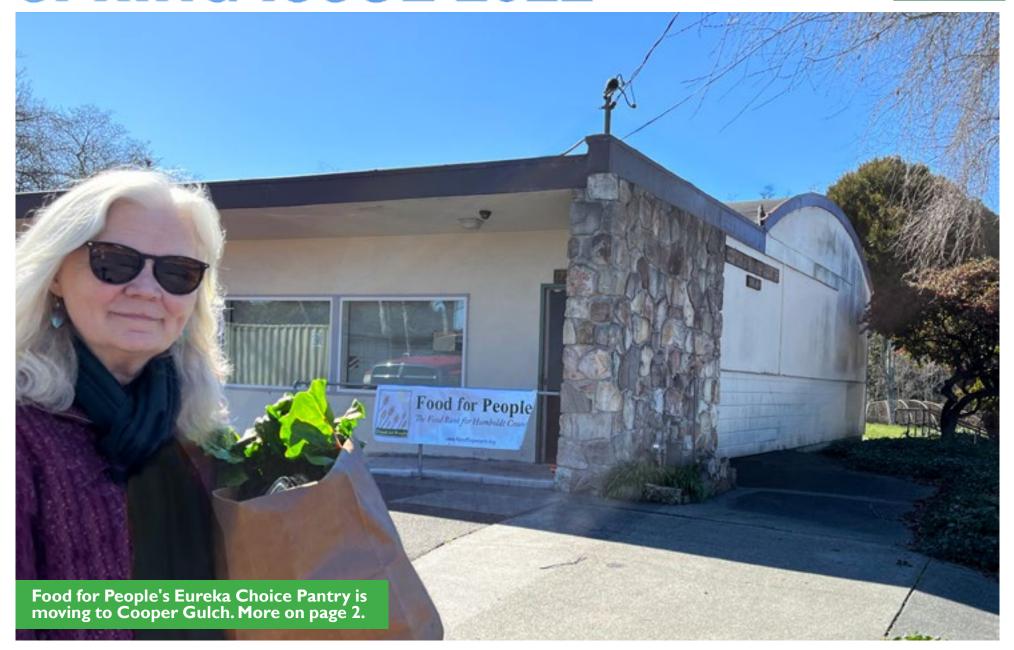
FOOD NOTES | The Newsletter of Food for People The Food Bank for Humboldt County





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PO Box 4922, Eureka, CA 95502 www.foodforpeople.org

Non-Profit Org. U.S. Postage PAID Eureka CA 95501 Permit No 159 We feel it's important to keep you updated on our progrems, policy work, and the progress we are making at the food bank. If you do not wish to receive a newsletter, please don't hesitate to contact us and have your name removed from our newsletter mailing list.





Our Eureka Choice Pantry is Moving! And Updates on our Facility Rebuild

Notes from the Executive Director

We're coming up on the two-year anniversary of the sewer disaster that severely damaged Food for People's flagship facility, and as much as I'd like to be sending you all an invitation to our grand opening celebration, the reality is that we aren't quite there yet. As anyone who has been following this long saga knows, the city sewer inundation of February 2020 forced us to move out and demolish the building, and it also ramped up the timeline for developing design plans for the rebuild. It's been a long haul but we are finally very close to breaking ground and starting foundation work with an estimated 8-9 month timeline for construction. I know we're all anxious to see some action at the site!

In the meantime, staff and program operations continue to be spread amongst five locations, including the Eureka Choice Pantry which has been operating out of the old Chamber of Commerce building at 2112 Broadway. We appreciate the City's offer of the Broadway location to house Eureka pantry services over the past two years, which was especially important as all the disruptions from the pandemic unfolded and many community members found themselves out of work and struggling to survive financially. We never anticipated being there this long, and neither did the City, so we now find ourselves having to move the Pantry to a new location so that the plans for the Broadway property that were in place before we moved to the site can proceed.

But the good news is that with the City's help we have found a site and will be relocating the Eureka Choice Pantry to Cooper Gulch! The City offered us the use of the Parks & Rec building there until our rebuild at the 14th St. site has been completed. The address is 1720 10th St. and we're pleased that the new

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location is in a neighborhood that is close to the bus line and other services such as Open Door and Burre Clinics, and offers plenty of parking. The days and hours of operation will be the same (Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays 11am-3pm), and we look forward to serving more than 1,000 households per month. Once we're moved in, we're also excited to pilot the use of a special "Order Ahead" online app that was developed specifically for food banks by Feeding America! We've learned a lot about how to adapt to challenging circumstances over the past two years and hope that this new app will provide an additional option for households to access food assistance that makes the process as safe and easy as possible.

