



HARVEST TIME

OZARKS FOOD HARVEST – THE FOOD BANK

NEWSLETTER FROM THE O'REILLY CENTER FOR HUNGER RELIEF



THE PANDEMIC CHANGED OUR NORMAL, BUT JOPLIN RESIDENTS CAN STILL FIND A MEAL

The COVID-19 pandemic has altered the economic landscape of the Joplin area. As many communities have experienced, the retail and hospitality industries have been heavily impacted. In a city that thrives on businesses like these, local hunger-relief partner St. Peter's Outreach House has had to adapt.

"Many businesses shut down and never came back," explains Terri Giarratano, Director of Outreach Ministries at St. Peter's Outreach House, "Our clients that lost those jobs are searching, but are having a hard time finding a place to work."

St. Peter's Outreach House never closed due to the pandemic. Located in an area of Joplin that already has higher rates of poverty and homelessness, Terri knew they had to continue serving meals to the neighbors that rely on them, but safety was a priority. The solution? Transition from seated to grab-and-go meals.

The grab-and-go meal operation resulted in a dramatic increase in people served. Before the pandemic, St. Peter's Outreach House rarely served up to 100 meals per day. Now, they regularly serve more than 300.

Terri says their partnership with Ozarks Food Harvest has been crucial to their success. "With food from Ozarks Food Harvest, we save a lot of

money," she says, "That's especially important now with higher numbers of people served and the cost of containers for to-go meals." The Outreach House's meals always consist of a meat, grain, and fruit or vegetable. Thanks to Ozarks Food Harvest's *Retail Pickup Program*, they can add fresh produce from the local ALDI grocery store to make well-rounded, healthy meals.

When it comes to hunger, every story is different. Many people served at St. Peter's Outreach House are experiencing homelessness. Since the beginning of the pandemic, Terri says the population of these individuals in the area has grown two to three times higher, and many stop by to receive a filling meal to get them through the day.

From seniors on fixed incomes, to families hoping to stretch limited budgets, everyone looking for a meal at St. Peter's Outreach House is treated with dignity and compassion. They're thought of as neighbors rather than clients, and some even become like family.

Terri thinks of one man, a veteran named Charlie, who lives in a home without running water or electricity. Charlie had been attending the seated lunches every day for years, staying the whole time for socialization, though rarely

"Many businesses shut down and never came back. Our clients that lost those jobs are searching, but are having a hard time finding a place to work."

- Terri Giarratano, Director of Outreach Ministries at St. Peter's Outreach House

speaking to anyone. When offered help, he is careful to accept only what he can use, and continues to give back to others as well. He has now become one of the most reliable volunteers, helping with the meal service each day before receiving his own lunch.

Our hunger-relief partners know the importance of serving their neighbors, especially through hard times like the COVID-19 pandemic. The pandemic has changed what normal looks like, but St. Peter's Outreach House continues to see the impact a single meal can make.

"What got us started is that we wanted to feed our neighbors one meal at a time. They know we care, and we know their names. I think we make a difference," says Terri.

Ozarks Food Harvest is committed to helping hunger-relief partners like St. Peter's Outreach House to make that difference. Compassion and hard work from our partners provides warm meals and hope for thousands of people across southwest Missouri. Thank you to our donors for your generosity as we continue to support communities in the Ozarks.



Volunteers load cars with food at a Mobile Food Pantry in Ava.

OZARKS FOOD HARVEST CONTINUES TO RESPOND TO INCREASED DEMAND FROM COVID-19

Two years have passed since the pandemic changed the world. Over the last year, households across the Ozarks continued to feel the effects of supply chain issues, inflation, high food costs and an increased cost of living. For many families, this has led to financial difficulties and a growing reliance on charitable food programs.

Over the last 2 years, Ozarks Food Harvest worked tirelessly to meet this increased demand and provided a record-breaking 44 million meals across its 28-county service area. The Food Bank purchased \$6.3 million worth of food, distributed two million meals through Mobile Food Pantry distributions and connected 2,200 people with the government benefits they qualified for. This SNAP outreach contributed 2.2 million meals, bringing an additional \$9.6 million in local economic impact to the Ozarks.

