



At the Permanent School Pantry where Andrea comes to get food, parents can choose from a variety of fresh fruits, vegetables and other food items for their families.

Your generous support helps me feed my family and take care of others

My name is Andrea. I only recently started coming to the school pantry to get food for my family. I cook for a lot of people, and it's not easy to keep everyone fed.

My husband and I have two children. Our son is going to college and our daughter is in high school. I also help our extended family by caring for their children, so sometimes I have ten people to feed!

I earn a little money from babysitting and my husband works in gardening. Over the years, our rent has continued to go up. I've applied for housing assistance, but we've been on the list for five years and no one has called.

We work hard to save our money so we can pay our bills in the winter when there's less work for my husband. I use coupons to do all my shopping. I even use them to help me buy my medications because I don't have insurance for that.

Everything you provide makes a difference

I really appreciate the food we get here that helps us stretch our income and make nutritious meals. Last week I got pork chops and chicken. This week I was able to get milk. Everything I get is food that our family can really use. It's just like going shopping at the store!

I also appreciate that this pantry is open later, so I have time to get here. I had polio as a child, and I have difficulty walking. I use a wheelchair and take the bus to get to and from the pantry.

I thank God we've never had to go hungry. And I thank the donors of Second Harvest Food Bank for the food you provide. You're not just helping me, but you're helping me feed others as well.

“Everything I get is food that our family can really use. It's just like going shopping at the store!” —ANDREA

Summer 2018

Inside

this issue

A note from Nicole

PAGE 2

Thank you from the bottom of my heart

PAGE 2-3

You can help kids have a healthy summer

PAGE 4

You can make a difference!

UPCOMING EVENTS

“FOOD BANK 101” TOURS

Have you ever seen a Food Bank in action? Learn about our 35-year mission of fighting hunger and find out how you can get involved. Join us on a tour of our Distribution Center. Children and adults are welcome! Visit our website for upcoming dates.

ORANGE COUNTY FAIR “WE CARE WEDNESDAYS” JULY 25

Receive free admission at the OC Fair on July 25th when you donate five or more nonperishable food items (per person). What an exciting way to spend the day with your family and friends and give back to your community!

SEPTEMBER IS HUNGER ACTION MONTH

Become a hunger champion in honor of Hunger Action Month. Use social media to let your friends know about the ways you’re supporting our mission to close the meal gap in Orange County. Whether it’s giving your time, food, funds or getting the word out, you’ll help us fill pantries and fridges and bring awareness to our neighbors struggling with food insecurity.

HARVESTERS FASHION SHOW & LUNCHEON WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 3RD

Save the date for the annual Harvesters fundraiser, presenting the most recent designer fashion highlights followed by an exclusive luncheon. This highly anticipated annual event helps feed people living with food insecurity in Orange County.

For more information about any of these events, please call 949-653-2900 or visit our website at FeedOC.org.

CELEBRATING 35 YEARS

We’re excited to start celebrating 35 years of fighting hunger in Orange County. At the heart of that is celebrating the variety of ways this community has deepened its support of our mission to help close the hunger gap in Orange County. We have individuals and foundations that have supported us, and volunteers who have served faithfully for decades. Many of you who have joined over the years have increased your giving commitment as we shared the ways we’re using your dollars to put food on the tables of those struggling with food insecurity. We’re proud of the recent 4-star Charity Navigator rating we received, which reflects the highest level of financial strength and transparency of our organization.

Over the last ten years we’ve seen a real growth in partnerships with retail grocery stores, which is helping us raise the nutritional quality of the food we distribute. Last year, Second Harvest rescued 11 million pounds of nutritious food that would have otherwise gone to waste. Parents like Andrea (page one) and Elvia (below) tell us how important those fresh foods are for providing nutritious meals for their families.