"One more move" before returning to our permanent home base at 14th St. was not part of the plan when all this unfolded two years ago, but has been necessitated by numerous delays in accessing construction materials. The pandemic has played havoc with many aspects of "business as usual" on a global scale, and it has definitely had a major impact on the timeline

for our rebuild. Supply chain issues (the biggest one being the steel building) and a dramatic increase in costs have plagued us since day one. But, after all of the delays, the materials and the permits have been secured and construction of our new food bank is slated to begin in the next month!

We thank everyone who continues to support our efforts and check in on our progress. We are definitely eager to get everyone back under one roof, including a permanent home for our Eureka Choice Pantry! We'll provide updates as things move forward and hope you will follow our progress!

With gratitude,

Anne Holcomb, Executive Director





Responding to Crisis Winter Storms Affect Humboldt County

By Robert Sataua, Emergency Response Coordinator

lust as we all began to move forward from wildfire season, Mother Nature reminded us that summer is not the only time to worry about natural disasters. The December snow storm that thrashed Humboldt County's infrastructure, including highways and power lines, triggered a local emergency declaration and left hundreds of residents without power or worse, trapped in their homes. Having close communication with our established partner agencies during fire season allowed us to respond quickly. As the Red Cross moved in to set up a shelter, they called on Food for People to provide food to supplement basic meals. Pay it Forward Humboldt was able to respond to food needs from the supplies we provided them, and the Hoopa Tribal TANF program received emergency resources, including instant hot meals. We are continually looking to improve our emergency food response, and each emergency teaches us how to build upon our process and strengthen community partnerships.

Another partnership that we are continuing this year is with PG&E, as part of their Community Based Organizations Partnership program, which gives us key information about power outages by zip code so we can respond accordingly. This program is geared towards Public Safety Power Shutoffs (PSPS), but because Humboldt County is able to operate in "island mode", 'the core of our PGE partnership will be primarily addressing natural disasters.

In addition to emergency response, we continue to take a proactive approach to food access and diversifying our programs. With our seasonal Free Produce Markets on pause during the winter months, we organized a winter drive-through distribution at the Bayshore Mall for households to stock up on foods for their pantries, freezers, and refrigerators. Each household received two bags of produce, a box of non-perishable foods, frozen chicken and pork, and even a pack of toilet paper. It was a well-attended two-hour event that was made possible with the help of volunteers.

We were lucky to have such dedicated volunteers that showed up early to pre-bag items and stayed late to clean up. Each voluntéer was committed to make it a pleasant experience for participants and went above and beyond what we would expect. Some people waited up to 45 minutes in a long snaking line that circled the north parking lot of the mall, and we were lucky to have UPLIFT Eureka to support us by keeping a very organized traffic system. In total we served about 360 households, and we will be looking at future opportunities to host a similar event. Stay tuned to participate or get involved.



Humboldt Cider Partnership Food for People's Work to go Zero Waste

By Allison Kenney, Local Food Resources Coordinator

Every year an estimated 10.1 million tons of produce remains unharvested in farm fields and orchards across America, and an additional 52.4 million tons of food ends up in the landfill. At the same time, about I in 7 Americans is considered food insecure. Food for People has long been committed to bridging that gap through our Gleaning Program. We work with local farms, ranchers, orchards, and backyard gardens to secure donations of fresh produce and meat that might otherwise remain unsold or unharvested, and we distribute it to the households we serve through our programs.

This past year, Food for People's gleaning program brought in more than 10,000 lbs of apples from various trees and orchards across Humboldt County. The majority of these locally harvested apples go to Food for People's programs- serving children, seniors, and families across Humboldt County. However, at some point the abundance becomes an overabundance, and we have more apples than we can give away for eating.

No one wants the excess apples to go to

waste. That's when the idea of partnering with Humboldt Cider Company was born. They launched a new craft cider made from these locally gleaned apples, which would have otherwise taken too long to distribute before going bad. This year's "Cider for People" was canned and sold at local grocery stores including Eureka Natural Foods, Wildberries, and the Northcoast Co-Op under the Humboldt Cider Company's "Limited Release" label. A dollar from every pint sold comes back to Food for People as a financial donation to help benefit our Gleaning program, which aims to bridge the gap between local food surplus and food insecurity.

