countries: Ukraine, Poland, Hungary, Moldova, Romania, Spain, Germany, and Slovakia.

In addition to operating WCK's field kitchen, we worked with local restaurants to provide comforting meals at border crossings, shelters, hospitals & more.

WCK is also working to distribute bulk food product including produce & dry goods to restaurant partners in Ukraine to support the strained food supply chain.

Meal kits also make their way to families in Ukraine who were positioned to cook for themselves.





**Over 60 million  
meals to date**



**500+ Cities  
Reached in Ukraine**



**Up to 350,000 Freshly-  
Prepared Meals Served Daily**



**4,000+ Unique Distribution  
Sites in Ukraine**

# See WCK in Action

*We Feed People*—a Ron Howard-directed documentary about World Central Kitchen and our founder Chef José Andrés—premiered May 27 on Disney+ and is now also available on Hulu.

Join us for a behind-the-scenes look at the evolution of WCK's work, from the earliest days in Haiti to our current food relief efforts around the world.



NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

DOCUMENTARY FILMS

# WE FEED PEOPLE

DIRECTED BY RON HOWARD

CHANGING THE RECIPE FOR RELIEF

Streaming  
May 27



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WE FEED PEOPLE



OFFICIAL TRAILER



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