



HARVEST TIME

OZARKS FOOD HARVEST – THE FOOD BANK | NEWSLETTER FROM THE O'REILLY CENTER FOR HUNGER RELIEF



“It doesn’t seem like the need is slowing down any time soon, so it’s important for us to continue to find creative ways to serve folks and cost-efficient ways to source food. Ozarks Food Harvest is a huge part of that.”

- Wes Buchholz, director of Crosslines in Springfield

AN INVESTMENT IN GROWTH AND HOPE

The need for food assistance is rising, and with increased demand comes increased pressure on the hunger-relief network. Right now, a perfect storm of high food, housing and childcare costs mean more of our neighbors need help to get back on their feet, but keeping up with demand requires creative solutions and change. For Crosslines food pantry in Springfield, their major change is making a big impact on the community.

Crosslines food pantry was already taking on the rising demand for food assistance when their large freezer storage began failing two years ago. Several recurring costly repairs were the final straw that prompted Council of Churches of the Ozarks (CCO), the parent organization of Crosslines, to make a big decision – make more major repairs, or seek out a new headquarters and home for Crosslines food pantry. Fortunately, Ozarks Food Harvest had a grant opportunity available to assist with that decision.

In 2021, CCO announced their capital campaign to build a new location, which was completed earlier this year. Ozarks Food Harvest awarded Crosslines a total of \$150,000 to install a drive-in freezer at their new facility. The freezer and cooler were the first phase of the new CCO

headquarters and were completed before any other part of the building so Crosslines could continue providing food to neighbors without interruption.

“There’s no way to overstate how much the new building has changed for us,” shared Wes Buchholz, director of Crosslines in Springfield. “Refrigerator and freezer space has doubled, giving us the ability to store and distribute more fresh and frozen product. Now it feels more like a grocery store, which helps people feel valued and gives a greater sense of dignity.”

Crosslines is just one of several wrap-around support services offered by CCO to help neighbors get back on their feet. Before the new headquarters, CCO programs were housed across multiple locations, but the new headquarters brings those services together to more effectively connect people to resources.

Wes shared the story of one woman who was referred to Crosslines for immediate food assistance after finding refuge at Safe to Sleep, a CCO women’s shelter. “She was already working when she went to Safe to Sleep, but her car had broken down,” Wes explained. Thanks to the new headquarters’ consolidated services, the woman received food from

Crosslines to keep her going and was able to meet with a case worker the same day to connect her to car repair services. With basic necessities and transportation to work, she was soon able to generate enough income to get an apartment. When she got a promotion and no longer needed food assistance, the woman began donating money back to Crosslines.

Ozarks Food Harvest is proud to invest in Crosslines to make a difference in the community. As Wes shared, “It doesn’t seem like the need is slowing down any time soon, so it’s important for us to continue to find creative ways to serve folks and cost-efficient ways to source food. Ozarks Food Harvest is a huge part of that.”

The Food Bank’s support enables Crosslines to compassionately provide our neighbors in need with thousands of pounds of protein, garden-fresh produce, pantry staples and more. Wes shared, “If you’re hungry, it’s hard to make any kind of growth.” Thank you for your support. Together, we can *Transform Hunger into Hope*.

STUDENT SUCCESS BEGINS WITH FOOD

In October, The Food Bank brought a *Mobile Food Pantry* to Ozarks Technical Community College (OTC) to provide students with the food they need to succeed. The connection was made through OTC Cares, an initiative dedicated to promoting student wellness and removing barriers for student success. October's distribution removed the barrier of hunger for nearly 300 students and staff.

"A lot of our students have noted food insecurity as an issue," said Deana Davies, OTC Community Resource Specialist. "Having a pantry on campus is so beneficial because if they face food insecurity, they may also have transportation issues. It helps students be successful; they have trouble concentrating if they're hungry."

The immediate effect of food assistance

is ensuring neighbors have a meal, but it's also a long-term investment in the future of our communities. Students enroll at OTC to prepare for careers that will strengthen our local economy and services, but OTC's affordable education opportunities become less accessible when students don't have enough food to focus.