Even with Food for People's varied efforts to divert food from the waste stream, there is inevitably some that is either not fit to distribute or in excess of what clients can use in a reasonable time. This partnership with Humboldt Cider Company is a step forward in Food for People's efforts to keep food out of the landfill and move towards zero waste.

foodforpeople.org



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Pantry Support

Food for People had a hugely successful 29th annual Holiday Spirit Food and Fund drive. Together our community raised more than 25,000 pounds of food and \$38,000! Hunger Fighter teams held individual food and fund drives within their businesses, organizations, and schools. Senator Mike McGuire worked with students from several local high schools for a successful Humboldt Holiday Food Drive event. In addition, the KHUM radio team and its listeners, plus many other generous community members, all pulled together to help benefit Food for People this holiday season. Financial and food donations will help Food for People tremendously in the coming months, as we continue to meet the increasing need for food assistance due to the long lasting economic repercussions of the pandemic and the 2021 wildfire season.

Once again, the Redwood Unit of the Backcountry Horsemen of California kicked off our holiday season with their annual Cowboy Canned Food Convoy in mid-November. Horses and their riders paraded through Old Town Eureka with saddlebags full of nonperishable food to be donated to the food bank, collecting donations from onlookers and passersby and spreading joy throughout the community.

This holiday season we brought back the highly anticipated week of KHUM radio on-air food and fund drive in person. Food for People staff joined our enthusiastic and fun-loving KHUM DI's for live broadcasts at various locations throughout the county to highlight our programs and meet community needs, while offering an opportunity for community members to stop by with

donations and meet some of the Food for People program coordinators and KHUM DJs. After a bit of a different and distanced approach in 2020, it was great to be back out in person and interacting with our community. We kicked it off at the Northcoast Co-op in Eureka, and then went on to visit Eureka Natural Foods, Proper Wellness, and Wildberries. The week culminated with the Senator McGuire Humboldt Holiday Food Drive event at Safeway in Eureka. Dls Greta and Midge brought the tunes and the laughter, and the community brought the support—bringing in thousands of dollars and pounds of food to support Food for People's work this year.

Senator McGuire and his staff coordinated the large-scale 6th annual Humboldt Holiday Food Drive Show Down in partnership with Eureka High School, Arcata High School, McKinleyville High School, Fortuna High School, Ferndale High School, St. Bernard's Academy, and Eureka Safeway for one of our biggest and best years yet. This year we raised more than 17,000 pounds of food-- which is almost double last year's total! McKinleyville High School knocked it out of the park with their incredible total of more than 7,000 lbs of food! More than \$33,000was also raised through the weeklong food & fund drive. which will be such an amazing help for Food for People in the coming months.

The Eureka Police Department (EPD) organized a new holiday food drive event called "Cram the Cruiser" at Grocery Outlet in Eureka. Shoppers had the opportunity to purchase food to cram into a police cruiser on standby at the store. At the end of this food drive event,

EPD officers drove the donations over to our warehouse to unload more than 1.000 lbs of nonperishable food donations.

Word Humboldt held its annual holiday poetry show at Northtown Coffee in Arcatá and collected donations for Food for People. In exchange for donations, donors were entered into a raffle giveaway. They raised an impressive amount of donations for Food for People, and we are thankful for their yearly support.

Par Infinity held its annual Ice Bowl disc golf tournament at Sequoia Park in Eureka and collected donations for Food for People. A portion of each player's registration fee is donated to Food for People, and an impressive \$4,775was raised by this event. Players also donated a hefty 375 pounds of nonperishable food donations this year! We are so grateful for this amazing community partnership.

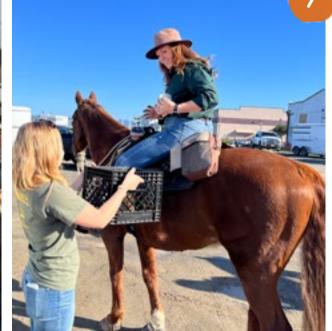
Although many local businesses and organizations are either closed temporarily or employees are working from home, we had some resolute Hunger Fighter Teams who rallied despite the circumstances to raise food and funds for Food for People. A special thanks to all of our teams, and to everyone who participated this season to help make this Holiday Spirit Food and Fund Drive such a success. See the stellar hunger teams on page 7.

