MealConnect: Today and Tomorrow

A walkthrough of the features MealConnect offers currently and where we and our partner food banks are going next

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HOME › PARTNERS › ABOUT › FAQ
LOGIN
FOOD RECOVERY. SIMPLIFIED.
Feeding America's MealConnect links your food donations with local nonprofits. For free.
SAFE
FAST
Start Now
Donate with MealConnect
FREE
CONVENIENT

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Food banks manage their enabled agency program on this web-based platform.

Donors post product on the MealConnect app, and agencies are matched in real time.

Vetted volunteers can elect to deliver a real-time donation to a matched partner agency.

Trucking companies can post a rejected delivery and be optimally routed to a nearby food bank.

2

Core Functionality

Making enabled agency programs more efficient

MealConnect offers food banks a simple, scalable, *free* way to:

- Connect donors and agencies for reoccurring pickups
- Automate time-consuming management of agency-enabled programs
- Collect agency receipts in a simple, food bank-customized interface
- Track missing receipts and notify food bank and agency users

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Making enabled agency programs more insightful

MealConnect offers a variety of ways to gather actionable info on operations, including:

- Detailed reports of all transactions within a desired timeframe
- Reports for specific agencies/donors to drill down on performance
- Summary reports offering a high-level look at submitted receipts
- Mobile-friendly views to interact with the data while on the go
- Tracking for which agency-donor pairs are behind on their receipting

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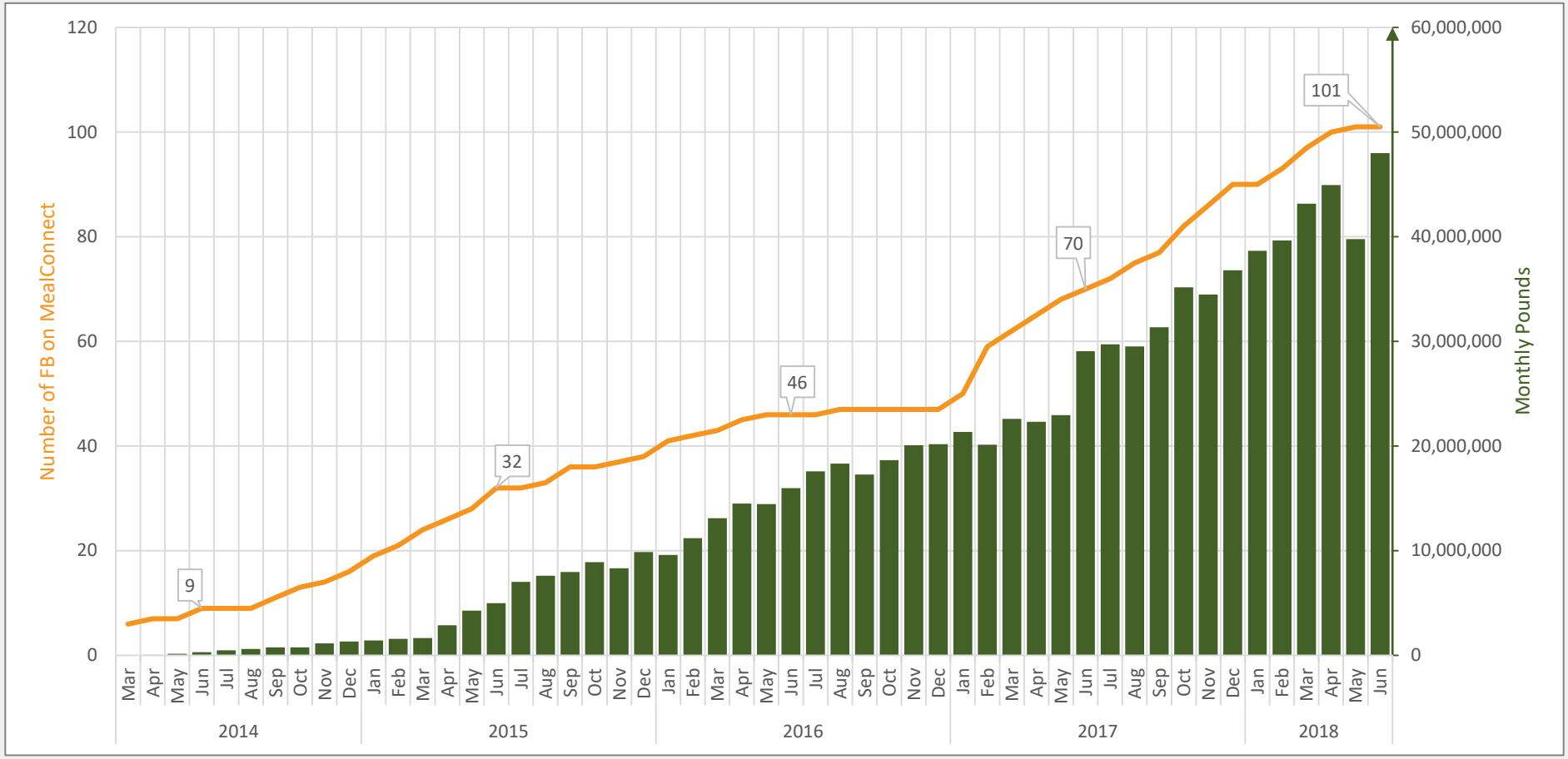

