



Katie Schrooten
Director, Marketing & Communications
907-222-3121 office
907-903-4867 cell
media@foodbankofalaska.org
foodbankofalaska.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Food Bank of Alaska welcomes Shara Cooley as Chief Financial Officer

Cooley brings more than a decade of nonprofit financial leadership to the statewide anti-hunger organization.

Food Bank of Alaska is pleased to welcome Shara Cooley as Chief Financial Officer. Cooley joined the organization earlier this year and leads Food Bank of Alaska's financial strategy and operations, with a focus on strengthening financial systems, supporting transparency and aligning financial planning with the organization's mission to expand food access across the state.

Cooley brings more than 13 years of nonprofit finance experience, most recently as Senior Director of Finance at Covenant House Alaska, an Anchorage-based nonprofit serving youth experiencing homelessness and other risks. During her tenure there, she advanced through several finance leadership roles and built expertise in budgeting, forecasting, grant compliance, audit oversight and board reporting.

"Strong financial leadership is essential to every part of Food Bank of Alaska's work, from statewide food distribution to long-term planning," said Cara Durr, Chief Executive Officer of Food Bank of Alaska. "Shara brings the experience, clarity and care needed to help us steward our resources responsibly and support the growing needs of communities across Alaska."

"I was drawn to Food Bank of Alaska because of its critical role in addressing food insecurity across the state and the direct impact it has on individuals and families," said Cooley. "I am excited for the opportunity to help ensure strong financial stewardship that supports and sustains this important work."

Cooley holds a Master of Accountancy and a Graduate Certificate in Business Analytics from Ohio University's College of Business. She has also pursued additional professional development through the Catalyst for Nonprofit Excellence program at The Foraker Group and the Coaching for Results program through SALT, LLC.

She serves as Treasurer and Board Member for Alzheimer's Resource Alaska and volunteers with several community organizations, including Anchorage Downtown Rotary Foundation, Challenge Alaska and the Native Youth Olympic Games through Cook Inlet Tribal Council.

Cooley moved to Alaska in 2012 and considers it her forever home. Outside of work, she enjoys time with her family, hiking, backyard campfires and life with her household pets, including a dog, two cats and a ball python.

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About Food Bank of Alaska

Food Bank of Alaska is a registered 501(c)(3) whose mission is to eliminate hunger in Alaska by obtaining and providing food to partner agencies feeding hungry people and through anti-hunger leadership. Founded in 1979, the Food Bank provides food and grocery products through a network of over 150 Partner Agencies and nutrition programs, serving nearly 20,000 people every week. Headquartered in Anchorage, the Food Bank serves the entire state of Alaska. For more information on the Food Bank and its programs, visit foodbankofalaska.org, find us on [Facebook](#) or follow us on [X](#).