We would like to thank EVERYONE who showed up to help support Food for People this holiday season. Your support allowed Food for People to provide necessary food assistance and a holiday meal to nearly 16,000 people in our community.

Left to right: Members of EPD collect food at Cram the Cruiser; McKinleyville High School drops 7,000+ lbs of food donations; and The Cowboy Canned Food Convoy kicks off the holiday food drive season!







Thank you to everyone who joined us to fight local hunger and helped make our 2021 Holiday Food & Fund Drive a success!

HUMBOLDT HOLIDAY FOOD DRIVE SHOWDOWN PARTNERS

Arcata High School Eureka High School Ferndale High School Fortuna High School McKinleyville High School St. Bernard's Academy **Senator Mike McGuire & Team** KHUM Radio and their listeners Humboldt Beer Works **Eureka Safeway** Mendes Supply KIEM-TV Redwood News Times-Standard **Eureka Natural Foods Proper Wellness Center Eco-Groovy Deals** Belle Starr **Rocking Horse**

Eureka Ace Hardware John Rebich Construction Inc. **Pacific Partners Property Management Post Audio Harper Motors Almquist Lumber Company** Wells Commercial Real Estate **Eureka Payments** Hummel Tire & Wheel, Inc **Pauli-Shaw Insurance Agency Coast Central Credit Union**

HOLIDAY FUNDING PARTNERSHIP **Humboldt Area Foundation Wild Rivers Community Foundation Humboldt Health Foundation Mel & Grace McLean Foundation** Patricia D. & William B. Smullin Foundation **Providence, Community Health Investment**

ADDITIONAL COMMUNITY DRIVES **Baywood Women's Golf Association** Dell'Arte **Eureka Christ Episcopal Church Eureka Police Department Humboldt Pet Supply** Mainstage Humboldt **Redwood Coast Energy Authority Suzy Smith - Community Realty Word Humboldt**

Glen Paul School

Garfield

School

Elementary



HUNGER FIGHTER TEAMS





Six Rivers Charter School







Along with dozens more local businesses and hundreds of generous community members!

CalFresh for College Students

Efforts to Expand Access
By Heidi McHugh, Community Education & Outreach Coordinator

We have all heard the phrase "starving students" to describe the tight budgeting demands of tuition, books, housing, healthcare, and food. It's typically a somewhat lighthearted reference to a challenging, but presumably brief time in a young person's life. The thing is, students are struggling with the same levels of food insecurity that organizations like Food for People set out to eliminate in our communities. It occurs at alarmingly high rates and significantly impacts educational performance, health, and the ability to complete educational goals. One of the most powerful tools to combat college student hunger is CalFresh (known nationwide as SNAP), but only 22% of eligible college students are participating. This low participation rate is because there are additional barriers for college students to qualify for CalFresh, including potential work requirements while schooling full time, and complex processes that deter folks from applying. New bills introduced to Congress in 2021 and the 2022 California State Legislature seeks to increase college student access to SNAP.

How many students are living with food insecurity? A 2013 study of Pell Grant students at California State University at Sacramento found that 23 percent of surveyed students from low-income families experience at least one day each month in which they go without food and 12 percent reported losing weight because they could not afford food. In 2019, California's college student hunger rate was 10 percent higher than the national average. According to California State University (CSU), one in five CSU students experience hunger and one in ten experience homelessness. In a survey conducted in 2016 by the University of California Regents, it was found that one in five University of California (UC) students do not have access to enough food. Nationwide lab reports show that half of all community college students are struggling with housing and/or food insecurity. The 2018 survey of food insecurity and homelessness at CSU campuses revealed that "at Humboldt State, nearly 46 percent of students reported low or very low food security, slightly higher than the CSU average."

With rates of hunger being so high, why are so few college students participating in CalFresh? The answer goes all the way back to the Food and Agricultural Act of 1977. At this time rules were established in an attempt to ensure only those truly in need could receive what was then called the Food Stamp Program. What was Congress thinking? At that time, these Congresspersons believed the average college student came from a middle or upper-income family and was afforded ample financial support. Unfortunately, that was just about the time that college student demographics began to shift. Since 1975, college attendance among low-income high school graduates has more than doubled from 31.2 to 65.4 percent, according to the National Center for Education Statistics. That's about the rate at which high-income high school graduates were already attending college back in 1975.

