

Food for Thought

News from Second Harvest Food Bank of Orange County



“During the holidays, the food is a huge help to us because it’s hard to afford enough food for the family.” —HERMILA

The food Hermila gets from the food pantry helps feed her three children.

Thanks to you my family has never had to go hungry

My name is Hermila, and I’m very thankful to be coming to this food pantry today. The food helps my family get by on our small income. My husband and I have three children. One in elementary school, one in middle school, and one in high school.

Three children eat a lot of food, especially my oldest! They love it when I get peanut butter and jelly or cereal at the pantry. The food is a huge help because there are some things they give us that I just can’t afford at the store. My children get breakfast and lunch at school, but when they are out for the summer and winter holidays, we have to provide a lot more food. During the holidays the food is helpful to us because it’s hard to afford enough holiday foods for the family.

Living day to day

My husband works in a workshop refinishing antique furniture. We live day to day on what he makes, paying our bills and our rent. We aren’t able to save money. Today, when the brakes started making a funny noise on my car, I was worried. We don’t even have enough money for food and nothing for extra expenses.

I remember the first time I went to get help from the food bank. We were very low on money and needed food. It felt so good to get enough food to feed my family for a few days. I want to thank you for everything you do, for all the work you do to give us this food. It’s a big help. Thanks to you, my family has never had to go hungry. I hope God will bless you so you can continue this good work.

Your generosity during the holiday season means so much for families like Hermila’s who live day to day on a small income. Receiving food assistance will help Hermila provide a special holiday meal for her family. Thank you for caring for Orange County neighbors who are struggling to provide food for their families this holiday season.

Fall 2016

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UPCOMING EVENTS

OCTOBER 15-16 AND 22-23 OC GREAT PARK'S SPOOKTACULAR WEEKENDS

Get ready for 2 weekends full of fun activities for the whole family and give back to your community by donating nonperishable food items for families in need. Bring donations to access different parts of the park. You can register for tickets on the OC Great Park's website.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 5 SCOUTING FOR FOOD

Our local Boy and Girl Scout Troops will help us fight hunger in Orange County by collecting nonperishable food at local Smart and Final stores and other locations across Orange County.

NOVEMBER ANGELS GROUNDSKEEPER FOOD DRIVE

Have you ever wanted to play baseball in Angels Stadium? The Angels groundskeepers will host the 16th Annual Thanksgiving Food and Funds Drive. Don't miss an opportunity to step up to the plate at Angels Stadium!

NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER HOLIDAY FOOD & FUNDS DRIVES AT STATER BROS., VONS, RALPHS AND SPROUTS

This holiday season you can help families struggling with hunger by participating in a holiday food drive at your local Vons, Ralphs, Sprouts and Stater Bros. You may purchase nonperishable items or pre-filled bags or donate at your grocery store.

For more information, please call 949-653-2900 or visit our website at FeedOC.org

A note from Nicole

With the school year well underway, our programs aimed at fighting childhood hunger are in full swing. This fall we'll be opening six new mobile school pantries to distribute fresh produce at low-income school sites. This program, along with our growing permanent school pantry and Kids Cafe programs are helping ensure children get the nutrition they need to thrive in school.



The holidays will be here soon and we're gearing up to provide turkeys and extra food items so families have what they need to celebrate the season together. For families like Maria's and Hermila's who are struggling to provide enough food for their families, our holiday distributions can ensure they have enough food and can celebrate the season.

We've all experienced rough patches

Enabling this community to come together to care for families is one of the privileges of our work. Thousands of volunteers help us sort food from our holiday food drives to ensure the food is getting out quickly to the families we serve. Forty percent of our labor comes from volunteers like Mary and Jack who have committed their time and energy to

serve Orange County families. We could not do this work without their help.

"Your generosity during this season reflects your gratitude for the gifts you've been given."

Your generosity during the season continues to amaze me. It reflects your gratitude for the gifts you've been given. Recently I received a beautiful note with a contribution from one of our longtime friends.