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- 2.2 Million pickups
- 920 Million pounds
- 5,200 hunger relief orgs
- 23,000 donor locations

Sponsors

Google.org

General Mills Making Food People Love

Walmart Foundation

MealConnect enjoys an excellent reputation in the network

"…we are on board to roll this out to our membership. Let's talk and determine the next steps and how to get this rolling."

Christopher Young
Executive Director
American Association of Meat Processors

"…we choose [MealConnect] after considering other options. In our case it was not cost effective to hire another person…"

Bob Evans
River Bend Food Bank

"[MealConnect] helped to reveal a lot of donor locations that our agencies were already picking up from but were not being reported to us."

Diane Matthews
Montana Food Bank Network

"I would like to take full credit for this jump in poundage but I need to give a shout out to Sam and the [MealConnect] platform that has made it simpler for the agencies to report."

Susan Goss
Second Harvest Food Bank of Greater New Orleans & Acadiana

"Great update! We're looking forward to implementing [Real Time Donations]."

Tyler Markham
Central Texas Food Bank

"I think [Real Time Donations] will add a lot of flexibility."

Alex Blake
Second Harvest Food Bank of Santa Clara and San Mateo Counties

"It is actually fun and easy to now quickly complete the receipts."

Gina Kasten
Santee Food Bank
(FSD agency)

Syncing receipts with Food Bank inventory systems

In addition to reducing the time required to manage agency-enabled programs on the front end, MealConnect also helps to reduce time spent on database entry. MealConnect includes tools to:

- Automatically sync submitted receipts with popular network ERP systems
- Ensure timely transmission of data
- Create and post records for receipt and distribution according to the existing rules & SOP's in ERP systems

Since inception, MealConnect has saved for its users:

Process	Seconds saved per transaction	Total Relevant Transactions	Time Saved (s)
agency record-keeping and entry	47.9	2,096,399.0	100,417,512.1
food bank database entry	104.5	1,816,909.0	189,866,990.5
food bank admin work for missing receipts	6.5	2,096,399.0	13,626,593.5

That translates to over **9,500 workdays** saved in the Feeding America network since 2014 - and growing exponentially!

3

Real-Time

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Food Recovery. Simplified.

VIEW DONATIONS
easily from your computer or phone

CHOOSE AN AGENCY
that's a great fit for the donation

GET NOTIFIED
when the agency accepts the product

TA-DA!
you just made magic happen

SIGN UP TODAY!
AT MEALCONNECT.ORG

Questions? Email us at mealconnect@feedingamerica.org

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Making small format sourcing less costly

Leverage technology and volunteers

MealConnect is the Network's free donation app

- Free
- Simple
- Convenient
- Mobile friendly (app and mobile browser)

