

SHARING THE HARVEST

SPRING 2016 NEWSLETTER

www.careandshare.org

Upcoming Events



Join in the game. Through your participation as a player or sponsor, you can help us ensure our neighbors in need have the food they need to thrive. The 2nd annual Drive Out Hunger golf tournament will be held at The Country Club of Colorado on Monday, June 20th at 8 a.m. For more info, please visit our website: <http://careandshare.org/event/drive-out-hunger/>

SNAP Outreach

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) offers nutrition assistance to eligible, low-income individuals and families, and provides economic benefits to communities. SNAP is the largest program in the domestic hunger safety net – providing an extra layer of food security to our neighbors in need.

Six trained volunteers, SNAP Ambassadors, provide outreach at Westside Cares, Stratmoor Hills, Peak Vista, Pueblo and Fremont County Departments of Corrections, and Fountain Valley Senior Center. We also partner to conduct outreach with High Plains Helping Hands, Tessa, La Puente Food Bank, Silver Key Senior Services, Tri-Lakes Cares, and Fresenius Medical Care.



Care and Share processes between 75 and 85 applications a month to help people access the food they need. SNAP Outreach efforts continue to grow, reinforcing the fact that in Southern Colorado we are working very hard to ease the burden of food insecurity. Together we can solve hunger!

Stamp Out Hunger



Join in Care and Share's largest single-day food drive of the year! Place nonperishable food items inside or next to your mailbox the morning of Saturday, May 14th before your letter carrier

arrives. They'll deliver the food to us - it's just that simple! Please consider donating highly needed items like peanut butter, canned proteins, or soup. More information online: <http://careandshare.org/event/stampouthunger/>

Why I Give Back

by Christina

The organization's mission and the support it provides is incredible. I'm impressed by the accomplishments of Care and Share and what they do on a daily basis. I'm glad to be part of their team.

Without Care and Share, more people would be going hungry. We get many calls and inquiries a day asking for assistance and information. Care and Share is a good community focal point for food programs. Without Care and Share, many people would not know where to go or who to contact for food assistance.



SPRING SOIREE

Volunteer Appreciation



On Thursday April 14th, we held our annual volunteer Appreciation Spring Soiree, hosted by the United States Olympic Committee. Our volunteers enjoyed heavy appetizers and beverages. Presidential and Special Recognition Awards were presented, and the rest of the evening was celebrated with a dance party! We could not accomplish our work or achieve our mission without the Care and Share volunteers – true champions in our community!

2016 Special Recognition Awards recipients:

Ernie Lykens Exceptional Volunteerism Award: Tom Hire

Outstanding Volunteer of the Year Award: Catherine Loera

Outstanding Volunteer of the Year Award: Ginger Mixon

HUNGERS HOPE AWARDS 2016

Congratulations to the Hunger's Hope Award 2016 honorees! Care and Share Food Bank for Southern Colorado created the Hunger's Hope Awards to annually recognize individuals, organizations, and businesses for their extraordinary level of commitment to securing and providing resources in support of Care and Share. Care and Share's one belief is that no one should go hungry; its honorees share that same belief. The honorees' commitment to Care and Share's mission means that children, families, seniors, and others at risk of hunger in their community will not go without the nutritious food they need.

Hunger's Hope Awards 2016, Care and Share honored:

Ryan, Pat, and Doug Haug
Audrey and Randy Woodard
Brenda Gilliam
Ent Credit Union

Kaiser Permanente
Walmart
Patty Jewett Neighborhood
Food Project

FEED OUR NEIGHBORS

Hunger happens every day. Please help us address this issue by becoming a member of the **Feed Our Neighbors Circle**.

Giving monthly or quarterly is easy. Your sustaining gift of any amount will help Care and Share provide vital programs every day of the year. You decide the amount, and we help you set up the payment through a credit card or bank. A gift of just \$50 per month will sponsor a child and their family for a school year's-worth of Send Hunger Packing backpacks full of nutritious food. Next step: rest easy knowing you are making a difference for those in need. We will be sure to put your gift to good use.

Make a Monthly Gift
www.careandshare.org
Thank you!

Virtual Food Drive

Help Kids this summer! Host a Virtual Food Drive.

Without school breakfast and lunch during the summer, many kids run the risk of missing important meals. You can help ensure that children in our community have the food they need.

Setting up a virtual food drive is simple. Virtual Food Drives help us provide many meals to our neighbors in need in Southern Colorado.

Get involved today. To start a Virtual Food Drive, contact Eric Pizana at eric@careandshare.org or call him at 719-434-4677



FILL-A-BOWL-A-THON

June 4, 2016 - Harmony Bowl

Make a difference in the lives of our neighbors in need by forming a team, raising money, and playing a couple games of bowling.

For information on registration, please visit www.careandshare.org/events



Agency Hero

Thanks to Kellogg Company for making our School Pantry program successful!

Grant funding from Kellogg Company has allowed us to expand our School Pantry program by adding new sites. Participating sites, all of which serve high percentages of children at risk of hunger and who have minimal access to other resources, include Atlas Preparatory School, Dove Creek, North Middle School, and Pikes Peak Elementary.

A School Pantry is a client-choice food pantry located on school property, available to students and families from that school. Care and Share pantries offer weekly or biweekly regular open hours when students and their families can come and choose food items, at no charge, to help stretch their grocery budgets. The number of distributions differs for each school. Sites allow families to come in by appointment or drop-in during certain times.

Funding from Kellogg Company allowed us to outfit the participating sites with shelving and refrigeration units, as well as acquire the food to stock the pantries.

Resource Report

We often take for granted the ability to have fresh produce on our tables each day. Sometimes we forget how much of a treat it can be.

