



KATIE'S STORY

“Because of Care and Share Food Bank, I am going to be able to feed my children.”

INSIDE, PG. 2

SHARING THE HARVEST

Thank YOU for ensuring our neighbors in need have access to the food they need to thrive.

Food Bank Stories: Katie



As a single mom of two kids, Katie admits she sometimes skips meals just to be sure her children can have food. “There’s been a lot of times where I have felt I haven’t had enough food to feed my family,” Katie said. “It is really hard... especially with the kids.” She never wants her children to feel hungry.

Katie told us that she often worries about having enough money to buy food, pay bills, and afford other basic necessities. “You’re supposed to be able to take care of your kids and have their bellies full and make them happy. You know you do everything you can and sometimes it doesn’t always work,” she said.

The first time Katie came to our Peak Vista Mobile Food Pantry in Fountain, she was amazed. She couldn’t believe some of the food she was able to take home. “Mangoes? I have never been able to get mangoes, and to have a whole box is amazing!” Hundreds of working families just like Katie have access to fresh produce and staple food items through the Peak Vista Mobile Food Pantry.

“Because of Care and Share Food Bank, I am going to be able to feed my children,” Katie said. “I am just really appreciative of the people who put in the time to provide this service and everyone who donates to help families like ours.”

September is Hunger Action Month

You know that feeling of an empty stomach? Maybe you didn’t have time for breakfast, you had to attend a meeting that was booked during lunch, or you didn’t have time to go grocery shopping and there’s not enough food in the fridge to make a meal. The feeling of running on empty is too often a reality for thousands of our Southern Colorado neighbors that do not always know where their next meal is going to come from. Without adequate nutritious food, people—especially kids—don’t have the energy to focus, learn, grow, and thrive.

We need to make sure that no child, adult, or senior in Southern Colorado ever runs on empty.

Throughout the entire month of September, join us and our 200 Feeding America network food banks across the country and raise YOUR voice around the issue of hunger during Hunger Action Month. The easiest, most meaningful way you can get involved is to take to your favorite social media channel and post a plate selfie. Find a paper plate and write “On an empty stomach, I can’t (fill in the blank).” Post it, tag us @careandsharefb and use #HungerActionMonth. Tell your friends that you’re helping raise awareness for our Southern Colorado neighbors struggling with hunger.

Learn more at careandshare.org/hungeractionmonth.





Colorado Farm to Table

It all started around the dinner table. More than a decade ago, Tony Madone saw the food on his plate, turned to his wife and told her they ought to do something to try to provide fresh produce for people who are struggling with hunger. “Having grown up farming and raising my children farming, I knew what it was to sit down to a good meal,” said Madone. “I just realized at some point in my life that not everybody gets that opportunity... I just felt it was something I’d like to give over my lifetime.” That’s how Colorado Farm to Table, a nonprofit located in Salida, came to be. Tony started growing produce and giving it to soup kitchens and food pantries around Salida. Now, they have nearly 200 volunteers who have helped distribute more than 1.8 million pounds of produce across Colorado.

Colorado Farm to Table is a generous partner of Care and Share. Each year they donate more and more food to help us in our efforts to fight hunger. In 2013, they donated 6,589 pounds of fresh produce. **Fast-forward to 2016, we received 144,944 pounds of produce.** The produce we receive from Colorado Farm to Table includes sweet-corn, cabbage, broccoli, and acorn squash.

Tony says he’s thankful that he’s able to make a difference, and he wouldn’t be able to do it without the help he gets from volunteers and the relationships he has with different agencies. **“The ability to grow is a wonderful blessing, but we can’t distribute it. We can’t get it into the hands of all the people that need it... working with Care and Share makes what we do complete.”** Learn more about Colorado Farm to Table by visiting their website at coloradofarmtotable.org.

Lucky & Shelly Volunteers



Lucky and his wife Shelly began volunteering at Care and Share when Shelly worked for Colorado Springs Utilities and led a volunteer group. After retiring, Lucky and Shelly began regularly volunteering and have become a consistent and important part of our organization over the past seven years.

Lucky and Shelly spend most of their time working in the distribution center sorting and boxing food that is distributed through our hundreds of partner agencies. But they have recently taken over the leadership of Care and Share’s Mobile Food Pantries at Peak Vista’s Health Center at Fountain. The couple became familiar faces at Care and Share during the food and fund drives for those affected by the Waldo Canyon and Black Forest fires nearly five years ago. Not only do they volunteer their time, but they contribute financially to Care and Share as well. “We’ve come together for a like goal of helping others,” Shelly said. Lucky and Shelly have truly become a valuable part of our Care and Share family. They are dedicated, and very much appreciated, partners in the fight against hunger!



VolunBeer Tickets Now Available!

Join Care and Share for an exciting new series - VolunBeer! One part service and one part social. You'll spend an hour volunteering in our distribution center, then enjoy beer samplings from a local brewery. **VolunBeer tickets are now available for \$25 per person.** Participants must be 21 years of age or older and a valid ID is required. Space is limited. Visit our website for tickets at careandshare.org/volunbeer. Give back and beer happy!

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

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THANKS TO OUR GRANT MAKERS

The support of our grant makers is vital to the work that we do. We would like to thank the following grant makers, who help us feed thousands of our neighbors in need every day. Thank you for your trust and generosity.

February

El Pomar Foundation
Empty Stocking Fund
The Bruni Foundation
The Colorado Health Foundation
Wells Fargo Foundation

March

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May

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For more information about donating to Care and Share Food Bank, contact Shannon Brice, Chief Development Officer, at 719-434-4682 or at shannon@careandshare.org.