The new law effectively stated that students between the ages of 18-49, who attend more than half-time, are not eligible unless they meet one of the criteria from a set of exemptions. The most commonly used exemptions are proof of at least 20 hours of

employment per week or participation in the Federal Work Study (FWS) program, which provides funding for part-time jobs for undergraduate and graduate students that qualify for financial aid. But that's not so easy. College students have limited availability to work and often can only attain employment that does not guarantee the necessary minimum number of work hours. They may find themselves being kicked off of CalFresh because of one month in which they were only offered 15 hours of work per week. In 2009, more than 768,000 students received FWS jobs. By 2012, that number dropped 11% to 683,000 FWS jobs. In 2013 another \$51 million was cut from FWS. An estimated 33,000 students were eliminated from participating in the program for the 2013-14 academic year as a result. The President's Budget Proposal of 2017 attempted to reduce FWS spending by nearly 80%. Even if students can find FWS placements, they face additional burdens of verification that are often out of their control. Simply put; it can be challenging for students to qualify and continuously receive CalFresh, even if they do qualify.

The Newsletter of **Food for People** I the Food Bank for Humboldt County

California Senator Nancy Skinner has authored Senate Bill 641 (SB641). SB 641 focuses on continuing to remove the barriers to college students seeking to access CalFresh food assistance. Specifically, SB 641 will enhance previous efforts to ensure that the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) provides and maintains accurate lists of available exemptions to students and that CDSS and county human service agencies work to reduce verification (paperwork) burdens for students. The bill also requires CDSS to submit a report to the state estimating additional funds needed to adequately serve all college students currently eligible for CalFresh benefits under current federal law.

The federal Ensuring Access to SNAP (EATS) Act effectively eliminates the rules established in 1977. If the EATS Act is passed, college students will have to meet the same eligibility requirements as everyone else—not more. If the EATS Act passes, SB64 will better prepare California to onboard millions of new CalFresh participants. If the EATS Act does not pass, California will at least be working to reduce some of the additional burdens placed upon students in need of food. The Food and Agricultural Act of 1977 unleashed decades of unnecessary hunger; without a reversal at the federal level, states can only chip away at tiny bits and pieces.

(Source: http://www.latimes.com/local/lanow/la-me-cal-state-homelessness-20160620snap-story.html Serving Displaced and Food Insecure Students in the CSU (Feb 2016): https://presspage-productioncontent.s3.amazonaws.com/uploads/1487/cohomelessstudy. pdf?10000 In Cal State universities, 42% of students are food insecure and 11% are homeless. https://www2.calstate.edu/impact-of-thecsu/student-success/basic-needs-) initiative/Documents/BasicNeedsStudy_phaseII_withAccessibilityComments.pdf v Student Food Security and Access," http://regents.universityofcalifornia.edu/regmeet/ july 16/e lattach.pdf This report was made possible by funding from the University of California (UC) Office of the President Global Food Initiative. For more information about this initiative, visit www.ucop.edu/global-food-initiative. 2018 survey of food insecurity and homelessness at CSU's)

Backpacks for Kids

Brining Weekend Hunger Relief to Sites Countywide Carrie Smith, Child & Senior Programs Coordinator

Our Backpacks for Kids Program supplies Humboldt County schoolchildren with food to eat over the weekend, and it has been a success since the beginning. For almost 20 years, it has helped families during hard times, from cold winters, lost jobs, underemployment, and wildfires, to the pandemic. Our catch phrase is that it "takes a village" to raise healthy and happy kids. It truly is amazing to see what goes on behind the scenes to make sure nearly 600 kids get food each weekend at 34 sites, in a county that is as big as it is remote. With a total population of more than 135,000 people spread over 4,000 square miles, getting food out to folks can be a major undertaking. We are currently providing an average of 2,500 lbs of food weekly to kids as far northeast as Hoopa, east to Bridgeville, south to Garberville, and many communities in between.

This is why, as the Program Coordinator of the Child Nutrition Programs, I work so closely with those in the community who are dedicated to the cause. The Rotaries in Fortuna, Eureka, and Arcata gather weekly to pick up the food at our warehouse, pack the food into individual bags, and then deliver the bags to participating schools in their area.

Community Resource Centers play a huge role in identifying families to enroll in the program and coordinating the food distributions in many outlying areas of Humboldt. For example,

Amy Terrones, the Coordinator at the Southern Humboldt Family Resource Center, has done an excellent job working with the numerous small remote schools in the region. In recent years they have started to distribute to a broader array of schools tucked away throughout the hills and valleys of Southern Humboldt, and they are now distributing up to 75 bags of food to families at 11 different schools!

