

Food Line

A publication for friends of The Foodbank of Southern California | SUMMER 2010



Every other Wednesday, Leslie, a volunteer with Champions of Caring Connections (CCC), comes to The Foodbank to load his truck with food to distribute to 100 Compton families.

Leslie is grateful that The Foodbank has made it possible for CCC to fulfill its mission to diminish hunger among impoverished youth and families, and the homeless.

Nonprofit organizations that wish to receive food for their emergency and non-emergency feeding programs should contact The Foodbank at 562.435.3577.

**GRATEFUL
RECIPIENT**

YEARS OF SACRIFICE PAY OFF FOR THE KIDS

In one of the worst economies in recent decades, The Foodbank of Southern California is maintaining the highest volume of distributed food per dollar of operating expense. This is accomplished with the smallest full-time staff of any urban foodbank in the United States. Several foodbanks across the Nation have been sanctioned or have closed their doors due to inadequate oversight and poor management. The Foodbank of Southern California continues to maintain tight controls of its operation, and is known throughout the Country as being one of the most cost effective and efficient foodbanks in the entire Nation.

The Foodbank has consistently maintained a small budget (just over \$1 million), yet delivering a large impact with a staff of ten. Adhering to a cost effective philosophy since our inception in 1975 has meant that more food is going to feed hungry children, instead of paying for high



Volunteers contribute 36,000 hours of direct service each year; the equivalent of having 14 full-time staff members.

salaries, over inflated budgets, or flashy inappropriate overhead expenses.

In June 2010 The Foodbank of Southern California once again achieved a coveted 4-Star Rating for sound fiscal management from Charity Navigator as well as the Independent Charities of America Seal of Excellence for meeting the highest standards of public accountability, program effectiveness, and cost effectiveness.

FAMILY DAYS AT THE FOODBANK

SAVE THE DATES

Saturday, August 14
Saturday, August 21

8 am to 1 pm

Parents and their children are invited to team up to pack thousands of pounds of wholesome nutritious food for the needy.

Everyone will get a tour, with a popular walk through the cooler and freezer!

For more information and to sign up call 562.435.3577 or visit our website.



THE FOODBANK LAUNCHES FOOD RESCUE PROGRAM

As a logical extension of the life-saving work The Foodbank does in the community, *Another Serving* was launched this spring to strengthen the health of children, families and the working poor by providing them with free highly nutritious food from restaurants, bakeries and caterers.

The Foodbank's philosophy is that all children regardless of economic status require the same nutritionally balanced food.



Another Serving helps The Foodbank's network of nearly 700 Nonprofit Partner Agencies obtain prepared and perishable food primarily for meal programs. The Foodbank's staff pairs restaurants, bakeries, hotels and caterers who have extra food or product with nearby Foodbank Nonprofit Partner Agencies so that they may use this highly nutritious food directly to feed hungry people.

The desired outcomes for *Another Serving* include:

- To distribute highly nutritional food from restaurants, bakeries, and caterers to hungry children and families in the community.
- To provide this service with no membership or shared maintenance fees.
- To empower nonprofit distribution partners in the donation process, so that they may learn to develop relationships with food donors.
- To prevent the waste of highly nutritious food at the restaurant, bakery, and catering level.

The goals of the program are to provide 10,500 meals each month (126,000 meals/year) by the end of the first year as well as create ongoing partnership relationships with 32 to 40 food donors (restaurants, bakeries, and caterers) by the end of the first year.

CAPACITY BUILDING TO FEED THE NEEDY

The problem of hunger, poverty, and access to nutritious food is growing. There are over 1 million children, seniors, and families in Los Angeles County who are at risk of hunger every day. The lack of vital nutrients creates learning deficiencies among young children, more illness among the elderly, and diminished productivity by workers.

In the last 5 years, the number of working poor has outpaced the overall employment increases. There is an ever increasing population of working families who live below the poverty line and struggle to provide their families with nutritionally adequate diets, let alone keep food on the table.

To meet the needs of the expanding service population of hungry people right here in the community, The Foodbank must distribute more food than it ever has in its 35 year history. To facilitate its cost-effective food distribution programs, The Foodbank is engaged in a Facility Expansion Project that will increase the dry storage capacity of USDA Commodities, increase FIFO (first in first out) efficiency by reducing the number of product moves, provide ample space for staging orders, and enable the simultaneous use of forklifts, electric hand jacks, and hand jacks. The building addition consists of approximately 10,000 square feet and will adjoin the existing facility.



Truckers haul away dirt to create the needed space for the expansion project.



This spring the foundation was laid in preparation for erecting the warehouse addition.

To learn more and make a donation to this project visit www.foodbankofsocal.org/index.php/about-us/our-building or call 562.435.3577.



Robin Riggs, Employees Community Fund of Boeing California Board Member, presents Foodbank Agency Relations Director Jeanne Cooper with the Crystal Vision Award plaque and grant funds.

FOODBANK RECEIVES BOEING CRYSTAL VISION AWARD

In March, 2010, The Employees Community Fund of Boeing California honored The Foodbank for its excellence in community service in Southern California by presenting The Foodbank with the Boeing Crystal Vision Award. The award included a \$25,000 grant to launch The Foodbank's Another Serving program.