"We have all experienced rough patches in our lives at one time or another and it's a great relief to know someone cares to help," she wrote.

As we launch our bold strategic plan, I'm especially thankful for each of you—our volunteers who work tirelessly, our faithful contributors who give generously, and our community partners who support our mission to end hunger in Orange County. Together, we're working to increase our impact so Orange County families have the nourishing food they need to thrive. Thank you from all those we serve.

Gratefully,

Nicole Suydam, CEO | Your Partner



Thank you for provid

Hello. My name is Maria and I'm here with two of my daughters. I have four girls. The food makes a big difference for our family. One year we even got a turkey at Thanksgiving. That was a real blessing. Without it, we wouldn't have had a Thanksgiving dinner as a family. Thanks to you, we had a special day!



"One year we got a turkey at Thanksgiving. Thanks to you, we had a special day!"

—MARIA

Coming to the food pantry also helps feed my family because we just don't have enough income right now. My husband works in a recycling plant, but the work

Twenty-five years of giving back continues to bring real satisfaction

“When I retired, I said to my wife, ‘I’d like to give back because I’ve been very fortunate,’” says Jack Correz explaining how he got involved with Second Harvest Food Bank almost 25 years ago.

Jack and Mary Correz got to know the food bank through their church’s food pantry, one of Second Harvest’s partner agencies. Since that time they’ve been weekly volunteers, coming in on Tuesday mornings to sort and organize donated food to get it ready for distribution. Recently Mary has had to cut back her work because of health issues.

After Jack finishes the Tuesday morning shift at the food bank, which he says is like going to the gym, he loads up his car with food for the church food pantry. He works there on Tuesday evening.

“It’s gratifying to know that people are going to have a better meal for Thanksgiving...”

—JACK

handling of food and getting more variety of food out to the people. There’s a tremendous amount more produce going through there,” says Jack.

Over the years, they’ve seen a lot of changes at the food bank. “The people at the food bank have done a tremendous job of expanding, getting more refined in the

handling of food and getting more variety of food out to the people. There’s a tremendous amount more produce going through there,” says Jack.



Jack and Mary have been volunteering at the food bank every week for over 25 years.

Joys of serving during the holidays

During the holidays the church food pantry distributes turkeys to the families they serve. “It’s gratifying to know that people who are a lot less fortunate than us are going to have a better meal for Thanksgiving and Christmas,” says Jack.

Jack has appreciated meeting the families they serve. “Thank goodness there are organizations like Second Harvest that are attempting to address these problems,” says Jack. “If you want to get some real satisfaction, come on down. You can’t help but appreciate what’s going on here!”

ling food and a special Thanksgiving turkey!

isn’t steady. When the machines aren’t working, they take hours off his work. Lately there just hasn’t been as much work.

I cook everything!

Before I came to the food pantry, we went through a very hard time for a couple of years. My husband wasn’t working, and I went to work trying to pay for rent and food for my family. There just wasn’t enough to eat, and it

was tough. I’m thankful for the food pantry. Being able to come here for help makes things so much better.

Getting food helps stretch our budget so the family has enough to eat. I like to cook everything, and it’s always special when we get meat.

I want to say thank you to people who support the food bank. Thanks to you, and to God, our family has enough to eat.

Our bold plan to close the hunger gap

With the continued support of our corporate partners, board of directors, partner agencies and the selfless generosity of friends like you, our new strategic plan will increase the impact we have in the lives of the 335,000 people at risk of hunger in our community.

With your support, we’re currently providing about 20 million meals every year to Orange County residents in need. We’re proud of how far we’ve come, but we know the need for food assistance is greater than what we are currently providing. Over the next five years, our commitment is to grow—providing 30 million meals a year. It’s our bold new plan to close the hunger gap in Orange County and create a future where no one goes hungry. Ever.