Getting more hands on deck was essential to provide more meals. Hundreds of volunteers stepped up and spent 26,000 hours sorting and packing meal boxes for families facing hunger, and members of the Missouri National Guard spent more than 12,000 hours helping out however they were needed.

Thanks to many generous supporters, The Food Bank provided more than \$70.7 million worth of food and funds to families facing hunger across southwest Missouri. Before the pandemic began, 1 in 7 neighbors faced hunger, and today, that number is 1 in 6. Ozarks Food Harvest is incredibly thankful for the committed donors, staff members and volunteers that have helped make a significant impact in the fight against hunger.

As we work toward ending hunger for good, your financial support is more important than

ever. As food donations have declined, we have been forced to purchase greater amounts of food to make sure we have the meals the community needs. The rising cost of food, transportation, fuel and utilities have also increased expenditures.

Neighbors struggling with food insecurity are relying on Ozarks Food Harvest and its partners to help them get through this difficult season.

If you would like to make a donation that will make a lasting impact in the community, please visit ozarksfoodharvest.org/donate. We deeply appreciate your support!

FIGHTING FOOD WASTE IN THE OZARKS

America has more than enough food for everyone to eat, so why are so many people facing hunger? The answer lies in food waste. Each year, billions of pounds of edible food end up in the dumpster. Unfortunately, the loss of food occurs at every stage of the food production and distribution process—from the farm to the grocery store.

Food waste isn't just a social or humanitarian concern—it's also an environmental issue. As food decomposes or rots in the landfill, it produces methane gas—a greenhouse gas even more potent than carbon dioxide. Across the country, over \$200 billion worth of food is wasted each year, generating greenhouse gas emissions equivalent to 37 million cars,

consuming 21 percent of landfill volume and using 21 percent of global fresh water consumption. Food rescue presents us with a powerful opportunity to decrease hunger while saving the planet.

Food banks across the country, including Ozarks Food Harvest, are focused on ending the food waste crisis. These organizations are equipped with the tools and resources required to rescue food and deliver it to food-insecure neighbors. The Food Bank works with local manufacturers, retailers and farmers across its 28-county service area to reduce food waste and rescue as much food as possible.

Ozarks Food Harvest is particularly focused on rescuing fresh food. On average, more than

3.7 million pounds of rescued produce is received by The Food Bank each year. Ozarks Food Harvest also prioritizes the rescue of lean meats and dairy products, which can help people facing hunger fill their plates with healthy and filling food.

Rescued food makes a significant difference for neighbors facing hunger. Nutritious food from grocery stores, wholesalers and manufacturers that may have ended up in the landfill is instead distributed directly to the people who need it through The Food Bank's hunger-relief partners.

Thank you for supporting Ozarks Food Harvest and coming alongside us to rescue food and improve our environment!

Charlie's CORNER



Charlie O'Reilly



Volunteers sort and pack food during daily volunteer sessions.

THE VALUE OF FOOD RESCUE

Hello again from Ozarks Food Harvest! With inflation at a 50-year high, conserving resources and stretching our dollars as far as possible is more important than ever. This is nothing new to The Food Bank, but it serves as a good reminder of the many issues that the organization addresses in addition to feeding neighbors facing hunger.

Food costs sit at a historic high, and our supply chains are still experiencing disruptions. Addressing and preventing food waste is more critical than ever right now—and that's where Ozarks Food Harvest comes in. By partnering directly with food suppliers, wholesalers and retailers, The Food Bank kept 400 semi-truck loads of perfectly good food from going to the Springfield landfill last year alone. Not only did that food go on the tables of people who needed it, but these efforts also saved \$193,080 in dumping costs.

When you combine savings like this with our ability to distribute \$10 of food for every \$1 donated, your support of the Ozarks Food Harvest mission is more impactful than ever—and it's making a difference when it's needed the most.

Food banks were originally created to save food from the landfill while helping food-insecure families in the 1960s. By 1977, food banks were established in 18 cities across the country, and by 1983, Ozarks Food Harvest opened in the Queen City to serve southwest Missouri.