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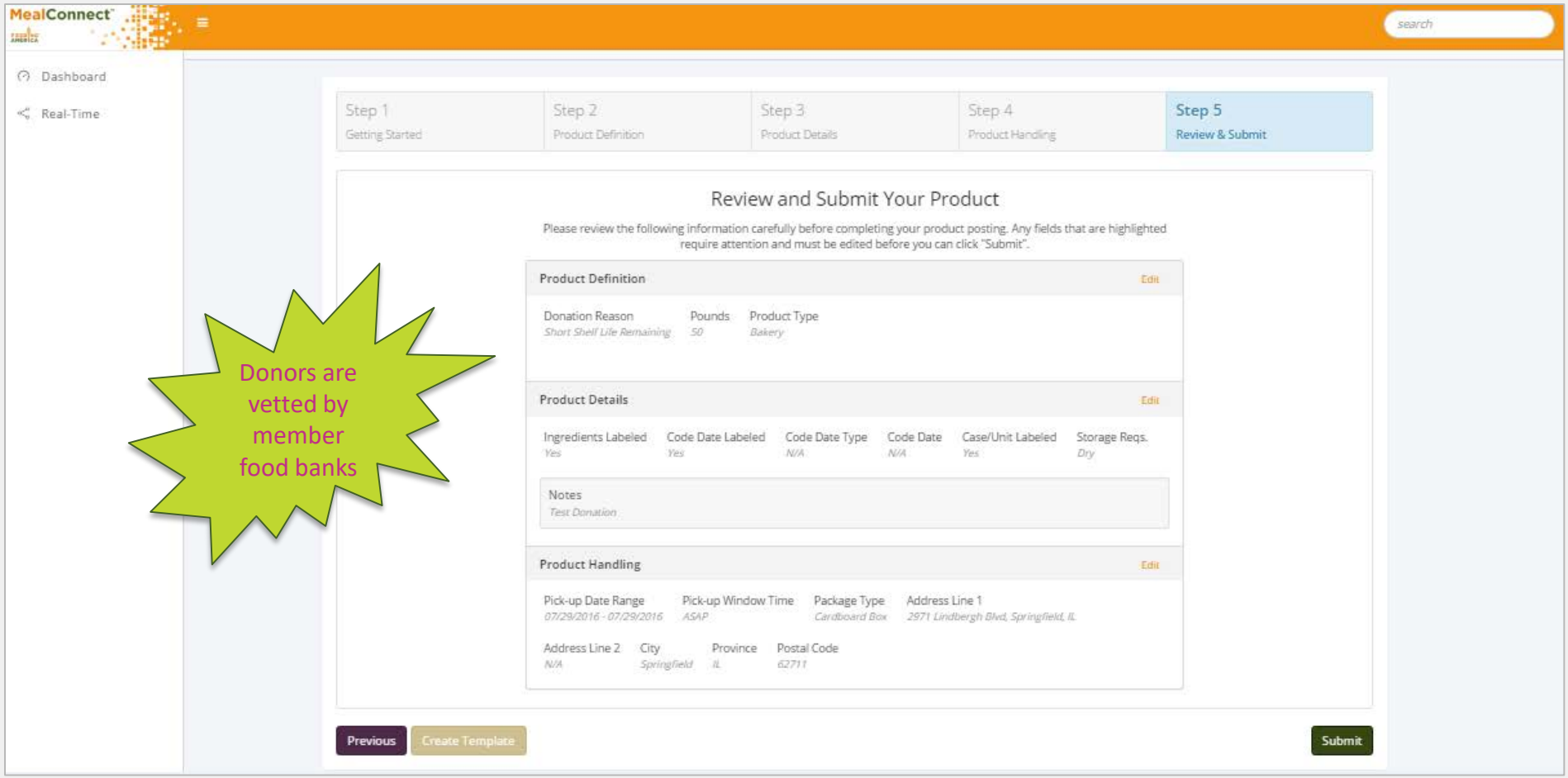
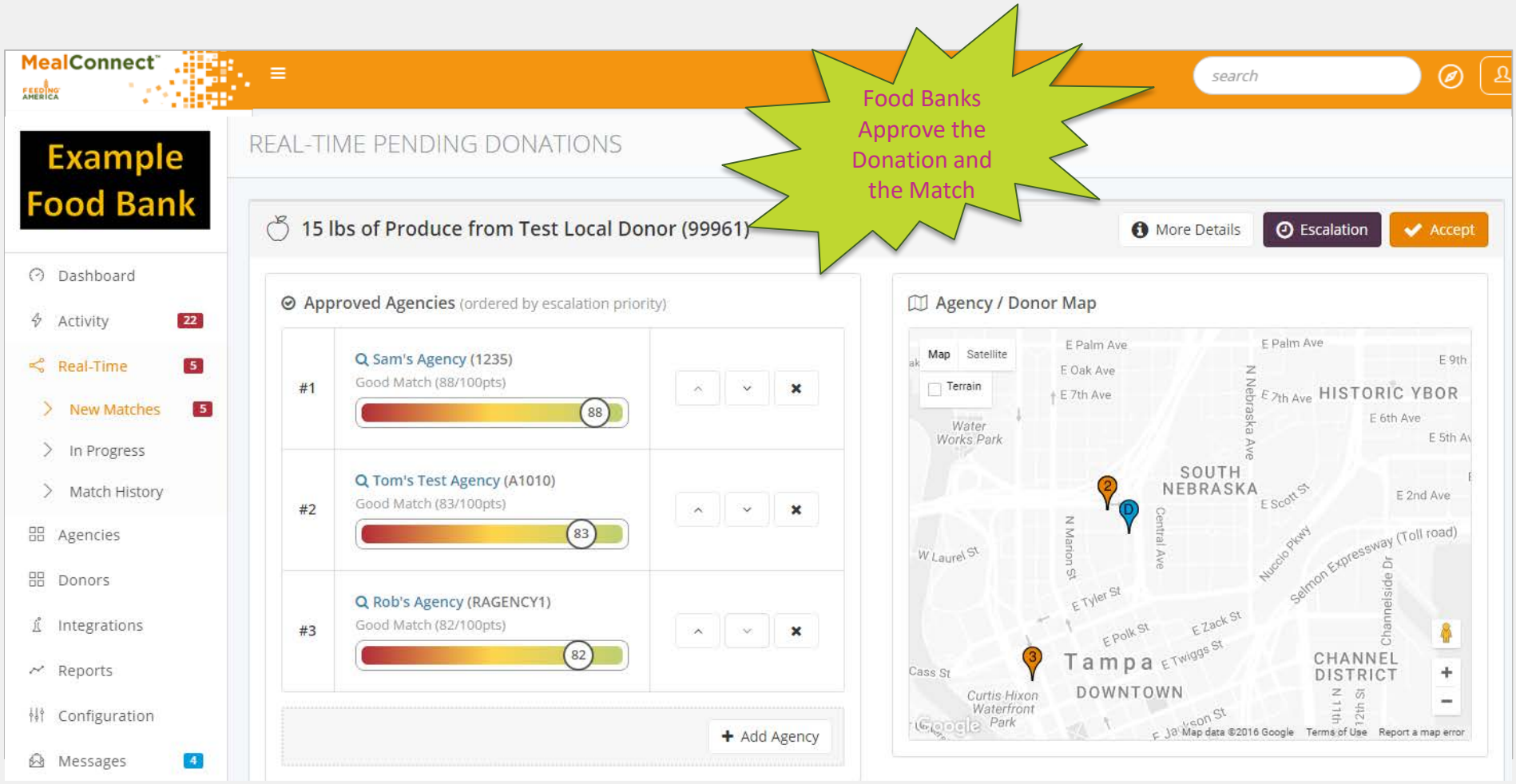
