



SHARING THE HARVEST

Your Generosity is Feeding Colorado's Rural Neighbors

TUCKED AWAY in the southwest corner of Colorado, the tiny town of Dove Creek is home to somewhere in the neighborhood of 700 people.

Jobs are scarce here. Nearly one in four residents survives below the poverty level. Many seniors living on Social Security are supporting their children and grandchildren.

Some lack indoor plumbing. Others who have to use wood-burning stoves in the winter sometimes run out of firewood—and heat. The nearest grocery store is more than 25 miles away.

But thanks to the generosity of friends like you, and volunteers like Kathleen, neighbors across Dolores County have someplace to turn.

The Dove Creek Food Pantry is caring for more than 200 individuals each month—providing nutritious meals to nearly one in ten of Dolores County residents!

Kathleen Keesling and her husband both work as full-time emergency dispatchers for the Dolores



Visitors heading into the remote town of Dove Creek can sense the farming community's rural charm, and its relatively high rate of poverty. Pictured are dryland bean silos owned by Adobe milling.

County Sheriff in Dove Creek. The couple is oftentimes the first to know about an individual or family in crisis, so their volunteer efforts for the food pantry are of critical value.

“The first time I saw somebody’s house on fire, yes, there were tears...there’s no support for housing here,” Kathleen says. “The last one lost everything. She was living in her car, then in a trailer with no hot water. Now she’s a food pantry client, and it took an act of God to get through to her with food. I tell people, ‘Just call me if you need food.’”

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THIS SEASON'S TOP BILLING...

Star Employees Help Expand Food Rescue Program

Starbucks is working with Feeding America to redirect to hungry Coloradoans many of its restaurants' fresh food items that would otherwise end up in the trash.



DURING THE PAST YEAR, the staff at Starbucks in Fountain, Colorado has earned a standing ovation for their unwavering dedication to the fight against hunger. This Starbucks consistently donates its unsold pastries to Connections 4 Life, one of our partner agencies in Fountain.

Starbucks' employees in Fountain and across the country urged their corporate managers to expand this initiative because they recognized a much larger potential for rescuing the restaurant's other fresh foods, sandwiches, and snacks. Starbucks responded enthusiastically and is partnering with Feeding America to redirect many more food items that would otherwise go to waste. By expanding their donation program, Starbucks will help feed more of the nearly 50 million Americans at risk of hunger.

Care and Share is working hard to bring this icing on the cake home to our Southern Colorado communities. Stay tuned for more news as this program rolls out nationally (no pastry puns intended!).

Read more on our website at careandshare.org/stories/starbucks, or scan this QR code.



FEED OUR NEIGHBORS CIRCLE:

Your Year-Round Commitment Changes Lives

THE FACE OF HUNGER is often hidden by shame or embarrassment, so you may not realize that no matter where you live, hunger lives close by. Please help us end hunger in your community all year long by joining the **Feed Our Neighbors Circle**.

Becoming a member is as easy as giving to Care and Share monthly or quarterly. Your sustaining gift of any amount will help provide more struggling families with the nutritious meals they need to thrive. You decide the amount and we help you set up the payment through a credit card or

automated withdrawal from your bank. A gift of just \$50 per month will **Send Hunger Packing** by ensuring that for an entire school year, one child will take home a weekly backpack filled with nutritious food to make basic, healthy meals and snacks during the weekend.

You'll feel good knowing you are making a difference for those in need. **Thank you!**



THANK YOU, GRANT MAKERS!

YOUR GENEROSITY helps us to feed many of our neighbors in need, ensuring that one in seven Southern Coloradoans at risk of hunger have greater access to healthy food throughout the year.

April

ConAgra Foods Foundation Hunger-Free Summer Program
El Pomar Foundation
Google
Pikes Peak Community Foundation
Walmart Retail Store Donation Performance Pilot Grant
Wells Fargo

May

Anschutz Family Foundation
Southern Colorado Community Foundation
The Marson Foundation

BUSINESS CHAMPIONS

Be Recognized for Your Partnership to Nourish Our Communities

THANK YOU! Thank you! Thank you!

Gifts from organizations of every size are vital to feeding our neighbors in need, and we couldn't be more grateful. Becoming a Business Champion earns you a place of distinction among the following corporate partners, while offering you numerous opportunities to be recognized for the work you do to help our neighbors in need.

Sunrise to Sunset Supporter

Woodford Manufacturing Charities, Inc.

Learn more about becoming a Business Champion by contacting Stacy Poore at stacy@careandshare.org or 719-434-4679.

SEPTEMBER is Hunger Action Month!

JOIN FEEDING AMERICA, Care and Share, and your neighbors across our community to make a difference for people in need. Check out our website in the coming weeks to find out more about events and activities planned for this special month.

HUNGER ACTION MONTH | **FEEDING AMERICA**

Dove Creek

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"I always thought Colorado was kind of lucky," she adds. "But not here."

Still, Dove Creek is a tight-knit community. Resilient. Persevering. It's a place where neighbors always look out for each other. Which makes Care and Share one more good neighbor among so many. Stocked by generous friends who make annual (or even monthly) gifts, the food pantry is providing much more than just nourishment to those at risk of going hungry. It's providing hope.

"Even some of my co-workers at the county have shown up here," Kathleen says. "So I know people are struggling out there."

Dove Creek Food Pantry is located at the VFW Hall on 3rd Street.

Kathleen Keesling and her husband volunteer at the Dove Creek Food Pantry, which helps feed around 200 Dolores County residents each month.



VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

Susan and Butch Bancroft

RECENTLY, Care and Share sat down with a Colorado Springs couple who have been coming to the food bank to help out for more than a year. This summer, Susan and Butch are serving as lead volunteers for the Summer Mobile Food Pantry distributions.

Q. How did you get started with Care and Share? What do you do here?

A. We were already volunteering with Meals on Wheels and decided to expand our help to Care and Share. You've got a good reputation and we would pass by here on the way to Peterson Air Force Base. We started out just sorting cans. But then we started packing up the online orders. We call it "picking and grinning."

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To learn more or to make a donation to Care and Share Food Bank, visit careandshare.org.



Susan and Butch Bancroft believe there's no reason anyone should go hungry in our region. The couple volunteer weekly at the Colorado Springs warehouse.

Q. Is volunteering something you wanted to start doing more of after you retired?

A. Yes, Butch and I were in the military. You had help all along the way, no matter where you were. We're big believers in paying it forward. It always comes back, and this is a wonderful organization. We're especially interested in helping soldiers' families. There is no reason for anyone to go hungry in this city.

Q. Now you're also helping out at the Summer Mobile Food Pantry distributions?

A. Right. We've really enjoyed seeing whole families get involved. Sometimes the wives drag their husbands here, and when they see it, they like it. They can bring their kids in the summer and keep them busy. With the summer mobiles ending, we'll go back to our regular Tuesday group. We are a well-oiled machine and we've even drafted a couple more volunteers. It's a pleasure to be there and to know we've done something good.

Care and Share Food Bank applauds the Bancrofts, as well as the Colorado Springs School District 11 staff, for helping to secure volunteers who enabled the food bank to complete record distributions this summer!