For the last 39 years, Ozarks Food Harvest has focused on helping food-insecure neighbors take care of themselves and their families while saving hundreds of thousands of pounds of food from the landfill each year. The Food Bank has always been committed to saving this food

and redirecting it to the people who need it, but in today's world, it's even more important. Reducing food waste presents us with the powerful opportunity to help end hunger while saving the planet.

When you donate to Ozarks Food Harvest, you can trust that your dollars are being used to do the most good in the 28 counties we serve across southwest Missouri. Your gifts help provide meals to food-insecure neighbors and help our planet by reducing greenhouse gas emissions, conserving clean water and keeping perfectly good food out of our landfills. If you would like to learn more about The Food Bank's food waste prevention initiatives, feel free to reach out to Bart. Let's work to end hunger and protect our environment together.



Rescuing food helps us provide even more meals to our neighbors facing hunger.

UPCOMING EVENTS

ARVEST MILLION MEALS

April-May

This year, the regional bank is collecting donations at arvest.com/go and through drive-up banking portals. Every dollar raised will help provide four meals for our hungry neighbors. We're so thankful for Arvest Bank and its customers who have helped provide nearly 350,000 meals since 2011.

FIGHT HUNGER. SPARK CHANGE.

April 18-May 16

Walmart and Sam's Club stores are supporting Feeding America food banks across the nation through the annual Fight Hunger. Spark Change. campaign. One hundred percent of the funds donated at area Walmart locations will help feed children, families, and seniors in southwest Missouri. Monetary donations can be made online with any Walmart or Sam's Club order. Shoppers can also contribute by purchasing a specially-marked participating item and the equivalent to one meal will be donated by Walmart or Sam's Club to The Food Bank.

STAMP OUT HUNGER

May 14

The 30th annual Letter Carriers' Stamp Out Hunger event is coming next month. Participate by filling a bag with nonperishable foods and leaving it by your mailbox on Saturday, May 14 or donate online at bit.ly/stampouthunger2022.

PAMPERED CHEF

Ongoing

Purchase Pampered Chef's Spread a Little Kitchen Love featured products to help provide meals for our hungry neighbors. For each Stone Loaf Pan, Stoneware Starter Set or Quick Bread Set sold, Pampered Chef will donate 10 meals. Shoppers can also Round Up From the Heart during checkout to donate. Learn more at pamperedchef.com

Check out current and upcoming partnerships at ozarksfoodharvest.org/community-partnerships

HOW WE LISTEN TO OUR HUNGER-RELIEF PARTNERS

As the only food bank serving southwest Missouri, it is our job to provide not only food to our network of 270 hunger-relief organizations, but opportunities for support as well. These food pantries, senior centers, churches, feeding sites, mobile food pantry hosts, soup kitchens and schools distribute food to thousands of people facing hunger each year, and we want to make their job as easy as possible.

Ozarks Food Harvest offers its members a multitude of training and support options. Food safety training, civil rights training, technical support, volunteer management, advocacy and grant application opportunities help set them up for success as they provide meals across the Ozarks.

We also collect feedback on how we can help these partners increase food distribution and access in their communities. Collecting this



Several walk-in freezers, like this one at FEED food pantry, were provided to our hunger-relief partners.

data allows us to address potential problems, identify best practices and implement necessary changes across our entire network. We aim to get as many responses as possible so we can learn how to best serve our partners and make our programs more effective. We also regularly send collected feedback to Charity Navigator, the world's largest nonprofit evaluator, so donors can learn exactly how their dollars are supporting the critical work Ozarks Food Harvest is doing for people facing hunger.

One of the greatest needs expressed by our agencies is new or updated equipment. Many of their locations lack adequate food storage space, meal service supplies or walk-in coolers and freezers. To help these agencies, we are introducing a new round of equipment and infrastructure grants. Funds from these grants will cover key program costs that are directly related to sustaining and expanding hunger-relief efforts. Examples of eligible expenses include new cold storage units, shelving, forklifts, pop-up tents, wagons, computers, internet service and food purchases through The Food Bank.