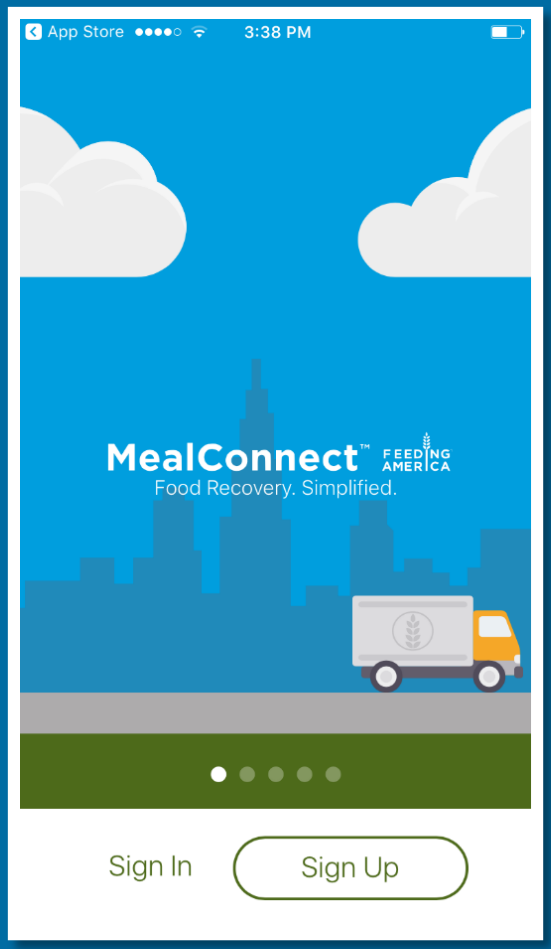
Donors can go to MealConnect.org to post surplus product they wish to donate and track their activity.

