

HUNGER HERO NEWS



VOLUNTEER & FOOD DRIVE PROGRAMS

APRIL 2018



OZARKS FOOD HARVEST VOLUNTEER GARY DEHAVEN LOOKS FORWARD TO VOLUNTEERING EACH MONDAY AND FRIDAY.

OFH VOLUNTEER ENJOYS HELPING AT MOBILE FOOD PANTRIES

Gary DeHaven begins his Monday and Friday mornings the same way – by donating his time. On these days, you can find him hard at work in the Volunteer Center or a *Mobile Food Pantry* distribution.

After a career in television – including time as the general manager for KY3 – DeHaven retired. He purchased several acres of land and found that he loved spending the warmer months mowing and maintaining his yard.

However, when winter came, he needed something more to do with his time, and he wanted it to be meaningful.

So he began researching various volunteer opportunities until he found Ozarks Food Harvest. He started volunteering at The Food Bank over a year ago and hasn't looked back since.

"One of the things I enjoy most about volunteering is the positive spirit from other

volunteers and the staff," DeHaven said. "Everyone is just so positive and really seems to enjoy what they do at Ozarks Food Harvest to help others. I enjoy getting in my car and driving here, I look forward to volunteering. It's a rewarding place to help out."

One memory that stands out for DeHaven was when he first helped on the front lines of a *Mobile Food Pantry* distribution. He got to meet the people he worked hard to serve and realized just how important it is to give back to the community.

DeHaven is very excited about the 56,000-square-foot addition to The Food Bank. "I've always been impressed with the enormity of Ozarks Food Harvest and the impact it has on the community," he said. "It is amazing to imagine the greater impact that Ozarks Food Harvest will have on the community when the expansion to the warehouse is complete." ■

OFH CELEBRATES VOLUNTEERS

At Ozarks Food Harvest, we are thankful for our volunteers year-round. In honor of National Volunteer Appreciation Month, we are celebrating the remarkable work that our volunteers accomplish.

Without these amazing Hunger Heroes and their hard work, we would need an additional 15 full-time employees. Volunteers help us sort food, pack Senior Food boxes and *Weekend Backpacks*, assist with events, distribute food at Crimson House pantry and *Mobile Food Pantry* distributions, take care of the Ozarks Food Harvest Garden and participate in emergency gleans.

In fiscal year 2017, 4,600 volunteers freely gave 31,200 hours, which provided 3.7 million meals! We are incredibly thankful for their caring hearts and drive to make our community a better place.

We only have so many hours on this earth, so a gift of time is a truly meaningful and special gift. As a way to show our gratitude, there will be a special display in the Volunteer Center throughout the month.

To learn more about how to get involved as a volunteer, visit ozarksfoodharvest.org/volunteer, or contact Jolene Thompson at jthompson@ozarksfoodharvest.org.



LAST YEAR, OFH VOLUNTEERS GAVE 31,200 HOURS.

FULL CIRCLE GARDENS UPDATE

There are some exciting things happening through the *Full Circle Gardens* program this spring! Our water catchment system, which stores and reuses rainwater, is installed and ready to go for the season. This new addition will provide the irrigation needed to grow food in our new field patch.

In addition, Steinert's Greenhouse and Gardens is once again helping us start our tomato and pepper plants for the year.

These types of plants love the sun. Once transplanted, they will thrive and be well on their way to producing much-needed veggies.

Our partnership continues with Harvest on Wheels, Grow Well Missouri, and Victory Garden as they provide support for gleans during the harvesting season. To join the Glean Team, contact Jolene Thompson at jthompson@ozarksfoodharvest.org ■



YOU CAN ALSO GET INVOLVED WITH FULL CIRCLE GARDENS BY DONATING HOMEGROWN PRODUCE.

THANK YOU!

FOOD DRIVES 250+ POUNDS

Springfield Public Schools *Food Fight* — 17,743
 McDonald's of the Ozarks *Cans for Coffee* — 1,055
 Greater Springfield Board of Realtors — 1,012
 Do Outdoors, Inc. — 654
 Grant Avenue Freewill Baptist Church — 503
 Williams Elementary Student Council — 218
 Summitt Truck Group — 180
 Hope Church — 141
 Wil Fischer Companies — 128
 Boy Scouts of America Ozark Trails *Scouting for Food* — 84
 Mercy Clinic Medical Spa — 84
 Vital Farms — 70
 Dickerson Park Zoo *Zooperbowl* — 63
 More Student Living — 51
 Emily McAllister, LLC — 47
 Mu Phi Epsilon — 45
 Hamra Management Company, LLC — 30

Jan. 6-March 12, 2018

INDIVIDUALS 20+

Sam Bivins	Linda Lange
James Blackwell	George Lawrence
Margaret Blackwell	Rodolfo Martinez
Charles Bowen	John McClelland
Trudy Bowen	Libbey McDaniel
Karla Carroll	Dave McGee
Tom Carson	Karlene Negus
Henry Choe	Charlene Nelson
John Cooper	Christopher Phillips
Eddie Currier	Melody Pierson
Eileen Deal	Jose Reyes
Adam Debacker	Deborah Rumpf
Gary DeHaven	Tom Ryan
Kelton Deulan	Drayton Shealy
Kris Dreesen	Ruthann Storms
Arlene Eichler	Isabelle Strack
Wil Hardiman	Mike Swearengin
Brenda Havens	Parker Thellman
Kirk Hawkins	Logan Steinhour
Fabio Heredia	Lona Wait
Patti Hudgins	Peggy Walker
David Kasper	Georgeann Warren
Harvey Kaylor	Ryan Warren
Freeman Kleier	Larry Woolf
Michael Lampson	Robert Wullner
Donald Landon	Jerry Yoakum

Jan. 1-Feb. 28, 2018

GROUPS 20+ HOURS

Campbell UMC-Faith for Life
 Central Bank of the Ozarks
 Cherokee Middle School NHS
 CoxHealth Care
 Datema House
 Dodson Family
 Drury Cross Country & Track
 Evangel Service Team
 Forsyth R-III FCCLA
 Greater Springfield Board of Realtors
 Hope Church
 Humana
 Ignite Youth
 King's Way UMC
 Logan-Rogersville FFA
 Marisol International
 Mercy Mission Team
 MSU Base Program
 MSU Bears L.E.A.D.
 MSU Gamma Gamma Sigma
 Peritoneal Dialysis Packers-CoxHealth
 Rotary Club of Springfield North
 Safelite AutoGlass
 Scranton Family
 Wesley UMC
 Willard High School NHS

Jan. 1-Feb. 28, 2018

LEARN ABOUT CREATIVE WAYS TO BE A HUNGER HERO

Are you looking for creative ways to help those in need? There are plenty of ways to get involved.

Giving back can be as simple as choosing to shop local at philanthropic stores like 5 Pound Apparel. For every name brand item you buy, five pounds of food are provided to our hungry neighbors.

Or, get creative like Willow Springs High School Senior Landon Rogers. Read more about how he provided 13,192 meals through his senior

project on page five.

Are you long on time but still want to be a Hunger Hero?

Sign up for our Harvest Circle monthly giving program.

You can choose any amount to be automatically withdrawn from your bank account, debit card or credit card each month. Contact Jennifer Sickinger at jsickinger@ozarksfoodharvest.org to sign up.

Together, we can help our neighbors in need. ■