I recently met a mom at one of our community partner sites who told me how happy she was to be taking home meat, dairy and produce. She and her sons had only cereal and milk for the past four days. Although the kids could get lunch at school, they were down to nothing at home. I was struck by her relief at getting 2-3 bags of groceries and reminded of how important our summer Kids Cafe programs are for feeding children who lose access to their school meals.

The work we’re doing together matters. And I am so grateful to be walking this journey with you, providing the healthiest food possible to our neighbors who are hungry.

Gratefully,

Nicole Suydam, CEO | Your Partner



A note from Nicole

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Program Spotlight

Kids Cafe partnership helps children thrive

“Children can think, they can concentrate, they can get a good rest at night when their bellies are full,” says Barbara Guerrero, coordinator at the Tustin Family and Youth Center, one of our Kids Cafe sites. After 20 years, Barbara has seen the direct

“When I can make a child smile and have a full belly, that’s rewarding!”

—BARBARA

results of that work. “Some of these children have grown up to be volunteers, graduate from college, or marry. It’s very rewarding for me to see that we’ve been able to keep these children on the right track. We’ve kept them well nourished and well educated so they can move on with their lives.”

During the school year, the Kids Cafe program provides a full meal after school to more than 60 children. In the summer, when children no longer receive free and reduced-priced school meals, the number of children they serve triples. Staff close down the parking lot and set up tables to serve lunch to 125 students at the Youth Center and another 65 at a satellite campus.

Kids and parents appreciate you!

“The families we serve here are all low-income. This facility is like gold to these families. It comforts parents that their children have been fed,” says Barbara. “When you see these children’s faces and you know the stories of these families and how hard it is to put a complete meal on their table, having the opportunity to help is a blessing.”

The Tustin Family and Youth Center has a long relationship with Second Harvest dating back to our first distribution center. Along with Kids Cafe, the Family and Youth Center partners with Second Harvest to distribute food to families in their community. “We have an awesome relationship with Second Harvest that’s still as strong as it was in the beginning,” says Barbara. “We really appreciate all that Second Harvest does for our families.”

“I appreciate getting the fresh fruits and vegetables and eggs.”

—ELVIA

expensive and food is very expensive too, so what we get here helps us a lot.

You’re helping me cook healthy meals

I like cooking with fresh foods, so we try to avoid prepared foods. I appreciate getting the fresh fruits and vegetables and eggs. Everything we get here is good.

There was one point in time when my husband was without work for two months. That was a really difficult time, and we didn’t have enough food. Thank God we’re doing better and we have places like this to get help. It’s less stressful knowing we have somewhere to turn when we are going through a tough season.

I just want to say thank you to the donors of Second Harvest Food Bank. What you’re doing is helping my family so much. More than anything, the food you give us is benefiting my children. For that, I thank you with all my heart.



The Tustin Family and Youth Center partners with Second Harvest to provide Kids Cafe meals to low-income children all year long.

The Associates Board helps close the meal gap

Top business leaders in Orange County have come together to fight hunger and support Second Harvest’s mission to close the meal gap. The Associates Board is chaired by Cord Laule, CEO of Straub Distributing Company and Larkin Williams, General Manager of Golden State Foods/Quality Custom Distribution. They focus on increasing awareness of Second Harvest, volunteering and implementing a Golf Fundraising event that supports our Bold Goal. This May, the Associates Board helped raise enough funds for over 240,000 meals to help feed children and their families this summer. Thank you for your commitment to helping end hunger!



Building our nutrition index

We all know fresh produce, lean meats and whole grains are important to a healthy diet. But when a family can’t make ends meet, they end up purchasing less expensive food that lacks the nutritional content their bodies need. Many of the people we serve also deal with chronic health issues like obesity, diabetes and heart disease.

That’s why Second Harvest is committed to meeting the needs of families we serve by establishing nutrition standards for the purchased, donated and government food we distribute. Currently, more than 1/3 of the food Second Harvest distributes is fresh produce, and we’re constantly working to expand that. Your generous support makes an impact on our ability to not only close the meal gap, but also do it by providing the most nutritious food possible. Thank you!