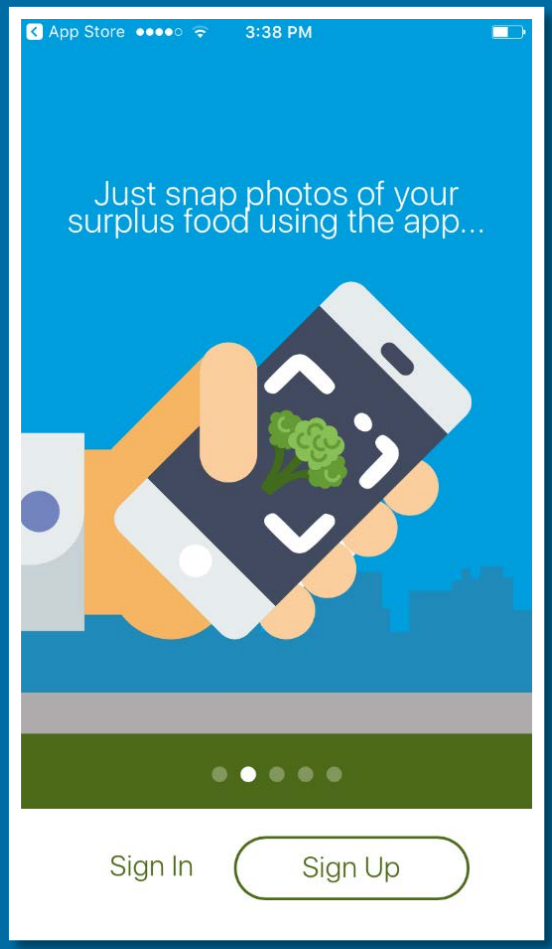


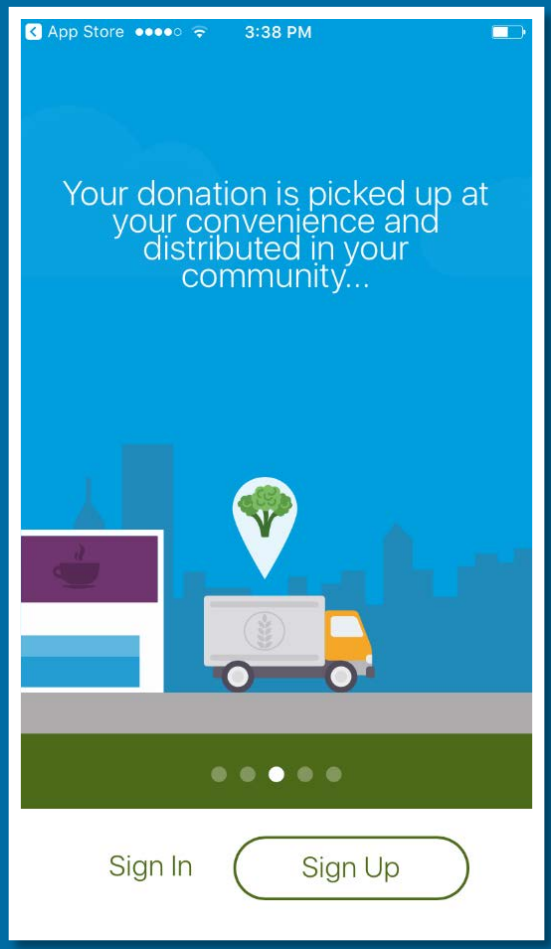
On behalf of the member foodbank, MealConnect's algorithm matches the posted donation with the best-suited agency in the area.



