



SPRING 2019 NEWSLETTER

THE HARVESTER

www.foodshare.com

Happy New Year

from your friends at FOOD Share

On behalf of everyone here at FOOD Share, thank you for making our 7th Annual CAN-Tree Drive the best yet! We avoided a bookend rainstorm and were blessed with a gorgeous day in downtown Ventura. Hundreds of FOOD Share supporters built and decorated **330 CAN-trees** transforming Figueroa Plaza into an awe-inspiring holiday event.

A little rain didn't foil our plans for our 15-foot tall marquee trees traditionally built downtown the same time as the event. Thanks to our friends at the Pacific View Mall in Ventura, our three sponsorship trees built with 10,000 cans each were displayed near center court throughout December for all to see. Thank you to the LA Rams, Dole Packaged Foods and Farmers Insurance for your continued support to help build these amazing trees of food!

In addition to CAN-tree, the holidays are incredibly busy months for FOOD Share thanks to the generosity of community food drives, year-end donations and a full host of amazing volunteers. We unstuffed school buses full of food, collected our yellow barrels from hundreds of companies that hosted food drives and even did a check presentation under a beautiful Christmas tree adorned with orchids at Westerlay Orchids. **Every dollar, every can and every volunteer hour makes a difference!**

Looking forward to 2019, people continue to ask, **"How can I help?"** My answer remains true to the same message my fellow food bank CEOs share as well. **Please keep in mind that hunger doesn't end after the holidays. While year-end gifts and food drives may fill our warehouse for a few months, the need is constant throughout the year.**

One in six people is considered food insecure in Ventura County meaning they don't know where their next meal is coming from. The million pounds of food collected by FOOD Share each month and distributed through our 190 pantry and program partners is what fills the dinner tables of working families, veterans, seniors and children in our community. **Thank you for sharing our message** and remembering that our neighbors are hungry in February as well as during the holidays.

The success of FOOD Share comes from the pure generosity of our community — our donors, our volunteers, our staff, our board of directors and those who believe in the FOOD Share mission. **Thank you for your continued support and best wishes for a wonderful new year in 2019!**

Monica White

Monica White
President & CEO





MEMBER OF
**FEEDING
AMERICA**

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Mission Statement:

FOOD Share is dedicated to feeding, nourishing and educating the hungry of Ventura County, educating the community on those who are hungry and why, and advocating for a reduction of the root causes of hunger.

Vision Statement:

FOOD Share innovatively and efficiently gathers and distributes food, serving those in need through a network of charitable agencies. Our dedicated volunteers and staff fight hunger with compassion and commitment to ensure that people have ready access to nutritious food. FOOD Share responds to community emergencies quickly and effectively.

Go Green Please call or e-mail if you'd like us to communicate with you via e-mail to save on printing and mailing costs: jcaldwell@foodshare.com or 805-983-7100 ext 129.

Food for Fines: February 10-16, 2019



**You bring the food,
we'll waive the fines!**

One canned item = \$1.00 in fines!

Ventura County Library, in partnership with FOOD Share, is waiving fines for food:

- ✓ There's no limit on the number of cans you can donate! For example, **5 cans = \$5 off** your library card fines.
- ✓ If you have late or long overdue items, bring in a can to have the fines lowered.
- ✓ Canned goods must be unopened and unexpired to qualify. No glass containers, please.
- ✓ To participate, just drop off your cans at the Circulation Desk of any Ventura County Library.

You can donate even if you don't have fines! Contact your local branch for details.



Ventura County Library • vencolibrary.org



Staff Spotlight: Susan Haverland — Chief Operating Officer

Susan Haverland joined FOOD Share in 2012 as the Manager of Programs and Services. She has since been promoted to Chief Operating Officer. In this role, she oversees the food acquisition, warehouse and programs teams. She enjoys the opportunity to help FOOD Share increase the amount of food it sources and distributes, and especially appreciates the commitment and dedication of her co-workers. Susan spent much of her career as a corporate marketing executive, but says the shift to the nonprofit sector was the right decision for her because it allows her to give back to the community she calls home.



Greatest need for FOOD Share: *FOOD Share has an ongoing need for financial support to help us feed the hard-working, hungry people who look to us for food: 70% of the people we serve visit a pantry only once or twice a year, when the car breaks down or medical bills pile up.*

Best part of your job: *I can't narrow it down to one answer: the best part of my job is the incredible people I work with, and the opportunity to feel that we've made a difference every day.*

Favorite Hobby: *Snorkeling tropical reefs.*



A Season of Giving

Thanks to you,
there were
many grateful
hearts this
holiday season.



Thank you to the Ventura Art & Street Painting Festival for donating \$10,000. Pictured: FOOD Share Board Chair Joe Schroeder, Festival Chair Barbara Hinton, and FOOD Share CEO Monica White.



Help 4 the Hungry: NBC Channel 4 teamed up with Ralphs and Food 4 Less to collect \$400,000 that will be distributed between So Cal food banks.



Westerlay Orchids: Donated 100% of one week's proceeds to FOOD Share for the Woolsey Fire Relief Fund. Over \$21,000!



Stuff the Bus: Pleasant Valley School District collected almost 7,000 pounds of food!



Thank you to Randy Encinas and Doug Halter for turning your annual Holiday Party into a big food drive!



Drifill School: Dr. Dafau and students dropping off their canned goods!



Grocery Outlet — Ventura: Collected and donated 100 turkeys during the holidays.



Northrup Grumman: The staff from Astro Aerospace of Northrup Grumman did a holiday food drive.

FOOD SHARE'S SEVENTH ANNUAL CAN-tree drive

Our 7th Annual CAN-tree Drive was bigger and better than ever. A record number of trees lined Figueroa Plaza in Downtown Ventura for a magical weekend.

By the Numbers:



MEMBER OF
FEEDING AMERICA

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