Last year, Ozarks Food Harvest was able to provide \$303,587 in grants for 45 hunger-relief partners. Our friends at FEED food pantry in Mountain View received funds to purchase a new walk-in freezer, and they were quickly able to increase their distribution efforts in Howell County.



Bart Brown,
President/CEO

BART'S Hope Note

"Before, we were having to limit our orders and worry about how to properly store the items that we had leftover. Now, we are able to order more food and make the food that we have last longer. This allows us to spread out the food and reach more families on a month-to-month basis," said Jennett Haynes, executive director at FEED food pantry.

We are excited for the opportunity to provide our partners with the equipment they need this year so they can continue to increase their distribution efforts. We will continue to monitor feedback and provide them with the best experience possible as they come alongside us to *Transform Hunger into Hope*.

BE A PART OF THE HARVEST CIRCLE COMMUNITY: CONSIDER MONTHLY GIVING

Did you know that monthly donors are critical to The Food Bank? While every donation makes a difference, monthly giving through our Harvest Circle program provides a steady source of funds that allows The Food Bank to plan ahead and respond to needs.

Each month, 50,000 individuals rely on our network of pantries and programs. One-time donations go a long way, but monthly commitments allow The Food Bank to budget these guaranteed dollars to support our network, even when unexpected expenses arise.

Monthly giving is an easy way to get involved. When you sign up for Harvest Circle, you can save time and postage by setting up automatic payments. If a larger one-time donation doesn't fit your budget, monthly giving allows you to plan for the amount of your choice each month. Donation preferences can be changed or stopped at any time.

Setting your monthly donation is a one-time action that provides continuous support to people like Tammy, who attended a Mobile Food Pantry after inheriting three grandchildren. "The Mobile Food Pantry has had a great impact. I'm not having to tell the kids that there is nothing left to eat when they tell me they're hungry."

By joining Harvest Circle, you become an important part of the hunger-relief network. You can set your monthly commitment knowing that every dollar helps provide four meals to families facing hunger. Thank you for your consideration, and thank you for helping Ozarks Food Harvest to *Transform Hunger into Hope*.

Denise Gibson,
Development Director

From DENISE'S DESK

SPECIAL THANKS TO THESE FRIENDS OF THE FOOD BANK

SGC FOODSERVICE PROVIDES GENEROUS SUPPORT OF THE FOOD BANK

In the past twelve years, SGC Foodservice has donated 652,000 pounds of food – valued at approximately \$1.2 million – as well as an additional \$350,000 in monetary support. In recognition of the increased costs incurred by the Food Bank, as well as the lingering effects of the pandemic, SGC Foodservice recently donated a generous \$50,000 gift. Heartfelt thanks to SGC Foodservice for their continued partnership and support of our mission.

CORWIN FORD CHRYSLER DODGE JEEP RAM GIFTS \$25,000 FOR THE WEEKEND BACKPACK PROGRAM

This incredible donation will help provide weekend meals for children at-risk of hunger across the Ozarks. Corwin's commitment to improvement and excellence for cars extends to supporting the Springfield community. The car retailer has given more than \$80,000 to help support hunger-relief efforts in southwest Missouri. We are grateful to have such a wonderful and caring partner.



We are so thankful for Corwin's commitment to fighting hunger in the Ozarks.

COSTCO PROVIDES 250,000 MEALS WITHIN FIRST SIX MONTHS

Since Costco opened its doors in Springfield last August, our truck drivers have picked up food every weekday since. This is an exciting addition to our *Retail Pickup Program* and an important way to rescue food that would otherwise end up in a landfill. In the first 6 months, more than 300,000 pounds of food – the equivalent of 250,000 meals – have been donated to Ozarks Food Harvest. We welcome Costco to the Ozarks and we're so thankful for this new partnership!

CHECK OUT HUNGER CAMPAIGN HELPS PROVIDE 215,000 MEALS

From November through the end of December, 60 area grocery stores partnered with Ozarks Food Harvest for the 23rd annual Check Out Hunger. This year's campaign raised nearly \$54,000 to help provide 214,840 meals. Since 1998, the Check Out Hunger campaign has raised more than \$730,000 to help provide more than 3.3 million meals. Heartfelt thanks to the grocers and customers who supported hunger-relief during the holiday season.