Thank you with all my heart for helping me feed my children

My name is Elvia. I’m grateful to be able to receive food and to volunteer at our school pantry. It means a lot to our family.

I’ve been volunteering at this school for the last ten years. I just like helping—whether it’s greeting the children, working in the classroom or helping in the food pantry. I’ve noticed my kids are more motivated in school when I volunteer. I work three days a week in the pantry, and that makes me feel good about coming to receive food too.

My husband and I have three boys. My husband is a carpenter, and he works in a company where they make kitchen cabinets. Unfortunately, that just isn’t enough income to get by on. Our rent is



Elvia is feeding three growing boys with the food she receives at the pantry.

You can help us provide more fresh produce!



Summertime brings a bounty of fresh fruits and vegetables in Southern California. Sadly, tasting a ripe tomato or a fresh peach from a farmer's market is not an affordable option for families who are struggling to put enough food on the table.

Although more than one-third of the food Second Harvest distributes is fresh produce, we could be distributing even more. Thanks to donations from farmers throughout the state, we have access to more produce. Our Mobile School Pantries and Park-It Market gets fresh produce into the hands of those who need it most.

So what's missing? As transportation costs continue to increase, we need your help to ensure our programs can continue to provide healthy meals to the local families who need it most.

Please take a moment today to give online or return the enclosed reply slip today. Your gift will help us acquire the most nutritious groceries possible for Orange County residents struggling to purchase the healthy groceries they need. Thank you for taking a bite out of hunger as you enjoy your fresh fruit this summer!

Celebrating 35 years of fighting hunger!

We've seen a lot of change and innovation in our 35 years of fighting hunger in Orange County, and all of it is working toward our mission to close the meal gap in our community. This year we kicked off our 35th anniversary celebration by opening our first Park-It Market. This custom-built trailer brings a fresh, client-choice market to seniors and other low-income communities.

Thanks to the support of people like you, we've grown from providing 2.2 million meals out of a 10,000 square-foot facility to providing 21.6 million meals out of a 121,000 square-foot warehouse!

With the rising cost of living in Orange County, we've seen a growth in the amount of food assistance that families need. It's also affected our growing senior population living on fixed incomes, and we've responded in innovative ways to help us meet this unique need.

Your gifts have enabled us to acquire and distribute more fresh food in ways that reach more people in need across the county. And many, many more of you have given your time as well—from 432 volunteers in 1983 to 26,000 volunteers in 2017. Thank you for 35 years of support!

Thank you!

- The Abbott Fund
- Albertsons Companies Foundation
- California Association of Food Banks
- CalRecycle
- DevTo Support Foundation
- Goodman
- Pacific Life Foundation
- Share Our Strength
- St. Joseph Health
- Western Digital Foundation

Thank you to our NALC Food Drive Supporters

- National Association of Letter Carriers
- Eagle Community Credit Union

The Daniel J. Harney Legacy Society

For donors who are over 70 1/2, one way you can make a big impact is by gifting your required minimum distribution from an IRA directly to Second Harvest. Each IRA owner may donate up to \$100,000 annually. This distribution is excluded from income, satisfies the required minimum distribution, and provides an invaluable impact to Second Harvest. Please call 949-653-2900 for more information, or join us for monthly Legacy Lunches, held every 2nd Tuesday of the month, to learn more about legacy giving. RSVP to Christine Montevideo at 949-208-3150 or Christine@FeedOC.org.

Connect online to the work you support!



MY SUMMER DONATION

YES, Nicole, I want to help provide better access to nutritious food options for Orange County families in need.

Enclosed is my gift: \$175 \$140 \$70 \$35 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**



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

CARD NUMBER _____ EXP. DATE _____

NAME ON ACCOUNT _____ SECURITY # _____

() _____

TELEPHONE NUMBER _____

SIGNATURE _____ 7N/18 FB_48_33421-894

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.