

HUNGER HERO NEWS



VOLUNTEER & FOOD DRIVE PROGRAMS

FEBRUARY 2018



COLETTA DUDENHOEFFER VOLUNTEERS IN THE OZARKS FOOD HARVEST VOLUNTEER CENTER, AND AT EVENTS LIKE HUNGERTHON, WHERE SHE ANSWERS DONOR PHONE CALLS.

MOTHER INSPIRES CHILDREN TO HELP COMMUNITY

Coletta Dudenhoeffer always felt like she wanted to be a part of something bigger. When she found out the news that one in five kids in southwest Missouri are food insecure, she knew she needed to do something.

Dudenhoeffer has volunteered with Ozarks Food Harvest since November 2013.

"It's just so addictive, and I like to show my kids that instead of doing nothing all day you should get out and do something for people in need," she said.

In addition to helping in the Volunteer Center, Dudenhoeffer gives her time to many of The Food Bank's events.

"My favorite event of all time to volunteer at is Turkey Trot," she said. "I have been volunteering there for about four years now and it is just wonderful."

At Ozarks Food Harvest, she feels like she is never wasting her time. With a full-time job and four children to take care of, her days remain very busy.

"Ozarks Food Harvest gives me the chance to not just be mom for one night and I am still able to do something positive in a really big way."

Dudenhoeffer also cherishes the friendships she has made during her time volunteering. "The camaraderie of like-minded people [with] the same common goal is what keeps me going. I have formed so many friendships here and the volunteer coaches are just so good."

Her experience with The Food Bank has inspired Dudenhoeffer to show her kids the importance of giving their time back to the community. She loves to take her younger kids to the Ozarks Food Harvest Garden and her oldest daughter to Hungerthon to volunteer.

"Now my children always want to give back to Ozarks Food Harvest because it has opened their eyes to what is really going on in our community."

VOLUNTEERS BUILD WATER CATCHMENT

The Ozarks Food Harvest Garden grows fresh produce year-round, in raised beds and high tunnels. Now, thanks to a new water catchment system, veggies can get water even in the dry season.

Alexa Poindexter, Full Circle Gardens Coordinator, explained that the system not only provides needed water, it eliminates too much water. One of the two high tunnels experienced flooding because the tunnel sheds water — an inch of rain will produce about about 900 gallons of water — that was not draining away. Instead, it created a soggy mess.

The Iowa State University Extension completed a pilot project that captured water from high tunnels and used it for irrigation. The extension office created a toolkit so others could copy the system, and OFH took on the challenge.

The system includes guttering that drains water into a 1,250-gallon underground tank. That tank will provide needed water for a 30- by 30-foot garden plot that grew watermelons last year and will produce sweet potatoes this year.

Several other major partners have helped make the project possible, including Baker Creek Heirloom Seeds, Light Up Springfield, University of Missouri Extension, James River Basin Partnership, Watts Radiant, Cummins Pool and Excavating, Westlake Ace Hardware in Springfield, Gold Mechanical, Curtis Claybaker, and Bob & Barb Hutson, as well as many other wonderful volunteers.



WATER CATCHMENT SYSTEMS HELP REDUCE EROSION AND CONSERVE WATER.

HOST AN ONLINE FUND DRIVE IN 2018

Each winter, monetary donations decline post-holiday.

One way to help make sure our neighbor's have enough to eat year-round is to host an online fund drive. While food drives are certainly helpful, fund drives allow The Food Bank to purchase more fresh, healthy food like produce.

In addition, just \$1 is stretched to provide four meals.

One easy way to host a fund drive is to use the Fundraiser function on Facebook.

Consider asking your friends to make a donation on behalf of your birthday through Facebook. To host a fund drive for a business, OFH can help you set up a page our FirstGiving, fundraising platform.

Learn more about hosting an online fund drive by calling Jennifer at 417-865-3411 or email jsickinger@ozarksfoodharvest.org. ■



FUND DRIVES ALLOW US TO PURCHASE HEALTHY FOOD LIKE PRODUCE.

THANK YOU!