S.L. GIMBEL FOUNDATION HELPS PROVIDE WEEKEND MEALS

The S.L. Gimbel Foundation recently granted nearly \$35,000 to support the *Weekend Backpack Program*. This generous donation will provide nutritious food items for more than 5,400 food bags. The Foundation offered this special grant opportunity in response to increased food insecurity rates caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. The Food Bank and schools participating in the Weekend Backpack Program are incredibly grateful for the S.L. Gimbel Foundation's kindness.

ANNUAL SPS FOOD FIGHT HELPS PROVIDE NEARLY 65,000 MEALS

We are extremely grateful for the 2022 Food Fight schools and partners who raised funds for the Food Bank. Thirty-five schools and partners collected 6,114 pounds of food donations and \$14,500 to help provide 63,448 meals. Special thanks to our presenting sponsor HomeVestors for their generous gift of \$5,000. Food donations will stock local pantries and funds will sponsor children on the *Weekend Backpack Program*. Since the competition began in 2011, SPS students and partners have helped provide 360,000 meals for children served by The Food Bank.



Food Fight will help provide 63,448 meals to students through the Weekend Backpack Program.

OZARKS FOOD HARVEST BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Tommy Wohlgemuth, President**—SGC™ Foodservice
Kenny Ross, President Elect—Ross Construction Group
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Krystal Russell—Spectrum Accounting and Payroll Vault
Dr. Meera Scarrow—Mercy Hospital-Springfield

OZARKS FOOD HARVEST STAFF

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Cindy Boggs, Administrative & Inventory Support Supervisor
Terry Keller, Human Resource & Administrative Services Manager
Matt Koenig, IT Manager
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Rachel Breckling, Full Circle Gardens Associate Volunteer Coach
Lydia DeWeese, Material Handler
Cady Goble, Full Circle Gardens Farm Coordinator
John Gorman, Material Handler
Andrew Magnus, Volunteer System Specialist/Volunteer Coach
Alexa Poindexter, Full Circle Gardens Manager
Kevin Richardson, Instructional Materials Designer/Volunteer Coach
Marcus Seal, Onsite Volunteer Manager
Dillon Smith, Volunteer Coach
Aaron Wilde, Lead Volunteer Coach & Trainer

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Terra Baum, Agency Capacity & Compliance Manager
Jordan Browning, Public Information Officer
Heather Haloupek, Child Nutrition Programs Coordinator
Deidra McBride, CSFP/Senior Box Coordinator
Jane Terry, Creative Information Specialist
Melanie Toler, Member Services Assistant
Shada Travis, Agency Support Specialist
Julie Woodiel, Food Sourcing Coordinator

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Kim Hansen, Operations Administrative Coordinator
Trisha Hefflin, Warehouse Supervisor
Mike Hesebeck, Transportation Supervisor
Eddie Hicks, Compliance Manager
Sharon Penrod, Warehouse Coordinator
Steve Roberts, Operations Manager

Due to growth and limited space in the newsletter, all warehouse and transportation associates on the Operations team are now listed online at ozarksfoodharvest.org.

HUNGER HERO NEWS



FEEDING FAMILIES ACROSS THE OZARKS

"I keep coming back to Ozarks Food Harvest because I know the need, and it's a great place. I love the people I volunteer with and the coaches. You walk in the door and they're happy to see you. They make you feel welcome."

- Margaret Beem

THE FABRIC OF THE HUNGER-RELIEF NETWORK

Margaret Beem loves weaving. Using hand spinning techniques, she carefully transforms her selected yarns into beautifully designed fabrics. Like the importance of each thread in the weaving process, Margaret has woven herself into an important part of the Ozarks Food Harvest hunger-relief network: Volunteering.

Before retiring, Margaret worked as a librarian in Tucson, Arizona. It was through this position that Margaret discovered the prevalence of food insecurity in her community.

Library staff saw that for many kids, if there was no school, they didn't eat. This realization prompted the library to start a feeding program for kids outside of school hours through a partnership with the food bank in Tucson. Although she never expected to be preparing food as a librarian, Margaret began to recognize the importance of hunger-relief efforts.