The fight to end hunger is a group effort. Ozarks Food Harvest partner food pantry Crosslines regularly distributes food at OTC, but with more neighbors relying on them for the holiday season, they needed help. Ozarks Food Harvest was able to step in and continue distributing food at the college while Crosslines focuses on supporting our neighbors during the holidays. OTC staff and students got involved as volunteers as well.

Ozarks Food Harvest couldn't accommodate

the increased demand for food assistance without our supporters. Generous donors make it possible for The Food Bank to provide *Mobile Food Pantries* like the one at OTC. Students and staff were thrilled to receive boxes of groceries filled with seasonal produce, milk, canned goods, bread and more to get them

through the month.

Deana shared, "Sometimes I get thank you messages. Students are very grateful. It's meaningful for students to have assistance on campus, and it's meaningful for staff to serve here."

Thanks to donors like you, Ozarks Food Harvest will utilize *Mobile Food Pantry* distributions at OTC through the end of the year. Thank you for helping us *Transform Hunger into Hope*.



Ozarks Food Harvest's Mobile Food Pantry served nearly 300 students and staff at OTC.

HELP PROVIDE A MEAL FOR A FAMILY THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

The holidays are a time for sharing food and making memories, but for 1 in 7 children and adults facing hunger in the Ozarks, this time of year can be challenging. This year, the challenges are even more overwhelming due to the rising cost of basic necessities like food, childcare and housing that have led to an increased need for food assistance. Ozarks Food Harvest is committed to bringing hope and nourishment this holiday season to thousands of families who might otherwise go without, but inflation has impacted every aspect of our work. We need the help of our generous community to meet the increased demand.

Ozarks Food Harvest purchases special holiday food items each year such as turkey, stuffing,

potatoes, gravy, vegetables, pie filling and other ingredients so families can put a warm holiday meal on the table. We deliver these groceries at no extra cost to our partner faith-based and community charities to alleviate the financial burden so they can distribute food to neighbors in need across the Ozarks. This year, we need to spend more than \$500,000 to purchase the holiday food, which includes more than \$120,000 on turkeys alone.

Will you consider making a gift today to help purchase a holiday meal for a family? Here's how your contribution can help:

- \$18 will provide a turkey for a family in need.
- \$36 provides a holiday meal.

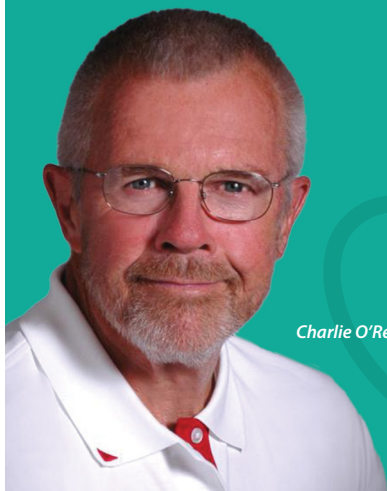
• \$72 provides a turkey and all the trimmings for two families.

• \$144 provides multiple meals to our neighbors facing hunger this season.

If you're ready to make a gift, please donate at ozarksfoodharvest.org/donate or send a check by mail.

With your support, we can ensure our neighbors not only eat tonight, but also have access to nutritious food throughout the holidays. Thank you for entrusting Ozarks Food Harvest with your holiday giving. We deeply appreciate your continued partnership in the fight against hunger now and all year round.

Charlie's CORNER



Charlie O'Reilly



Ozarks Food Harvest can stretch your donation to feed more neighbors in need.

STRETCH YOUR CHARITABLE IMPACT WITH OZARKS FOOD HARVEST

As you gather with loved ones this holiday season to share meals and create memories, consider making an investment in food for others with Ozarks Food Harvest. This act of generosity can make a profound difference in the lives of families facing hunger in the upcoming year. Your gifts will make meals and warm memories possible for our neighbors who need them most.

Ozarks Food Harvest is one of the best charitable investments you can make to help our neighbors. That's because your dollars are stretched so far due to their efficiencies of scale, expertise and operations. In fact, every dollar donated provides more than ten dollars' worth of food to your neighbors. Even with the increased cost of food, Ozarks Food Harvest still spends 96 cents of every dollar donated on food distribution and programs. Bart also tells me that Ozarks Food Harvest provides 70 percent of the food distributed by their network of 270 faith-based and community charities. Your gifts truly make a difference to so many charities and the neighbors they serve. That's why the O'Reilly family has invested in the efforts of Ozarks Food Harvest for more than two decades.