At Care and Share Food Bank, planning is underway with local farmers in our 31-county service area for this year's crop growing season. We're working diligently with our local farmers to receive U.S. No. 2 graded produce as the crops become available.

The grade and food quality labels for fruits and vegetables are set by the United States Department of Agriculture. The purpose of these standards is to describe in a uniform language the quality and condition of commodities to the produce industry. Fruits and vegetables are graded for fresh market situations and for processing, and each fruit and vegetable has its own set of standard grades and terminology. The



The pantries are stocked with canned fruits and vegetables, beans, tuna, chicken, soups, rice, pasta, breakfast foods, snacks, and easy-ready meals. Parents and students can choose the items they want from a menu that guides how many items they can take from each category, and they leave with food their families will enjoy.

All of the pantries receive fresh produce and report that the kids and parents love it. The pantry at Atlas Preparatory School is incorporating innovative ideas such as partnering with Colorado Springs Food Rescue, another local organization focused on ending hunger, to offer rescued meals and flowers from restaurants.

The feedback from the sites has been positive, and the schools love being able to reach many different families at times that are convenient to them. The early success of these pantries is promising and the community support they are starting to receive is exciting.

The Site Coordinator at Pikes Peak Elementary School shared that "We have several students coming in and taking



food home every week. I can see the pride in their faces as they choose items to take home for their families."

We also heard from Kyra, the Atlas Preparatory School Pantry Coordinator: "Families are extremely thankful. Our program has been growing since day 1, and several families have told us that being able to depend on us weekly has made their lives a lot easier. While there are some food banks in the area, being at the school provides a one-stop shop when they pick up their students."

In total, during the first two months that the pantries were operating, they served 1,396 families (1,895 individuals)! We expect that we will continue to see growth as the School Pantries become more embedded in their communities.

USDA grade shields, official seals, and labels are reputable symbols of the quality and integrity of American agricultural products.

Grading of U.S. No. 2 consists of fruits and vegetables that meet the following requirements: fresh, free from decay, free from damage caused by dirt, and free from serious damage caused by disease, insects, freezing or mechanical means, with consistency in size and color. As an example, we received grapefruit into our warehouse. The grapefruit is healthy and colorful looking on the inside; its outer appearance does not meet the standards to be graded as U.S. No. 1, and therefore it's graded as U.S. No. 2. It is still perfectly good, nutritious food.

By working together with local farmers, we can plan, plant, and harvest a reliable source of food to distribute to our partner agencies across Southern Colorado to serve our neighbors in need - providing healthy, nutritious food to more people in more places.

Together we can solve hunger!



Leave a Legacy

Your gift will benefit generations to come. Leave a legacy. Make a gift.

Marie Schmidt remembered Care and Share in her trust. Her legacy will help to alleviate childhood hunger when kids are out of school for the summer.

Please contact Stacy Poore at 719-434-4679 or stacy@careandshare.org to learn more about charitable opportunities.



We are pleased to announce a creative way you can join in the fight against hunger. Cooking for a Cause is a monthly series of Chefs Table cooking experiences. Classes will be held April through November in our beautiful Community Kitchen. Demonstrations by expert chefs will be followed by a meal with the chef and class participants. Wine and other beverages pairings will be woven throughout the cooking dining experience.

6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
2605 Preamble Point, Colorado Springs, CO 80915
\$40 per person, per session. Space is limited.

Tickets can be purchased online at careandshare.org/events

Questions? Call 719-434-4679 or Stacy@careandshare.org.

May 12

Chef Jay Gust, TAPateria
Courses to be paired with craft gin libations from Lee Spirits.

June 9

Chef Nate Dirnberger, Colorado Springs School District 11 and Chef Kathy Anderson, Crazy Good Personal Chefs, joined by other chefs from the American Culinary Federation of the Pikes Peak Region. Courses to be paired with craft whiskey libations from Axe and the Oak.

August 11

Chef Corey Wilson, A Personable Chef

July 14

Chef Michael Cotton, Personal and Event Chef

September 8

Chef Jenna Hines, Picnic Basket Catering

October 13

Chef James Africano, The Warehouse

November 10

Chefs Jake Topaka and Ott Mathias, Jake and Telly's Greek Taverna

Business Champions

Does your company want to take action in the fight against hunger? There's no better way than to become a Business Champion. Recognition is given to businesses who give unrestricted gifts of at least \$500. To become a Business Champion, visit www.careandshare.org on Ways To Give.

Many thanks to these fantastic Business Champions who are ensuring families, children, the elderly, and others have enough food to eat because no one should go hungry!

Sunrise to Sunset (\$15,000+)

Breads of the World

After School Heroes (\$6,000 to \$14,999)

Farm Credit of Southern Colorado
T. Rowe Price Foundation
The Kroger Company
Tucano's Brazillian Grill

Thanks to our Funders!

The support of our grant makers is integral to the work that we do every day. We would like to thank the following grant makers, who recognize the mutually beneficial partnership of strengthening programs, services, and partner relationships. THANK YOU for your support!

January Grant Makers

Gazette-El Pomar Foundation Empty Stocking Fund
The Bruni Foundation
Nutrition Camp School Foundation, Inc.
The Red Nose Day Fund

February Grant Makers

CoBiz Cares Foundation
Credit Union of Colorado Foundation
First Tech Federal Credit Union
The Moniker Foundation

March Grant Makers

El Pomar Foundation
Google
Pikes Peak Community Foundation
Walmart Foundation
Wells Fargo

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CARE AND SHARESM
FOOD BANK FOR SOUTHERN COLORADO

A member of **FEEDING AMERICA**

To learn more or to make a donation to Care and Share Food Bank visit

www.careandshare.org

