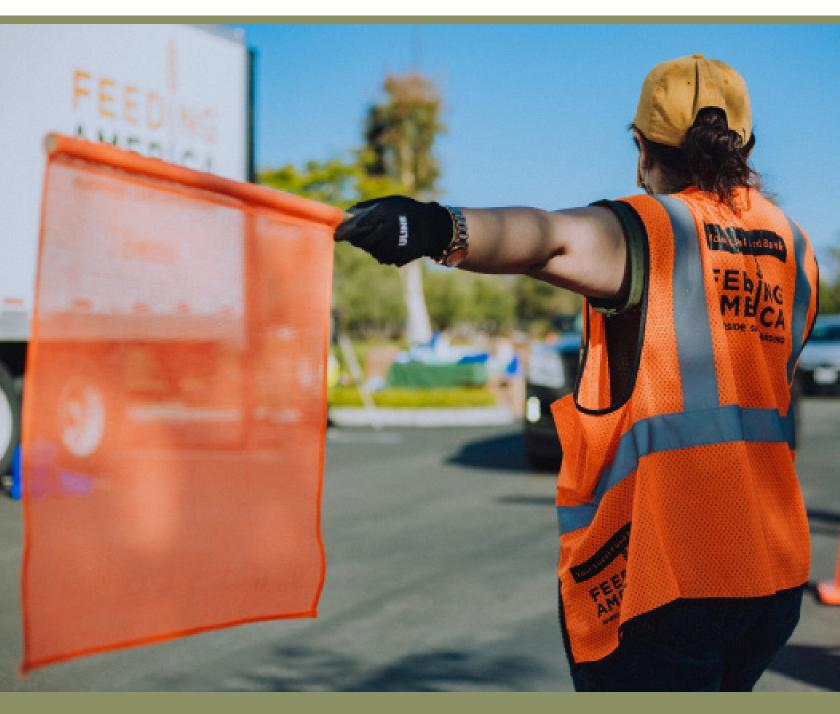




# **KNOW HUNGER**

Our Mission is to Alleviate Hunger in the Inland Empire

Spring 2020 Vol 7 Issue 4



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### **CEO CORNER**



Dear Friends,

We never could have anticipated the effect that the COVID-19 pandemic would have on our food bank and on our community. As we witnessed schools, colleges, and businesses closing across the nation and millions becoming unemployed, seemingly overnight, we, like all of you, wondered what this would mean for our nation and our community.

Almost immediately, our food bank was inundated with hundreds of calls and emails daily from our neighbors – all needing food to

feed their families. As grocery stores experienced shortages, our neighbors, who lacked the resources to stockpile, turned to food banks for the first time in their lives.

The amount of people in need in our community since the COVID-19 pandemic, has more than doubled and is truly heartbreaking. Our neighbors have become a victim of circumstance, like, Everardo:

"Hello. I'm a father of 4 and unfortunately right now I being unemployed due to the covid-19 pandemic and unfortunately because of my financial situation, they took possession of my car. I tried to attend your drive thru pantries and local pantries but I don't have access to a vehicle right now. I'm in need of food to feed my kids. Anything will help, thank you so much for your time. Thank you, have a blessed day. Stay safe!" - Everardo, Riverside

Everardo, his family, and many others have been assisted by our food bank and our nearly 250 community partners. Since the beginning of March, our food bank, alone, has supplied over 200,000 meals to our neighbors in need through emergency food distributions held throughout Riverside and San Bernardino Counties. We have also distributed thousands of pounds of food to our most vulnerable neighbors, who are home bound, by offering home-delivery with the help of many volunteers who are assisting us on the front-lines every single day.

Although this COVID-19 has wreaked havoc on so many lives, it has also brought out the best in so many. Our food bank has been witness to people giving generously of their time and their resources.

In fact, our ability to assist, is a direct result of the generosity of our community. Many businesses, partners, city officials, police departments, and community members have supported our food bank during this time and we are grateful.

Our food bank will continue to remain on the front-lines, assisting as many people as we possibly can, even beyond this COVID-19 pandemic. However, we will never be able to put into words the immense pride and gratitude that we feel for YOUR support, particularly during this time.

We thank you. We pray for you. We commend you. We will get through this – together. Please stay healthy and safe.

In Gratitude,

Stephanie Otero

Stephanie Otero CEO and Hunger Advocate

#### **HOMETOWN HEROES**





While the Inland Empire isn't known for being home to many celebrities, a few of those that once called the Inland Empire home, have taken action to help those most affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

FARSB is proud to announce two generous gifts from Green Bay Packer's Kenny Clark and Minnesota Viking's Alexander Mattison, both originally from the San Bernardino area.

We are extremely grateful that, together, these hometown heroes have helped to provide up to 25,600 meals to those most in need in the Riverside and San Bernardino regions!

Together, #WeFeedtheIE!

# THE DRIVE-THRU MODEL



While we are primarily recognized for distributing food to local pantries, soup kitchens, and community programs, we have implemented pop-up emergency drive-through food distributions to assist community members with emergency food boxes through the COVID-19 pandemic.

During food distributions, staff and volunteers wear masks, gloves, and actively maintain social distance to ensure everyone involved is safe.

This vital program provides food commodities to our most vulnerable neighbors in a safe, convenient, and no-cost form.

Support our food distribution efforts by donating at www. FeedingIE.org/donate!

#### **SENIOR SAFETY NET**



While the global pandemic has caused us to take swift action to best meet the need, it has also allowed us to launch meaningful programs to ensure we could distribute food quickly to our most vulnerable neighbors. We are proud to announce that with the help of our amazing volunteers, we now offer one-time emergency food deliveries to home-bound residents of Riverside and San Bernardino Counties.