"When I moved to Springfield, I was interested in volunteering with Ozarks Food Harvest, because I saw that food banks are an integral part of the community support system," says Margaret.

Since her start at Ozarks Food Harvest in July of 2021, Margaret has provided 160 hours of invaluable help. In addition to regular Sort & Pack shifts, she has recently begun making calls to assist individuals and families in applying for SNAP benefits, previously known as food stamps.

Margaret's time with the SNAP program has given her opportunities to see how her work impacts the community. Many of the people Margaret calls not only hope to qualify for SNAP benefits, they need more immediate food assistance.

Margaret explains, "I frequently talk to people who are down to nothing. Many have never found themselves in that situation before. They don't know where to turn or what to do."

Fortunately, using a list of Ozarks Food Harvest's 270 partner agencies, Margaret is able to direct applicants to nearby food pantries and feeding sites based on their location. Her generously donated time allows our SNAP outreach program to reach even more people in southwest Missouri.



Margaret volunteers at The Food Bank and helps us Transfrom Hunger into Hope on a weekly basis.

Margaret enjoys her time at The Food Bank because she knows the need for hunger-relief in the Ozarks. Being retired, volunteering gives her purpose, a schedule and a sense that she is making a difference.

"I keep coming back to Ozarks Food Harvest because I know the need, and it's a great place. I love the people I volunteer with and the coaches. You walk in the door, and they're happy to see you. They make you feel welcome," says Margaret.

Volunteers like Margaret are essential threads in the fabric of the hunger-relief network. Without volunteers, Ozarks Food Harvest couldn't support its 270 partner agencies across southwest Missouri. Your time makes all the difference. If you are interested in volunteering and want to learn more, visit ozarksfoodharvest.org/volunteer.

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Check out our community partners who helped provide more than 1,600 meals from Jan. 19, 2022–Mar. 15, 2022.

Natural Grocers – 17,710
Wesley United Methodist Church – 15,520
SRC Community Relations Committee – 11,536
Jersey Mike's, thanks to Feeding America – 10,296
Bass Pro Shops Fitness Series – 8,400
Abacus CPAs, LLC – 6,000
Community Blood Center of the Ozarks – 4,707

Pick-n-Pull Auto Dismantlers – 3,980
Rapid Robert's – 2,000
Springfield Lutheran School – 1,039
Starbucks Coffee Company – 800
Grant Avenue Free Will Baptist Church – 760
Springfield Catholic High School – 614
Wil Fischer Companies – 480

Department of Corrections – 400
Schreiber Foods, Inc. – 400
Wayne Schuler – 366
The Golden Girl Rum Club – 320
Graceway Baptist Church – 300
Mercy Central Patient Access – 246



We love hosting groups at the garden too! Sign your group up today to help us harvest fresh produce.

Join Us in the Garden

There is a lot to look forward to in April: Warmer temperatures, flowers blooming, and the start of spring volunteers with our Full Circle Gardens program! This season, we hope you will join us in the garden as we grow and rescue produce for neighbors in need.

Volunteers help us strengthen the local food system by planting and harvesting produce, maintaining crops, composting, connecting with our local growers and more. Produce harvested from partnering gardens and our own home garden in Rogersville provide vital nutrition to families who don't have access to these healthy items. Last year, volunteers helped harvest more than 69,000 pounds of produce.

Our Full Circle Gardens staff are excited to see returning volunteers, and they love seeing new faces! Whether you are an expert gardener or a novice lending a helping hand, our staff will show you what you need to know

to help our gardens grow fresh and healthy produce for food pantries and programs across southwest Missouri.

If you are a local farmer or home gardener, you can make a difference, too! Through our Plant a Row program, simply plant extra fruits and veggies to donate to Ozarks Food Harvest. You can also donate excess fruits and berries from your orchard and berry patches. Use our online Fruit and Berry Registry for help with harvesting. Last year, local commercial and backyard growers donated more than 20,000 pounds of produce through these opportunities.

