



CLARK COUNTY
FOOD BANK

THE LUNCHBOX

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

SPRING
2022

Sowing the seeds for a successful season

Farming & Gleaning Program 2022

The winter is slow for our farm program, but with spring's arrival, the Farming & Gleaning team is starting back up on farm work for the season. After meeting with volunteers in February, the team ordered seeds, prepped red and green cabbage starts, and soon will start preparing the field. Weather permitting, they hope to plant cabbage and onions the last week of April.

Starting this month, Meredith and Sarah (our two Farming & Gleaning Associates) have been at the Vancouver Farmers Market to share information about the food bank, pass out seeds, and recruit volunteers. In May, they will head out to the farm more and more, as they move forward planting peppers, cucumbers and squash starts.

This team has two main volunteer opportunities available in the upcoming months: working on the farm Wednesdays and Saturdays and gleaning at the farmers market on Sundays. Gleaning starts in May, and farm work will be in full swing by July!

Please email volunteer@clarkcountyfoodbank.org if you are interested in either of these opportunities!



"My favorite thing about Farming & Gleaning is working with our incredible volunteers. We have such dedicated and passionate volunteers who are on the farm with us every week." - Sarah



"I've really loved getting to be a part of the various steps in the food assistance process: from growing, gleaning, and harvesting, to distributing, delivering, and stocking the food." -Meredith



Meredith and Sarah at the Vancouver Farmers Market last summer!

HUNGER HEROES

The food bank has a special group of regular givers we call Hunger Heroes. Hunger Heroes make monthly contributions to Clark County Food Bank, and these consistent gifts provide lasting support for the food bank and the impact we have in the community. Monthly gifts can be large or small—it's the consistency and reliability of these gifts that make them meaningful.



Be a Hunger Hero

Clark County Food Bank



“Judith and I are committed to continually supporting Clark County Food Bank because we believe in its mission to alleviate hunger and its root causes. For anyone looking for ways to support CCFB, this program is one of the easiest: just commit to have an amount deducted from one of your accounts each month. You can cancel the monthly deduction at any time if conditions change.”

- Jim & Judith,
Hunger Heroes since 2013



Why be a Hunger Hero? Hear from Hunger Heroes themselves!

“This is really a two-part question:

First of all, why support the food bank? Maslow, when he developed his “Hierarchy of Needs” recognized that food is one of the most basic and universal human needs. It is sad but true that not all members of our community are able to have that basic need met, a need that is likely to grow with the escalation in energy and housing costs. The food bank is highly rated by Charity Navigator, meaning that it uses donations wisely. We know that when we donate to the food bank, our money will be used to make the greatest possible impact in our community.

Secondly, why participate in the Hunger Hero program? The answer here is mostly one of convenience. Donations are predictable, convenient, and fit our monthly budget. No need to remember to write monthly checks or make online donations. The same amount is automatically transferred from our checking account at the same time each month. I suspect that a steady, predictable revenue stream also helps the food bank’s budgeting process.

As long as there continues to be a need in our community, we will continue our support for the Food Bank by participating in the Hunger Hero program. We urge others to join this program as well.” - Angela & Pete, Hunger Heroes since 2012

Become a Hunger Hero today!
clarkcountyfoodbank.org/hungerheroes



A Note from Our President



DEAR FRIENDS,

Welcome to spring, and our increasing post-COVID world. An upturn in warmth and energy is all around us, and it is encouraging and provides a boost to many. At Clark County Food Bank, we are of course continuing on with the work we do—getting food to people who need it and addressing root causes through education, partnerships, and collaboration. But we feel a boost too, which is rooted in connection to those in our community who are doing important work, caring about our neighbors, and offering their support.

The food bank is open for tours, group meetings, and larger groups of volunteers to come in and help. If you've waited to connect, now is a great time to do so. We so enjoy working together with you in our community to help others in need. You make that happen, and we'd love to see your face again, answer any questions, or show you how you can help or get more involved. Please reach out by email, phone, or our website.

With gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Alan".

**ALAN HAMILTON
PRESIDENT**

HUNGER ALLIANCE SPOTLIGHT: CRAIG STEIN BEVERAGE





Craig Stein Beverage (CSB) is one of the largest beverage and snack distributors in the Northwest and Intermountain market areas. Their business and staff believe in giving back and supporting the communities they are a part of. For that reason, they are a great fit for Clark County Food Bank's Hunger Alliance program. In fact, they are one of the longest standing Hunger Alliance Partners of Clark County Food Bank. This program provides a link for businesses who want to bring service, awareness, compassion, and resources to hunger alleviation in our community.

In March, CSB and The Convenience Group came by the food bank to drop off over 1,500 lbs of food and a \$6,000 check from their annual food and funds drive. This contribution alone will provide over 25,000 meals to individuals and families facing food insecurity. Thank you Craig Stein Beverage for your ongoing generosity and commitment to alleviating hunger in Clark County!



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We hope you'll join the fun!

Tacos & Taps is one of our favorite events each year, as it offers community members the chance to see the food bank warehouse and facility, while enjoying food and beer from local restaurants and breweries.

With great food and drink, live music, raffle prizes, games, and more, this event sells out every year.

Tickets are now on sale, so get yours today! Visit tacosandtaps.org.



TACOS & TAPS

Friday, June 3rd
& Saturday, June 4th
4:30-9:00 pm