I invite you to take a look at some of the stories in this month's newsletter detailing the great work The Food Bank does for its network of charities with food, funds and *Mobile Food Pantry* distributions. These stories are a testament to the positive impact your support can bring to children, families and seniors in need.

The cover story provides an update on the outstanding efforts of Crosslines Springfield, one of Springfield's largest community food pantries, and the great work they're doing with

grant funds from Ozarks Food Harvest. On page two, you can delve into how The Food Bank's *Mobile Food Pantry* Program is helping students facing hunger at Ozarks Technical Community College (OTC) in Springfield. Additionally, Bart's Hope Note highlights Ozarks Food Harvest's long history of 4-star Charity Navigator ratings, positioning them as one of the most effective charities in the nation.

As you read through these stories of hope, I'd like for you to think about how you can help give back to your community as we approach the end of the year. You can check with your employer to see if they offer a donation match to stretch your dollar further. Or, consider making a tax-free charitable gift from your Individual Retirement Account (IRA), also known as a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD), that may you save you more in taxes than traditional charitable donations. Additionally, think about including Ozarks Food Harvest in your estate planning so your gift can provide hope for generations to come.

Thank you for your continued partnership in the fight against hunger, especially during these challenging times. Your generosity has been instrumental in The Food Bank's mission to *Transform Hunger into Hope*, and I am profoundly thankful for your commitment. My family and I wish you and your loved ones a warm and joyful holiday season.

UPCOMING EVENTS

CHECK OUT HUNGER

Now through December 31

Help provide meals to children, families and seniors facing hunger while you check off your grocery list. Until Dec. 31st, you can round up, or add a \$1, \$3 or \$5 tax-free donation to your grocery bill at participating stores. More than 60 stores will take part in the annual holiday campaign, including Apple Market, Country Mart, Harter House, King Cash Saver, King Food Saver, Price Cutter, Ramey, Rhodes Family Price Chopper, Town & Country Supermarket and Woods Supermarket. Since 1998, this holiday campaign has collected more than \$765,000 — providing 3.4 million meals!

SHOP FOR OUR CAUSE

Now through December 25

Do good while you shop for the holidays! Shop with our community partners for opportunities to support The Food Bank with your purchases. You can see a full list of our participating partners at ozarksfoodharvest.org/community-partnerships.

SHARE THE HARVEST

Now through January 3

Missouri Department of Conservation has a great program for deer hunters called Share the Harvest, and it helps hunters donate surplus venison. You can read more about it on the Missouri Department of Conservation website.

HOST A HOLIDAY FUNDRAISER

Now through December 31

Consider hosting a holiday fundraiser and inviting friends and family to *Transform Hunger into Hope*. Every dollar raised will help provide groceries and raise awareness around the issue of hunger. You can create a Facebook fundraiser or create a customized online fundraiser at mightycase.com/event/Holidayhelpings2023.

12 YEARS, 4 STARS – EXCELLENCE IN HUNGER RELIEF

For the 12th consecutive year, Ozarks Food Harvest has achieved the highest rating of 4 out of 4 possible stars from Charity Navigator, the world's largest and most trusted nonprofit evaluator. Our recognition is especially meaningful this year because it means I can assure you that during this time of increased childcare, housing and food costs, you're contributing to one of the most effective hunger-relief charities in the nation.

Charity Navigator's rating is based on our organization's financial health, accountability and transparency. They evaluate over 200,000 charities and recently expanded their rating system to include measures-of-impact, community benefits, strategic planning and sustainability.

Michael Thatcher, President and CEO of Charity Navigator emphasized, *"This is our highest possible rating and indicates that your organization adheres to sector best practices and executes its mission in a financially efficient way. This exceptional designation from Charity Navigator sets Ozarks Food Harvest apart from its peers and demonstrates to the public its trustworthiness."*

Our consistent 4-star rating reflects our

commitment to being good stewards of every dollar donated and our investment in the community. Through thoughtful planning and community partnerships, we ensure that your generous contributions have the greatest impact.