The staff at participating schools go above and beyond as well, to make sure their students don't go hungry. As if their schedules aren't already busy, we have school staff and administrators helping with the application process, and the pick-up, packing, and distribution of food. The principal at Peninsula Union in Samoa, Raven Coit, picks up the 13 bags for her students every Thursday on her way home from a long work day. She knows that it is important and has made it a priority. We are currently in search of an individual or group of volunteers to help take over that responsibility, so if you know of anyone who may be interested, please let us know!

For more information about the Backpacks for Kids weekend hunger relief program, or to find ways you can get involved, please contact Carrie at (707) 445-3166 ext. 309 or csmith@ foodforpeople.org.

Backpacks for Kids Site Locations



EUREKA Alice Birney Elementary South Bay Elementary Pine Hill Elementary Lafayette Elementary Washington Elementary **Grant Elementary**

RIO DELL

WILLOW CREEK

BURNT RANCH

WHITETHORN

Whale Gulch

BLOCKSBURG

MIRANDA

LEGGETT

School

Weott Elementary

Casterlin School

South Fork High

Leggett Valley

GARBERVILLE

BRICELAND

Miranda Junior High

Elementary School

Garberville Community

Bridaeville Elementary

REDWAY

WEOTT

Trinity Valley Elementary

Burnt Ranch Elementary

Creekside Charter

Redway Elementary

Whitethorn Elementary

ARCATA Arcata Elementary Pacific Union Elementary

Trillium Charter

FORTUNA Walker Elementary School Fortuna Middle School Toddy Thomas Middle School Ambrosini Elementary

McKINLEYVILLE Morris Elementary Dow's Prairie Elementary McKinleyville Middle School SAMOA

Peninsula Union Elementary LOLETA Loleta Elementary

BLUE LAKE Blue Lake Elementary **HYDESVILLE**

Hydesville Elementary CARLOTTA Cuddeback Elementary

Beginnings School BRIDGEVILLE

Eagle Prairie Elementary Hoopa Elementary

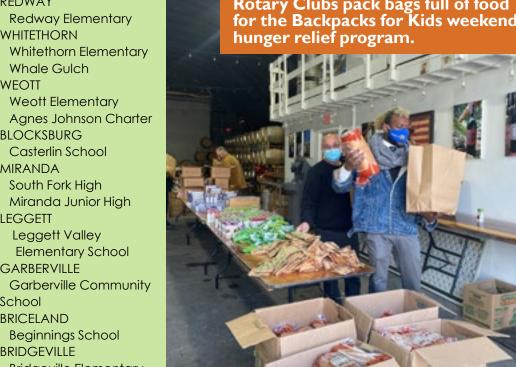
Hoopa High Captain John High School

Volunteers with the Eureka area Rotary Clubs pack bags full of food for the Backpacks for Kids weekend hunger relief program.

FERNDALE

Ferndale Elementary

Ferndale High



Food for People's Cooking Classes go Virtual By Colby D'Onofrio, CalFresh Nutrition Education Coordinator

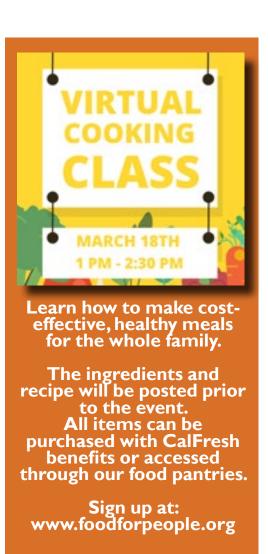
While the pandemic presented many obstacles, it has forced us to tap into our creative side and come up with innovative solutions. A keystone of our Nutrition Education program has always been cooking classes, but as the world came to an abrupt halt in 2020, so did our inperson classes.

Our Nutrition Education program took some of its instruction work online through a video series titled Cooking with Colby. In these videos, we take viewers through the steps of creating simple, healthful meals using foods distributed from our programs and those that can be bought with CalFresh benefits. While demonstrating the recipes, we show cooking techniques, talk about food safety, and offer alternatives to ingredients so the recipes are accessible to audiences that are as diverse as our clientele. In some videos, Colby is joined by Karina, our Bilingual Cal Fresh Outreach Specialist, to demonstrate the recipés in Spanish.