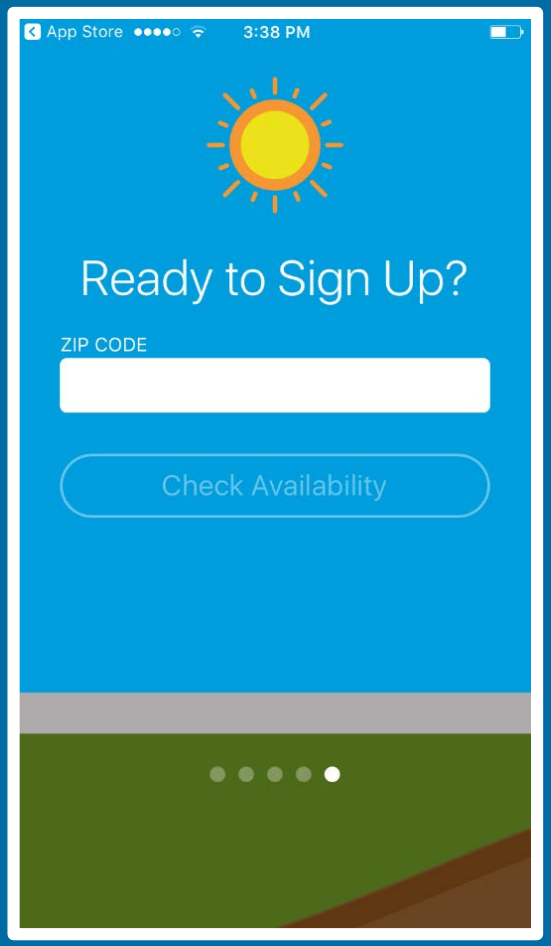
MealConnect Donor App

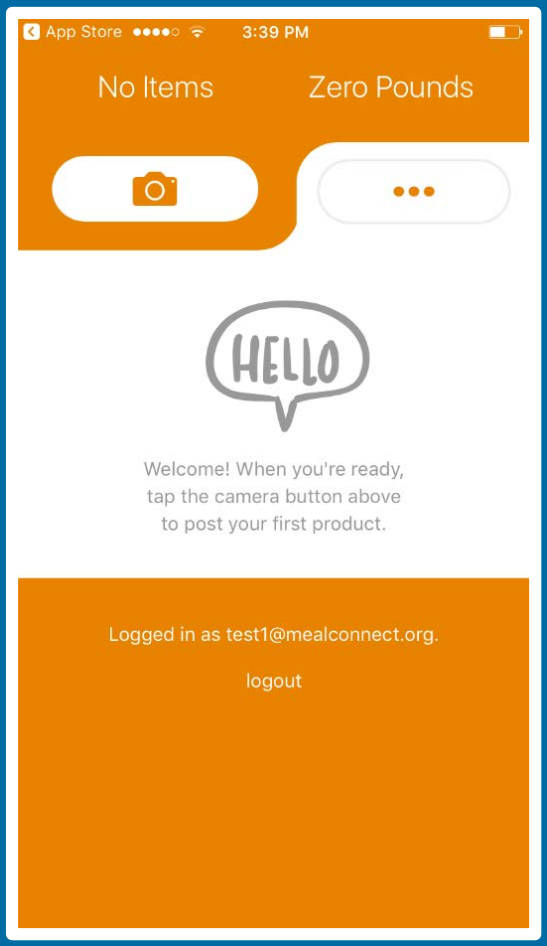






MealConnect Donor App (Cont.)





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Food Recovery. Simplified.

QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE
DONORS

GET READY TO CHANGE FOOD DONATION FOR GOOD

MealConnect™ makes it easier than ever to match your surplus food with your local Feeding America member food bank and its partners. Giving you:

- Easy pickups based on your schedule
- Convenient activity tracking
- Simple receipt recording for tax savings

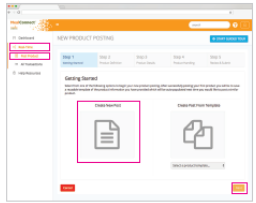
Plus, you'll feel great knowing you're reducing food waste while leading the way to providing hunger relief right in your community.

FOOD BANK LOGO

POSTING DONATIONS ON MEALCONNECT

Posting a donation on MealConnect is easy:

CLICK Real-Time on the left Dashboard menu display.
CLICK Post Product.
CLICK on the Create New Post icon.
ENTER the product and pickup details where indicated.
REVIEW and SUBMIT your donation.