INDIVIDUALS 20+ HOURS

Ruby Allen	Dave McGee
Doug Balogh	Melvie Mosier
Jim Blackwell	Karlene Negus
Charley & Trudy Bowen	Charlene Nelson
Karla Carroll	Jerry Patton
Tom Carson	Tom Ryan
Emily Comer	Jerry Sharp
Olyvia Comer	Andrew Slay
Eddie Currier	Harley Snyder
Linda Currier	Logan Steinhour & friend
Eileen Deal	Isabelle Strack
Gary Dehaven	Mike Swearingin
Kris Dreesen	Joshua Wade
Arlene Eichler	Lona Wait
Makayla Gamm	Larry Woolf
Wil Hardiman	Robert Wullner
Patti Hudgins	Nov. 1-Dec. 31, 2017
Barbara & Bob Hutson	
David Kasper	
Harvey Kaylor	
Caitlyn Kieschnick	
Kristi Killingsworth	
Freeman Kleier	
Don Landon	
George Lawrence	
John McClelland	
Libbey McDaniel	

FOOD DRIVES 250+ POUNDS

McDonald's of the Ozarks Cans for Coffee — 24,683
 Springfield-Greene Co. Park Board Turkey Trot — 10,524
 Southern Glazer's Wine & Spirits — 5,030
 OakStar Bank — 3,584
 Coldwell Bankers, Vanguard Realtors — 2,452
 Wooten Company, LLC — 1,575
 Field Elementary School — 1,566
 USA Mortgage — 1,547
 Jordan Valley Community Health Center — 1,130
 TLC Properties — 925
 Drury Breech School of Business — 822
 Greenwood Laboratory School — 660
 Weaver Creek Community — 575
 Reinhart Foodservice, LLC — 563
 MSU Phi Delta Theta Fraternity — 472
 Midwest Technical Institute — 452
 Drury Lambda Chi Alpha — 412
 O'Reilly Automotive, Inc. — 410
 Edward Jones — 398
 Woods Supermarket, Bolivar — 367
 MSU Department of Music — 358
 MSU Meyer Library — 322
 FedEx Freight — 303
 Paul Mueller Company — 300
 Ridewell Suspensions — 280
 Zeal Integrated Health — 280
 MSU Student Activities Council — 278
 Mattress Firm — 265
 MoDOT Employees District 8 — 265
 Cash Family Orthodontics — 256
 Greene County Prosecutors Office — 256
 JC Penney — 252

Nov. 17-Jan. 5, 2017

GROUPS 20+ HOURS

Abacus CPAs, LLC
 Ameriprise Financial
 Ameriprise Financial Services / John Rehani
 Associated Electric Cooperative, Inc.
 Ava H.S. National Honor Society
 Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway
 Campbell UMC Faith for Life
 Central Bank of the Ozarks
 Cox Hematology Department
 Datema House
 DeWitt & Associates
 Dodson Family
 Forsyth R-III H.S. FCCLA
 H&R Block
 Home Builders Association
 King's Way UMC
 Logan-Rogersville H.S. FFA
 Logan-Rogersville H.S. Click Academy
 MSU SMAT
 MSU Base Program
 MSU Community Involvement & Service
 Parkview H.S. English Teachers
 Penney, Murray & Associates
 Republic H.S. National Honor Society
 Safelite AutoGlass
 Springfield Catholic H.S. National Honor Society
 Springfield Skeptics
 St. Agnes Elementary fifth grade
 Studio 417 Salon
 Wesley UMC

Nov. 1-Dec. 31, 2017

JOIN HARVEST CIRCLE, MAKE A LASTING IMPACT IN THE OZARKS

Every day, thousands of struggling children, families and seniors across the Ozarks are counting on food provided by Ozarks Food Harvest and its network of 270 member agencies to get by when times are tough.

Here at The Food Bank, we count on our supporters to help us provide 16.8 million meals every year to these families. Harvest Circle is a special community of dedicated donors who make monthly gifts that provide a steady source of funds that allow Ozarks Food Harvest to

respond immediately when needs arise. Your monthly commitment helps The Food Bank plan ahead, budget effectively and respond to hunger concerns as they arise throughout the year.

When a steady stream of income can be depended on, it makes planning more efficient.

Join Harvest Circle by visiting ozarksfoodharvest.org/donate and enroll with a credit card. For all other donation methods, email jsickinger@ozarksfoodharvest.org. ■