As you know, 96 cents of every dollar go directly towards food distribution and helps support more than 60,000 people each month.

Your donations support our neighbors in need with programs like *Mobile Food Pantries*, *Senior Produce Pantries*, and the *Weekend Backpack Program*, which provides weekend meals for children from low-income homes. Each year, we provide holiday meals so our neighbors can come together to enjoy the season with their loved ones.

Because we deeply care about the work and responsibility entrusted to us, we invest in our communities to make them better. We help support our partner charities with grants to improve their community outreach and food distribution.

Earning this rating each year is a testament to our hard work and dedication to our mission of *Transforming Hunger into Hope*. We are



Bart Brown,
President/CEO

BART'S *Hope Note*

immensely proud of this achievement and recognize that it wouldn't be possible without your support.

As we enter this holiday season, I express my gratitude to each of you who trusts us with your gifts. Together, we are making a difference in the lives of children, families, and seniors across southwest Missouri. Thank you for being part of our mission.

CONSIDER A YEAR-END GIFT

The Food Bank is bustling with activity to make sure thousands of neighbors can put a holiday meal on the table. This is happening in the midst of an increased demand for food assistance that's higher than the peak of the COVID-19 pandemic. In this season of giving, year-end gifts will allow The Food Bank to continue giving hope to our neighbors facing hunger.

Year-end donations are not only a great way to get in the spirit of giving, they may also allow

you to benefit from tax deductions. If you have a Missouri business income and make a donation, you may qualify for a Neighborhood Assistance Program (NAP) tax credit.

To be eligible for a NAP tax credit, you must be an individual or business with a State of Missouri business income who has also made a charitable donation to The Food Bank. Eligible donors will receive a tax credit equaling 50 percent of their donation. You could also make your gift

a part of your required minimum distribution from your IRA.

Donor gifts ensure that our 270 faith-based and community charities are equipped to distribute food directly to people facing hunger across the Ozarks. If you can make a year-end gift, visit us at ozarksfoodharvest.org/donate, or send a check by mail. If you have questions, call us at 417-865-3411.



Donations at the end of the year may allow you to benefit from tax deductions.

SPECIAL THANKS

VOLUNTEER HONORED FOR 3,000 HOURS OF SERVICE

In August, Ozarks Food Harvest honored George Lawrence for reaching 3,000 volunteer hours with The Food Bank. His gift of time has helped provide an incredible 315,000 meals for our neighbors facing hunger since 2012. Employees and volunteers gathered to celebrate George as he was presented with his own parking spot and personalized sign.



George Lawrence was presented with his own parking spot and personalized sign.

CASEY'S HERE FOR GOOD CAMPAIGN HELPS PROVIDE LOCAL MEALS

During the month of March, Casey's General Store, in partnership with Feeding America, gave customers the opportunity to round up their purchase to support their local food bank. Ozarks Food Harvest received nearly \$24,000 from this fundraiser to help provide 96,000 meals for children, families and seniors in southwest Missouri.



Casey's General Store helped provide 96,000 meals across our service area.

KRAFT HEINZ GIFT HELPS PROVIDE WEEKEND MEALS FOR KIDS

We are so grateful to the Kraft Heinz Company Foundation, in collaboration with Feeding America, for its donation of \$25,000 to The Food Bank. Kraft Heinz's donation will support our Weekend Backpack Program that helps provide thousands of meals to children experiencing hunger over the weekend. Support from generous partners means so much to the 1 in 7 children facing hunger in southwest Missouri.



We are grateful for dedicated partners like Kraft Heinz.

OZARKS HEALTH ADVOCACY FOUNDATION SUPPORTS THE WEEKEND BACKPACK PROGRAM

During the 2023-2024 school year, an additional 3,500 meals will be provided to children facing hunger over the weekend thanks to Ozarks Health Advocacy Foundation (OHAF). Their generosity will ensure 18 children receive weekend meals each Friday of the school year so they can return on Monday ready to learn. OHAF provides support to area nonprofit agencies that address children's critical physical, mental and dental health needs in the Ozarks.