WHAT HAPPENS NEXT

PRODUCT POSTED
easily from your phone or desktop

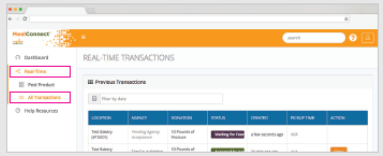
PRODUCT MATCHED
Your Feeding America food bank coordinates logistics with local food pantries

PRODUCT PICKED UP
You receive confirmation once connection has been made

VIEWING YOUR DONATION ON MEALCONNECT

After submitting your donation, it will appear in the Transactions area under the Real-Time link on the left Dashboard menu.

To view:
CLICK on the Real-Time link.
CLICK on All Transactions.



Questions? Email us at mealconnect@feedingamerica.org

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QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE AGENCIES

GET READY TO CHANGE FOOD RECOVERY FOR GOOD

MealConnect™ makes recovering food in your community easier than ever. Giving you:

- Fast and simple receipting
- Real-time donation alerts
- Activity reporting

Plus, you'll feel great knowing you're reducing food waste while leading the way to hunger relief—through the largest food recovery network in the country.

FOOD BANK LOGO

RESPONDING TO DONATION REQUESTS ON MEALCONNECT

Locating, reviewing and responding to an active donation on MealConnect is easy:

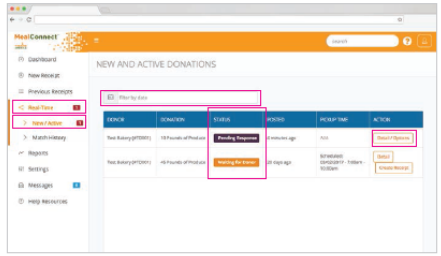
CLICK Real-Time on the left Dashboard menu display.

CLICK New/Active.

CLICK on the drop-down menu above the New and Active Donations grid to customize your viewing options.

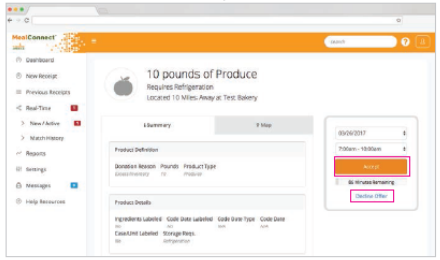
VIEW the Status section of the grid to find pending donations.

CLICK Detail/Options in the Action section to view product and pickup details.



VIEW donation details.

CLICK Accept or Decline.



ACCEPT OR DECLINE REAL-TIME DONATION

Donations delivered to vetted agencies

MealConnect can seamlessly coordinate deliveries with

- Delivery companies like DoorDash
- Local food runner organization partners
- Member developed volunteer driver corps

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National Media Attention

ForbesBrandVoice What is this?

JUN 22, 2017 @ 11:05 AM 81,817 Forbes @100

How Reducing Food Waste And Launching
Help Us End H

PROGRESSIVE GROCER

BREAKING NEWS May 01, 2017 Ryan Redner Named President/CEO of Redner's

Celebrating THE 2017 TOP WOMEN IN GROCERY

Home » Departments » Technology

Walmart Among Backers of Feeding America's MealConnect

Tech platform enables easy food donations

April 20, 2017, 05:45 pm

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SUBSCRIBE

TECHNOLOGY

06.13.17

This App Will Help Restaura
Amount Of Food They Usual

With the help of a new mobile platform, Meal
stores and restaurants has facilitated 737,000
pounds of food–enough for 278 million meals

ORGANICS > FOOD WASTE

Feeding America Teams with DoorDash to Combat Food Waste

The recently announced DoorDash and Feeding America initiative is focused on tackling the massive problem of food waste and hunger.

Feeding America wants to wipe out hunger and food waste with the power of a single app

2.9k SHARES

Share on Facebook Share on Twitter +

MealConnect vs. Other Donation Apps

Real time activity is not sustainable for anyone with a profit motive.

- Companies trying to profit from food recovery is not new.
- Sporadic donation-matching algorithms do not create reliable, volume-based revenue streams.
- The need to develop donor relationships in a market before entering will inhibit scaling.

Bypassing Feeding America's food banks bypasses its standards.

- The Feeding America food bank is at the center of the MealConnect transaction.
- This maintains the chain of accountability, relationship continuity and donation stewardship.
- MealConnect's zero-cost infrastructure is the Feeding America network.