As we work to feed our community, we want to ensure that people who are hungry can easily access nutritious food with dignity. Towards that goal we’ll continue to develop a committed team, strengthen our financial position and lead with operational excellence so we can make the most efficient and effective use of the resources you help to provide.

Your support is at the heart of this work. Thank you for your loyal friendship helping us end hunger in Orange County.



Thank you for helping feed families who are struggling during the holidays

Families are in need of food all year long, but during the holiday season everyone wants to enjoy a festive, satisfying meal with their family. Unfortunately for the families we serve, affording that meal isn't always possible. With children out of school for vacation and the expectations that surround the holidays, this time of year can put a real strain on a family's food budget.

At Second Harvest Food Bank, we don't want any family to suffer from hunger or to lack adequate resources to share a holiday meal with their loved ones.

Your support will help ensure we have enough turkeys to make this a real season of Thanksgiving for those we serve.



One of the many ways we're bringing food and hope to these families is by providing turkeys to our community partner to distribute to families who need them. We call this Operation Gobble, and your support will help ensure that we have enough turkeys to make this a real season of Thanksgiving for those we serve.

You can help us care for Orange County families by sending your gift today. It's easy to give online at FeedOC.org or you can use the enclosed reply slip. Your generosity is so important during this season. Not only does it help us distribute turkeys through Operation Gobble, but the gifts we receive during the holidays also help us continue to serve more than 200,000 people who need our food assistance every month of the year. Thank you for helping the families we serve have a memorable and special holiday season.

The Daniel J. Harney Legacy Society A year-end gift to end hunger

As we approach the holiday season, consider making a planned gift to end hunger. Gifts made before year-end can be tailored to fit your financial needs and to take advantage of the many tax benefits associated with charitable giving. Your ongoing generosity ensures our ability to provide hunger relief during this special time of year. Contact our Development Team today at 949-653-2900 to learn about the options available to you.

Connect online to the work you support!



Visit us at FeedOC.org

Thank you to these generous organizations

ABC7, Albertsons/Vons/Pavilions and Subaru dealers helped us collect more than 355,740 meals during the **Feed SoCal Food Drive**. Other sponsors: Kelly Blue Book, Motive Energy, Raymond Handling Solutions, Costa Mesa Firefighters Association, Newport Meat, Chick-fil-A, and Miguel's Jr.

OC Fair We Care Wednesday Food Drive
Generous OC Fair patrons donated 62,358 pounds of food at the OC Fair We Care Wednesday Food Drive. Thanks for helping us end hunger for our community!

- More generous sponsors**
- Golden State Foods
 - Starbucks Coffee Company
 - Legacy Foundation
 - Orange County United Way
 - Nordstrom
 - Cox Communications

Give. Get. Help.

Would you like an easy way to make a gift by phone? Or maybe you know someone who is struggling this holiday season and needs help finding food. Call (855) 2-FeedOC or 855-233-3362 to reach our helpline and follow the prompts to connect you to the service you need.

MY FALL DONATION

YES, Nicole, I want to help families who are struggling have healthy food and a special holiday meal.

Enclosed is my gift: \$150 \$100 \$50 \$25 Other \$ _____

I would like to join the Harvest Club and give monthly.
My first gift of \$ _____ is enclosed.

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____
EMAIL _____

Please make your check payable to: **Second Harvest Food Bank**
8014 Marine Way | Irvine, CA 92618

To charge your gift by phone, call 949-653-2900, ext. 129 or give online at FeedOC.org



SECOND HARVEST FOOD BANK
ORANGE COUNTY

A member of **FEEDING AMERICA**

Please charge my gift on my credit card: VISA MC AMEX DISC

CARD NUMBER _____ EXP. DATE _____
NAME ON ACCOUNT _____ SECURITY # _____
() _____
TELEPHONE NUMBER _____

SIGNATURE _____ 10N/16 30572-1

Your donation is tax deductible as permitted by law. Second Harvest Food Bank of Orange County will send you a receipt in gratitude for your kindness to the individuals and families who rely on us for food.