MCDONALD'S AND TYSON FOODS DONATE 40,000 POUNDS OF PROTEIN TO OZARKS FOOD HARVEST

Tyson Foods, in partnership with McDonald's, donated more than 40,000 pounds of chicken breast fillet fritters last month. Tyson made their donation in honor of McDonald's \$15,000 donation to our Hungerthon event in September. Neighbors facing hunger often forego buying meat when times are tough because of its higher price and may miss important nutrients in their diet as a result. This donation of chicken will provide 33,000 meals and help our neighbors facing hunger get the protein they need to thrive.



Tyson and McDonald's presented their generous donation at The Food Bank.

DAVE INC. GIFTS \$14,328 FOR HUNGER RELIEF, THANKS TO FEEDING AMERICA

Dave Inc., a digital banking service, has partnered with Feeding America food banks to provide meals to families facing hunger. Members of Dave Inc. can leave a "tip" which will be used to provide meals for neighbors in need. Through this tip system, Dave Inc. has helped provide nearly 100,000 meals across the Ozarks since 2020.

OZARKS FOOD HARVEST BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Kenny Ross, President—Ross Construction Group
Dr. Meera Scarrow, President Elect—Mercy Hospital-Springfield
Tommy Wohlgenuth, Treasurer—SGC™ Foodservice
Ashley Kimberling-Casad, Secretary—CoxHealth
Jim Admire—Kraft-Heinz
Dana Ausburn—Community Volunteer
Clayton Brown—Prime Inc.
Genevieve Carvel—Positronic Industries, Inc.
Tamara Conn—O'Reilly Auto Parts
Jason England—Arvest Bank
Holly Gray—Heim, Young & Associates
Charlie Lynn—Associated Wholesale Grocers
Shelley Marshall—Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith, Inc.
Mike Pinkston—Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith, Inc.

OZARKS FOOD HARVEST STAFF

Bart Brown, President/CEO

ADMINISTRATION

Cindy Snow, Director of Administration
Terry Keller, Human Resource & Administrative Services Manager
Matt Koenig, IT Manager
Cindy Boggs, Inventory Office Manager
Alyssa Tapio, Administrative Services Coordinator
Zetta Graves, Receptionist

DEVELOPMENT & COMMUNICATIONS

Cassie Hanson, Director of Development
Sarah Green, Marketing & Events Manager
Kylee Compton, Graphic Designer
Rhown Cramer, Development Assistant
Holly Fox, Development & Grants Coordinator
Ali Pool, Special Events Coordinator
Allie Smith, Corporate Development Coordinator
Triston Trybus, Development Assistant

Jordan Browning, Director of Communications
Sarah Byrd, Volunteer Program Manager
Heather Haloupek, Communications Coordinator

MEMBER SERVICES

Mary Zumwalt, Director of Programs & Member Services
Terra Baum, Agency Capacity & Compliance Manager
Jalen Doss, Mobile Food Pantry Coordinator
Kristin Graves, SNAP Outreach Coordinator
Deidra McBride, CSFP/Senior Box Coordinator
Brent Nichols, Agency Outreach Coordinator
Jane Terry, Creative Information Specialist
Melanie Toler, Agency Resource & Training Coordinator
Shada Travis, Agency Support Specialist/Weekend Backpack Coordinator
Jessica Wallace, Agency Outreach Coordinator
Sarah Waterman, Child Nutrition Programs Coordinator
Julie Woodiel, Food Sourcing Coordinator

OPERATIONS ADMINISTRATION

Scott Boggs, Vice President of Operations
Steve Roberts, Director of Operations
Trisha Heflin, Distribution Center Manager
Mike Hesebeck, Transportation Manager
Eddie Hicks, Building Maintenance & Compliance Specialist

Marcus Seal, Senior Operations Manager
Lydia DeWeese, Volunteer Center Supervisor
Andrew Magnus, Volunteer Systems Specialist
Kevin Richardson, Instructional Materials Designer
Dillon Smith, Volunteer Recruitment Coordinator/Volunteer Coach

Alexa Poindexter, Director of Full Circle Gardens
Cady Wolf, Field Operations Manager
Jessica Allen, Full Circle Gardens Outreach Coordinator
Rachel Breckling, Full Circle Gardens Coordinator

To view a full staff listing please visit ozarksfoodharvest.org.