Feeding America has a comprehensive strategy to meet our 2025 goal

- Stand alone apps are just that – they address symptoms of food insecurity but not the causes
- MealConnect enhances our work being done to improve food security for working families

4

Reverse Logistics Solution

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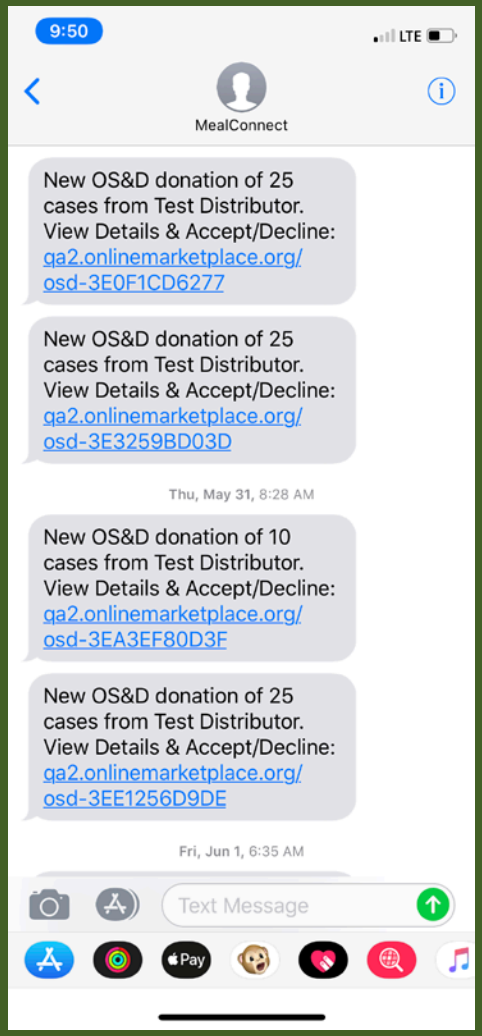
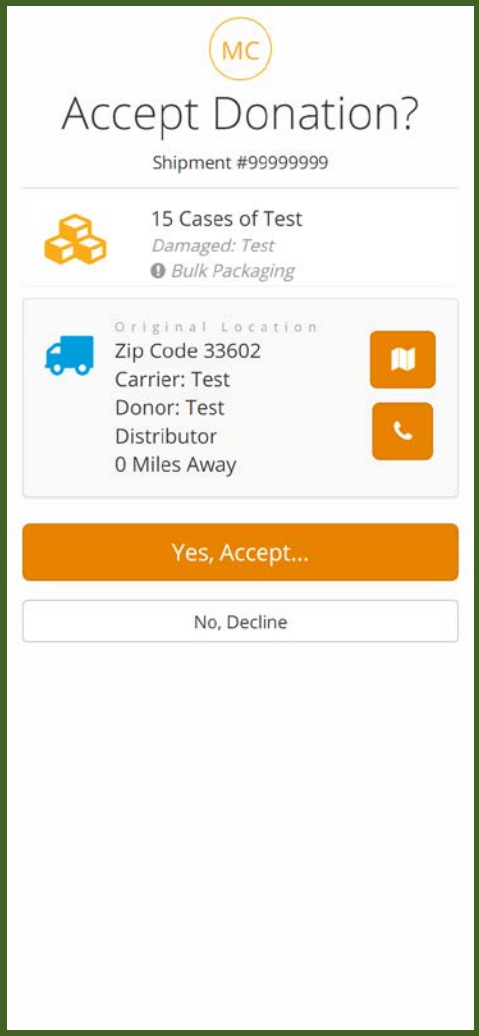
Sourcing rejected partial truckloads



MealConnect directs carriers with OS&D loads to deliver approved donations to the nearest member food bank.



Pilot Summary:

Since our kickoff in November, the pilot with General Mills and Unyson has generated:

Total Donations: **530**

Total Donated Cases: **37,409**

Est. Total Pounds Accepted: **501,726**

Acceptance Rate: **79%**

…and the program continues to grow as we add more carriers and seek out relationships with additional donors.

5

Future Plans and Opportunities

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Current Functionality

Food banks manage their enabled agency program on this web-based platform.

Donors post product on the MealConnect app, and agencies are matched in real time.

Vetted volunteers can elect to deliver a real-time donation to a matched partner agency.

Trucking companies can post a rejected delivery and be optimally routed to a nearby food bank.

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Future Functionality

Retailers scan product out for donation and the food bank is automatically notified.

A food-insecure individual connects with nearby agencies, while members can easily learn about their preferences.

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Questions & Discussion

THANK YOU