Although we are not able to cook together with our class participants at this time, moving our cooking lessons online creates a space for folks to continue learning in a safe environment, until we are able to come together again and share the kitchen. We are also excited that by adding this online component to our Nutrition Education program, it has expanded access to people all over the County, who might not have found it practical to travel to our kitchen or to join us during the workday.

Cooking with Colby videos are available on our website under the Nutrition Education tab and on our Facebook, Instagram and YouTube pages.

https://foodforpeople.org/programs/nutrition-education https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCGGwaDUnjvgEahUMfU6i8jw https://www.facebook.com/FoodforPeopleInc/community/ https://www.instagram.com/foodforpeopleinc/?hl=en



Donate online | www.foodforpeople.org

You can honor a friend or family member by making a donation to Food for People. Simply add a notation to your gift. If you include an address, we'll send a card to let that person know about the donation. It is a great way to celebrate and/or honor the memory of someone you love.

In Honor Of

Alexa Bernstein John & Jessie Tsukahara All the hard working FPP crew lohn Gai Anne Holcomb ohn Havens Aryay Kalakiand & Marcia ulia Scully Brenta Barabara Katz Barbara & Bill Childers Barbara Braak Berget Jelane Bobbie Strauss Brad & Carolyn Albee Bud & Missy Talbot Cass Kennedy & Ashley Largen Laurie Anderson Catherine Hastings Chris & Jenifer Doane Chris & Richard Beresford Clients of Strategic Earth Consulting Lina Chase Craig Hansen David Callahan Pettitt Derek Lari Doug Knott Dr. Richard Corsi Railsback Ed & Akido Uyeki Edie Jessup Hallsted Erika Makino Gabby Girl Gary Tollefson Gina Luzzi & Michelle Weston Hattie Spellmeyer Hillary Turkelson

Give in the name of a loved one

ohn Masterson lustin Cogswell Kate McGirr & Kathleen Hughes Katy & Mike Yanke Katý, Derek, & Tyler Olson Kurt & Jeanne Weiss Laurie & Colin Richerson Wainwright Lena Kaye Humphry Lenny Escarda Lewis Quimby Loren Cannon & Jessica Luca Rollings Maragaret Lang & Steve Marcy Manning & Kent Marina & Joel Mark & Maggie Shaffer Mary & Don Sterk Michael & Annette Davis Michelle Ward Mira Friedman Nan Siringer Nancy Paysinger Noah Norman Kingshill **Opal & Anthony** Pat Fihn

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In Memory Of

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Laurey & Jay Sullivan

Lee Albright

Food for People The Food Bank for Humboldt County

Mission. Food for People is working to eliminate hunger and improve the health and well-being of our community through access to healthy and nutritious foods, community education, and advocacy.

Hugh Scanlon & Sharon Levy

Ina Harris

lane Gund

ason Hood

ean Munsee

lacob Warrick

lames Grafton

anet Grimmett

Vision. We envision a community where everyone has access to good quality, nutritious food, understands the consequences of hunger and poor nutrition, and is committed to creating a stronger, healthier Humboldt County.

More. For more information on Food for People and our countywide hunger relief programs or for ways you can get involved visit www.foodforpeople.org.



Thank you to our Volunteers!

By Julie Ryan, Volunteer & Direct Services Manager

Our family of dedicated volunteers made it possible for Food for People to have a safe and successful year. A monthly average of 231 volunteers donated more than 13,000 hours to sorting, packaging, and distributing food throughout Humboldt County last year. From students to seniors, volunteers of all backgrounds came together, week in and week out, to make sure that healthy nutritious food was available to the people who need it. In addition to supporting programs with their efforts, volunteers bring joy, moral support, and a variety of skills to share.

The compassion and kindness our volunteers show to program participants is an act of creating a caring interdependent community. A lot of our volunteers have said that it is rewarding to do something tangible to help others because, they see how many people are struggling. To paraphrase the sentiment so many have shared, "Taking time to be in the community, doing something hands on to help others, feels good. Sometimes the world is overwhelming, and volunteering at Food for People is fulfilling and grounding." Many volunteers have said that working with fellow volunteers makes them feel hopeful and that they want to cause a positive ripple in the community.

The positive ripple is that our treasured volunteers have a big impact on people's lives. We deeply appreciate that our volunteers are part of the web of support that people can lean into when they need it. This is what community is about, and nothing says love like sharing food.

Thank you to our Sponsors!











