HUNGER HERO NEWS

FEEDING FAMILIES ACROSS THE OZARKS

“Making sure people have access to food – what’s a higher purpose than that?”

– Dave Ahlstrand, manager of financial analysis at John Deere Reman



John Deere Reman staff have volunteered more than 450 hours.

JOHN DEERE REMAN ADVANCES HUMANITY THROUGH HUNGER RELIEF

John Deere is a company focused on advancing humanity, and Dave Ahlstrand, manager of financial analysis at John Deere Reman, says the best way to do that is to first address basic necessities. “Making sure people have access to food – what’s a higher purpose than that?” he says. “When people can’t eat or feed their children, they won’t have the energy to accomplish anything else.”

John Deere Reman is a branch of John Deere dedicated to remanufacturing machinery parts and providing sustainable, low-cost service solutions. Employees are offered eight paid hours to volunteer at the organization of their choice, and many frequently choose to volunteer as a group with the Food Bank’s Full

Circle Gardens program and at the warehouse.

Dave remembers his first experience with the Full Circle Gardens program, sharing, “I’m struck by the genuine passion [of Full Circle Gardens staff]. They told us how much we harvested and where it was going. I couldn’t believe how much we harvested in that amount of time. That’s why we started sending a group to volunteer regularly.”

Employees with John Deere Reman now sign up for monthly volunteer sessions with Ozarks Food Harvest, donating more than 450 hours at The Food Bank since the partnership began. Their regular sign-up process has made it so easy for their workers to get involved that Dave encourages other companies to do the same.

“The more we make it easy for employees to volunteer in something they’re passionate about, the more we amplify the impact of our organization,” he shares.

John Deere Reman’s commitment to empowering communities makes Dave feel proud of his company and coworkers. Thanks to their hard work, thousands of our neighbors facing hunger in southwest Missouri don’t have to worry about the basics because they now have access to fresh produce and sustenance that allows them to thrive.

If your group wants to make a difference with Ozarks Food Harvest, visit ozarksfoodharvest.org/volunteer.

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Thank you to our community partners who helped provide more than 100 meals from September 16 - November 1, 2023.

Central Bank of the Ozarks – 29,460
CVS, thanks to Feeding America – 23,420
Gold Mountain Communications – 11,187
MSU Office of Student Engagement—10,702
Smithfield Foods – 4,420
Owen Law Firm – 4,000

Neighbor’s Mill – 3,436
5 Pound Apparel – 2,300
Best of Luck Beer Hall – 2,080
Coffee Ethic – 1,600
Mama Jean’s Natural Market – 848
Natural Grocers – 721

Grant Avenue Free Will Baptist Church – 620
Department of Corrections – 400
Republic High School – 352
Cronkhite Homes – 205
417 Aerial – 114



Drs. Meera and Alan Scarrow donate the use of their land for The Food Bank's successful garden programs.

DRS. MEERA AND ALAN SCARROW: HUNGER HEROES WORTH CELEBRATING

Ozarks Food Harvest would like to thank Drs. Meera and Alan Scarrow for their exceptional role in Transforming Hunger into Hope in the Ozarks.

The Full Circle Gardens Program has become one of The Food Bank's most successful programs for providing fresh produce to our neighbors in need, and it wouldn't be possible without Drs. Meera and Alan Scarrow. The Scarrow family generously donate the use of their land to host Ozarks Food Harvest's home garden, which has harvested more than 50,000 pounds of produce for our neighbors facing hunger in the last five years. This land is home to 76 raised beds, an in-ground field patch, two high-tunnels for year-round growing and a solar-powered rain catchment system.

In addition to the donated land, Dr. Meera Scarrow serves as president-elect of Ozarks Food Harvest's board of directors. Drs. Meera

and Alan Scarrow both served on The Food Bank's Capital Campaign Leadership committee, contributing to The Food Bank's 56,000 square-foot expansion in 2018. That expansion has allowed Ozarks Food Harvest to provide 20 million meals annually to our hunger-relief network across 28 counties.

