MOBILE RURAL DEPOTS
INTRODUCTION

- In South Africa food insecurity is growing rapidly
- Of a total population of 57 million people, roughly 50% are likely to be food poor by the end of 2020
- FoodForward SA’s vision is a South Africa without hunger
- But, our Foodbanking model was mostly an “urban-based solution” to address hunger, given our proximity to the actors within the food supply chain. This resulted in an inequitable access to food for this living in vulnerable rural communities, because of the large distances to access food from our warehouses.
- To change this, FoodForward SA launched the MRD programme in July 2019 with seed finding from GFN
- MRDs are simple and cost effective to implement
HOW IT WORKS

- **Selection**: We identify and select the most vulnerable rural communities in each province, focussing on areas that are far from our warehouses, that have high levels of stunting, poverty, unemployment, lack of access to food.

- **Central Location**: Taking into account where our existing beneficiary organisations (BOs) are, we choose the most central location for a meeting point – which will invariably be the venue of one of our BOs.

- **Info Session**: We inform existing beneficiary organisations (BOs) that we will be delivering food to the central location. We agree on a time and place.

- **Food Distribution**: The first meeting is also the first time that BOs get food delivered by FFSA. We also use the opportunity to provide them with information and get feedback from them.
WEST COAST MRD
THE PROCESS

Monthly Deliveries Scheduled

Warehouse Prepacks Pallets Per BO

Day of Delivery: BOs Check their POD and Sign

On the way back, truck collects surplus produce from farmers (where applicable) for our Second Harvest Programme

Some trips are day trips. Others are over 2 days because of distances
USEFUL INFO

- **Cost Effective**: Because we own our logistics infrastructure, the only cost is fuel and accommodation.

- **Increased Reach**: Once we start a MRD, within 6 months the number of BOs/people served doubles.

- **Integration**: We can more efficiently run our other programmes – Second Harvest and FoodShare.

- **Increased Access to Food**: Vulnerable groups in rural communities are worse off than their urban counterparts – the aged, vulnerable children, and women. They need better access to food. The MRDS help us achieve this.
EAST LONDON MRD
MRDs – 1 YEAR LATER

- We have 8 MRDs across 4 provinces, serving 94 BOs and 48,500 people
- This represents 10% of our BOs and 12% of our beneficiaries
- We aim to open a further 4 MRDs by the end of the financial year
- To sustain the growth, we are expanding our Second Harvest and FoodShare programmes
- We have received a fuel sponsorship from Engen, which will likely be annual
- As we grow, the demand on our logistics infrastructure will increase. We plan to partner with a third party logistics company to loan vehicles for 2 days a month
THANK YOU!