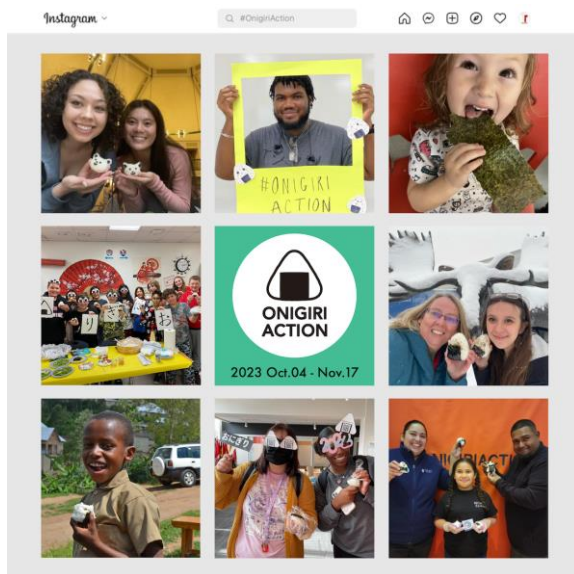


**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**TABLE FOR TWO Celebrates World Food Day 2023 #OnigiriAction  
- Unite the States with Onigiri (Japanese Rice Balls) -  
Aims to Provide One Million Meals to Children in Need**



NEW YORK, September 14, 2023 -- TABLE FOR TWO USA (TFT) invites everyone to participate in their 9th Annual ONIGIRI ACTION campaign to provide 1 million school meals to children around the world from Wednesday, October 4 to Friday, November 17, 2023. During the campaign, through the generosity of our partner organizations (see below), every rice ball related post on the campaign website or social media with [#OnigiriAction](https://www.instagram.com/OnigiriAction) will provide five school meals to children in need. TFT will enhance school meals in socioeconomically disadvantaged neighborhoods in the U.S. by adding fresh vegetables and fruits as well as provide school meals to children in East Africa.

Our ONIGIRI ACTION campaign commemorates the United Nations' World Food Day. As a non-profit organization with roots in Japan, the campaign highlights onigiri (rice balls), which are a traditional Japanese comfort food made with love to share with others.

Since its launch in 2015, Onigiri Action has supported 8.3 million school meals. The organization has received two prestigious awards: one related to Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) and the other for Health and Culture from the Japanese government (<https://bit.ly/3Kg0ZHY>). Amid soaring food prices due to COVID-19, climate change, and the invasion of Ukraine, there are concerns that "Zero Hunger," one of the goals of SDGs, will be delayed. The need for TFT to bring healthy meals to those in need is growing more important each year.

**2023 USA Campaign Theme: Unite the States with Onigiri**

TFT and our partners will continue to connect everyone through onigiri with many virtual and in-person events. With the "Unite the States with Onigiri" theme this year, our goal is to complete the 50-state

map with photos of rice balls. We additionally have two new features this year. The first is a Metaverse Virtual Tour event where participants will be able to visit a school virtually in Africa that Onigiri Action supports. The second is the US & Japan College Relay Baton Touch /バトンタッチ!, a fun and collaborative initiative on Instagram for American and Japanese university students. Two teams will compete in speed and creativity during the Onigiri Action campaign!

### Upcoming Events

During the campaign, many Onigiri Action events plan to be held both in-person and virtual.

- **Onigiri Action Kits Workshop with National Japan Societies - Virtual (Nov 12 2pm PT / 5pm ET)**  
Participants will receive a special “Onigiri Action Kit” with ingredients and materials needed to make several types of Onigiri. The event will include a presentation about Japanese food, culture, and nutrition as well as a cook-along. This will be held in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of Japan and the Japan External Trade Organization.
- **Onigiri Action Workshop at Japanese Food Expo in Los Angeles (Oct 28)**  
Learn how to make onigiri and make a difference!
- **Onigiri Action Booth at Japanese Friendship Garden in San Diego (Oct 15 12-3pm PT)**  
Stop by to make an onigiri and take fun photos to join Onigiri Action.

### Partner Organizations in the U.S. (as of Sep 14):

For every onigiri photo posted, five school meals will be donated through the generous support from our partners: J.C.C. Fund/Japanese Chamber of Commerce and Industry of New York, JFC International/Nishiki, JCAW Foundation, Zojirushi America, San-J, ITOCHU International, SMBC Global Foundation, Misuzu Corporation, MUFG Bank, Zensho Employees Association Network, Mishima Foods U.S.A., Q&B Foods, Inc., AUTECH

Onigiri partners: BentOn, Onigilly, Sunny Blue, Omusubee, Onigiri Kororin

### To Learn More:

ONIGIRI ACTION (USA site): <https://usa.tablefor2.org/onigiri-action>

ONIGIRI ACTION (Global site): <https://onigiri-action.com/en/>

### Products with Donations (as of Sep 14<sup>th</sup>):

During the campaign, a portion of the proceeds from products below will be donated towards providing school meals: Nishiki Rice (JFC International), Rice Cooker (Zojirushi America), Tamari Soy Sauce (San-J), Tamaki Gold (ITOCHU International), Inari (Misuzu Corporation), Nori Komi Furikake (Mishima Foods U.S.A.), KEWPIE Mayonnaise (Q&B Foods, Inc.), AUTEK (Onigiri Maker ASM545A), Okonomiyaki Pancake Mix (Otafuku Foods), over 100 onigiri items (Gohan Market), Onigiri/Omusubi (BentOn, Onigilly, Sunny Blue, Omusubee, Onigiri Kororin), and Seasonal Delights Care Package (Kokoro).

**About TABLE FOR TWO USA:**

TFT is a 501(c)(3) organization that addresses the issues of hunger and obesity by providing school meals to children in need. Additionally, TFT teaches healthy eating habits to K-12 students in the U.S. through their unique food education program called [Wa-Shokuiku -Learn. Cook. Eat Japanese!](#)