The Scarrows' commitment to medicinal and social impact is reflected in this statement from Dr. Meera Scarrow: "Food security is integral to the health of our communities. That basic need impacts so many other community issues. Ozarks Food Harvest does an incredible job addressing the issues surrounding hunger in our communities."

Access to proper nutrition is key to lifting up our communities. Thank you, Drs. Meera and Alan Scarrow, for your commitment to ending hunger in southwest Missouri. Your generosity is changing lives across the Ozarks.

RECOGNIZING AWG'S LIFELONG PARTNERSHIP IN HUNGER RELIEF

Ozarks Food Harvest is recognizing Associated Wholesale Grocers, Inc. (AWG) for their lifelong partnership, which has provided millions of meals for our neighbors facing hunger across the Ozarks since 1983.

AWG is one of The Food Bank's largest non-retail food donors, and the company's contributions to hunger relief in southwest Missouri have made a crucial impact in the fight to end hunger. In the last three years alone, AWG has donated 5 million pounds of food, providing nearly 4.2 million meals to children, families and seniors facing hunger across the Ozarks.

Thanks to AWG, Ozarks Food Harvest is able to provide food to our network of faith-based and

community charities thousands of individuals in southwest Missouri. Their partnership is especially valuable as the cost of food is at an all-time high. Items such as fresh produce, dairy and protein are particularly difficult for our neighbors in need to access due to their high cost and shorter shelf life, but AWG's generous donations allow The Food Bank to provide these items when neighbors need help to fill the gap.

Ozarks Food Harvest is only able to *Transform Hunger into Hope* thanks to support from generous partners and donors like AWG. Thank you, Associated Wholesale Grocers, Inc., for making our work possible.

VOLUNTEERS

Below is a list of individuals and groups who have donated 15+ hours of time from September 16 – October 31, 2023.

INDIVIDUALS

| | |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| Avre Aldrich | Don Landon |
| Stetson Allen | Dave Lappin |
| Dylan Bernskoetter | Jason Lawhun |
| Leslie Blanco | George Lawrence |
| Tom Carson | Mary Magnus |
| Lynn Cline | Cindy McDonough |
| Dewayne Cossey | Lillianna Moralez |
| Kerry Curran | Janeane Myhre |
| Kacey Davis | Ryan Owrey |
| Gary DeHaven | Derek Peacock |
| Kris Dreesen | Emerald Sell |
| Ed Ferris | Margene Terrill |
| Dylan Green | Tyler Thompson |
| Gerald Green | Amy Viets-Cooper |
| Janice Grimes | Kathy Vinson |
| Wil Hardiman | Lona Wait |
| Matthew Harmer | Julia White |
| David Hoover | Jack Williams |
| Susan Hunn | Kitty Williams |
| Ben Johnson | Donna Zeitz |
| Elizabeth Johnson | |
| Susan Johnson | |
| Caleb Labarbera | |

GROUPS

| | |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| American National Insurance | Mercy HYPE |
| Antioch United Methodist Church | MSU Alpha Sigma Alpha |
| Arvest Bank | MSU Bachelor of Social Work Program Students |
| Associated Wholesale Grocers | MSU Delta Zeta |
| Ava NHS | MSU Lambda Chi Alpha |
| BluCurrent Young Professionals | MSU Pre-PA Society |
| Central Bank of the Ozarks | MSU Sigma Phi Epsilon |
| Courageous Church South Campus | MSU Student Dietetic Association |
| CoxHealth - Revenue Integrity Dept. | MSU-UMKC Public Health Organization |
| Cronkhite Homes | OakStar Bank |
| Datema House | O'Reilly Auto Parts Legal Dept. |
| DFA Beverage & Dairy Foods R&D | Parkcrest Dental |
| DHL | Rotary Club of Springfield North |
| Expedia | Simmons Bank |
| Girl Scout Troop 70207 | SPS Health Sciences Academy |
| Mercy Cardiovascular Group | The Venues church |
| Mercy Hospital Springfield Lab | Wesley UMC |
| | Willard HS FFA |

VOLUNTEER WITH US

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





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STAY CONNECTED



Transforming
Hunger into
Hope™