This program is most valuable for senior, disabled, pregnant, and those most susceptible to illness. If you are, or know someone, who might benefit from our home-bound delivery program, visit www.FeedingIE.org/contact to fill out an inquiry form.

### **NEW M4M CLUB MEMBERS**

Amanda Williams Elizabeth Heming-Meredith Kadlac Amy Conger Michael Gerardi way Amy Gonzales Emily Lee N Kendle Angie Chavez Esther Hsiao Nicole Copeland Felecia Roberson Anna Cortez Nikki R Audrey Coston Haleh Bahrami Paul Leksen Barbara Barbee and Mohammad Paul Pouesi Becky Valenti Rachael Gillette Dastjerdi **Bob Grant** Heather Torres Ralph Martinez Bonnie Houlihan Hermie Davis Randall Shields Bonnie J Russell Ijeoma Odu Rebecca Berland Carlos Morones Ivan Chand Renae Thomas Cathy Perring Jeff Ongnok Richard Dulock Jeffrey Richards Cecilia Camacho Rick Knox Christine Choi Iennifer Casebeer Ronald Hermann Jennifer Golds-Christine Clayton Ruby Leavitt Christine Fincher berry Samantha Ouk Christine Umali Judith Johnson Sandra Turner Kopp Linda Rose Myers Shaundra Nichols Christopher Mu-Lisa Serra Sonya Justice ra-Smith Lizbeth Langston Stephen Noland Cynthia Steffen Lucie Kalousova Steven Esbenshade Darlene Mercer Marcia Edwards Susan Kim Hardarren takenaga Margaret A Hawrison Debra Shwartzkopf kins Tai Kingi Dennis Samia William Kamffer Margaret

Join the Meals for Many (M4M) Monthly Giving Club for a shout out in our next newsletter!

Park-Robinson

Melissa Coleman

Edgar Estrada

Elizabeth Farnum



### **OUR SINCEREST THANKS**

Thank you to all of the generous corporate partners who have stepped up to take action during this pressing time!

- Under Armour
- Albertsons
- Feeding America National Organization
- Wescom Foundation
- James M. Cox Foundation
- Anthem Blue Cross
- Bessemer Trust
- Stater Bros. Charities
- Bank Of America
- General Mills through the Stater Bros. Foundation
- No Kid Hungry
- Cardenas Market
- Molina Healthcare
- Shop Core
- Rancho Humilde Record Label
- IEHP
- GSF Foundation/Quality Custom Distribution
- SC PGA Foundation
- Mother Trucker Co.
- Banner Bank
- Safco-Riverside/LD
- Albert A. Webb Associates
- Galleria at Tyler
- Riverside Chamber of Commerce
- Riverside Police Department
- Ontario Police Department
- PepsiCo.
- Roadsafe Traffic Systems
- Lake Elsinore Diamond Stadium/ Storm Baseball
- City of Lake Elsinore
- San Manuel Stadium/ 66ers Baseball
- San Manuel Band of Mission Indians
- Toyota Arena
- Mathis Brothers
- SQD by Schneider Electric
- State Farm Insurance Companies
- ABC7
- Fox11
- KTLA5



FARSB opened in 1980 as Survive Food Bank in response to the increasing concern about the dual problems of hunger and food waste in the Inland Empire. Today, FARSB is the primary source of food for over 200 local nonprofit organizations, distributing over 2 million pounds of food monthly to emergency food pantries, homeless shelters, soup kitchens, high-need elementary schools, halfway houses, senior centers, residential treatment centers, shelters for the abused, after school programs and group homes. With the help of these charity partners, we make up the largest hunger relief organization in the Inland Empire, making food security a reality for over 1.2 million people every year. FARSB is leading the fight against hunger in the Inland Empire by providing food access, emergency relief, education, and advocacy to families in Riverside and San Bernardino Counties.

# Donate now! Text HUNGERFREEIE to 41444

# **SHOW YOUR SUPPORT**

WILDGOOSE

Wild Goose Coffee Roasters is committed to helping communities by donating portions of each coffee sale to local food banks. You can donate to FARSB by shipping your favorite batch of Wild Goose Coffee to your home!

www.wildgoosecoffee.com



Every time you make a purchase on Amazon, you could be making a gift to FARSB! Bookmark smile.amazon.com, so every time you shop on Amazon, you can give a little, too!

www.smile.amazon.com

#### HOME-BOUND DELIVERIES

If you are well and have reliable transportation, consider joining our Field Volunteer program to aid our most vulnerable neighbors with home deliveries! Sign up to pick up the food from our warehouse and deliver to those within your area today!

https://www.feedingamericaie.org/contact



From now until June 30th, we're partnering with Mother Trucker & Co. in an effort to spread kindness and love! For every hat they sell, they will donate \$5 to support local and national organizations working to fight hunger.

www.mothertruckerco.com



Walmart is teaming up with nonprofits like ours to help get every day supplies donated. You can go directly to our registry to purchase items needed to help fulfill our mission.

www.walmart.com/registry/registryforgood

#### RAFFLE TO END HUNGER

Our \$2 raffle to end hunger is live until Saturday, May 30th! Inland Empire's own Adriel Rios will be giving away THREE special pieces of custom art, including a custom wallet, a custom canvas, and a custom pair of Vans! Winners will be contacted via email on May 30th.

Text CUSTOMART to 41444 to enter!



Spreading the word about your community's local resources is now easier than ever before! Pick up a free lawn sign from the front of our building (2950 Jefferson St. Riverside, CA 92504) and display it in front of your home or place of business. The more people that know about us, the more opportunities we have to feed the people that need it most. Come get yours today!