If you enjoy gardening, being outdoors, or just want to try something new, volunteering or partnering with our Full Circle Gardens program is a great fit for you! To learn more, visit ozarksfoodharvest.org/full-circle-gardens. We hope to see you soon!

Celebrating Volunteers this April

Three cheers for volunteers! April is Volunteer Appreciation Month, and Ozarks Food Harvest is taking this opportunity to express our deepest gratitude.

At Ozarks Food Harvest, volunteers make a big impact. By building *Weekend Backpacks* and *Senior Boxes*, sorting donated food, and working in our garden, volunteers help Ozarks Food Harvest provide meals to thousands of individuals who otherwise might not have enough food at home. Just one hour of volunteering helps provide 105 meals.

"One of the most impactful things about volunteering at Ozarks Food Harvest is seeing the amount of good quality food we sort that would have just been thrown away. Ozarks Food Harvest gives it a second chance and gets it into the hands of people who need it," says Mike Cronkhite of Cronkhite Homes.

With their generous gift of time, volunteers ensure that children have valuable nutrition to last the weekend, seniors have enough food to last the month, and families have access to fresh and filling meals. "We count ourselves blessed that these amazing people choose to share their time, experience and giving spirit with us," says Stephanie Miller, director of community

resources, "Whether the person is a retiree, student or family, one thing is for sure: They make a difference at Ozarks Food Harvest."

We're extending a big thank you to those who have chosen to spend part of their day volunteering at Ozarks Food Harvest! Your generosity provides hope for thousands of people across the Ozarks. If you want to help *Transform Hunger into Hope*, visit ozarksfoodharvest.org/volunteer to sign up and learn more.



Thank you to these Hunger Heroes from Chase and to all of our Hunger Heroes who help us feed families across the Ozarks.

VOLUNTEERS

Below is a list of individuals and groups who have donated 15+ hours of time from January 1– February 28, 2021.

INDIVIDUALS

Ruby Allen	Elizabeth Knowles
Bill Basta	Donald Landon
Margaret Beem	Dave Lappin
James Blackwell	George Lawrence
Karl Blanton	Jessie Lucero
Kenneth Carnahan	Cindy McDonough
Tom Carson	Angelina Navarro
Kalim Choudhury	Adam Neighbors
Gale Clithero	Kathy Newell
Renee' Cook	Vasant Patel
Sharon Cook	Joel Peacock
Dewayne Cossey	Kevin Perez
Gary DeHaven	Debra Peterson
Thomas Dibadj	Melody Pierson
Marck Dragoi	Summer Popp
Kris Dreesen	Daniel Regier
Ed Ferris	Zach Reineri
Linda Frieda	Kenneth Simons
Ryan Gilberg	Harley Snyder
Janice Grimes	Eric Stewart
Alexander Hamm	Margene Terrill
Darien Harmer	Hollis Thomas
Dave Harmer	Lona Wait
Matthew Harmer	Zachary Wehrenberg
Sam Hayes	Julia White
Barbara Johnson	Logan Wich
Eddie Jones	
John Keyes	

GROUPS

Abacus CPAs, LLC	MSU Habitat for Humanity
Antioch United	MSU Lambda Chi
Methodist Church	Alpha-Andereck
Ava NHS	MSU Lambda Chi
Community Learning Center	Alpha-Drabelle
Cronkhite Homes	MSU Student Activities
Foor/Williams Family	Council - Farrar
Gateway Real Estate	Rotary Club of Springfield North
Greater Springfield	Synergy
Board of Realtors	Wesley UMC
Jessen Care Group	Willard HS FFA
Marucci Nationals	
MSU Alpha Sigma Alpha	
MSU Care	

VOLUNTEERS ARE URGENTLY NEEDED

We need Hunger Heroes like you to help us feed the Ozarks. Sign up for a volunteer session now by scanning the QR code or visiting ozarksfoodharvest.org/volunteer



Weekly Sessions:

- Monday–Friday from 9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.
- Monday–Thursday from 1:00–4:00 p.m.

Evening Sessions:

- Tuesday from 6:00–9:00 p.m.

Weekend Sessions:

- Saturday from 9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. and 1:00–4:00 p.m.



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Transforming Hunger into Hope™



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