



2023 FALL **NEWSLETTER**

FROM HOMELESS TO HOPE

By: Camille Coker Wrinkle

"I always felt pushed to the side," recalls John Stice, as he sits in the lobby at Restoration of Hope, a home for men coming out of prison or other rehabilitation programs. "From being diagnosed with ADHD early in life, to being homeless as an adult, I always felt looked down on or taken advantage of because of my situation."

By the age of twelve, John was smoking cigarettes and using marijuana, which led to pills and eventually IV drug use. After being kicked out of his home, he drifted from one living arrangement to another, often resulting in others taking advantage of his situation. He was already part of the prison system by the age of nineteen, followed by brief stints living in neighboring states, and finally moving back to the Texarkana area, where his old ways always seemed to find him.

"In 2015, I was technically homeless and I continued to drift in and out of homelessness from then on," John shares. "I tried other facilities, but I always found a way to keep using drugs, so they never really worked. I was crying out for help, but I didn't want to accept the help."

Finally, on the streets, and in the cold rain, he called a former employer. "I had finally given up, and I had heard about Restoration of Hope, so I asked my boss to drop me off at their doorstep."

According to William Walter, Director of Restoration of Hope, their program incorporates faith based teachings with proven addiction recovery tools. "We take men coming out of prison or another facility and help them

on their journey to reintegrate back into society." With housing for new clients, as well as four sober living homes, their partnership with Harvest Regional Food Bank is critical to their programs. "Because of Harvest, we are able to use less of our resources on purchasing food, and more of it on providing housing and programing for these men."



As for John, he has completed the program, and now ministers to others in the program. "I never had any guidance, and these men have become like family because they didn't push me down, but they tell you the straight truth." And as he talks about finally moving forward and learning how to be a father, his chest swells with pride, as he shares, "My son calls me Dad, now."

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- William Walter, Director of Restoration of Hope

PROGRESS AT HARVEST IS FULL STEAM AHEAD





Harvest is excited about the progress on the renovation and addition to our warehouse and offices in Texarkana. Over the past several years, Harvest has grown in every way, except space. We have added new programs, improved the effectiveness of our hunger relief, and increased the number of meals provided to our neighbors across northeast Texas and southwest Arkansas. All this has been done with the same amount of office space, and with a meager increase in the number of employees.

With the generous support of regional and national foundations, area corporate partners, and countless local supporters, Harvest will have space to house current and future employees, as well as providing fresh meals for our programs and nutrition education, from our new commercial level kitchen.

We want to thank our community of supporters and we look forward to revealing the finished space in the upcoming months!





THANK YOU TO OUR HARVESTER'S CLUB PARTNERS

Harvester's Club Partners support Harvest Regional Food Bank's three signature events, as well as provide vital program support each year.

Dr. Ly & Aaron Gaylor













To find out how you or your business can become part of the Harvester's Club, please call us at (870) 774-1398.

Dr. Ly & Aaron Gaylor PRESENT



- Voted One of the Top Five Best Charity Events in Texarkana
- Over 40 Restaurants, Food, and **Beverage Vendors**
- Celebrating 30 Years of Family Fun

Tuesday, November 7, 2023

5pm - 8pm **Four States Fair Grounds Entertainment Center**

SPONSORED











For more information call (870) 774-1398 or email development@hrfb.org.



LETTER FROM THE CEO AND BOARD PRESIDENT



Prior to the pandemic, Harvest had reached a milestone in the life of our food bank, and we were transitioning from our primary focus being on food delivery, to a stronger focus on activities to address broader issues of hunger in southwest Arkansas and northeast Texas. However, the pandemic quickly shifted our focus back to food delivery as the top priority. Over the next two years, Harvest saw a brief dip in hunger rates, followed by a new, longer lasting, rise in the need for hunger relief, caused by inflation and the high cost of food and gas.

While we are still focused on the immediate need for hunger relief in our region, Harvest is also looking ahead to long- term solutions that include:

- Expansion of Out-of-School Programs, including After-School and Summer Feeding sites.
- Expansion of our school pantry program for more high school and post high school campuses.
- An increase in Healthcare partnerships that join the need for nutritious food with the health and wellness goals of our area clinics for their lowincome patients.

The most exciting of these long-term solutions is the current expansion to our facility which will allow for more community programs including financial wellness and nutrition education.

Harvest Regional Food Bank has much to be proud of, and none of it would be possible without an incredible team of employees, pantries, volunteers and friends, who continue to bless us with their commitment to making sure no one in southwest Arkansas and northeast Texas goes without the food they need.

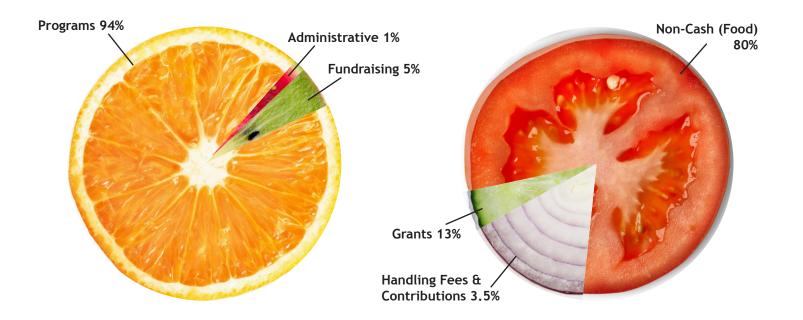
As we enter this new chapter our of hunger relief, we want to thank all of you who continue to give of your time, your resources, and financial support. We look forward to keeping you updated as we work to improve lives, "one meal at a time."



Camille Coker Wrinkle
CEO/Executive Director



The Incident of the food Harvest Regional Food Bank receives and distributes is included as Non-Cash under expenses and revenue.



EXPENSES

Programs: All expenses related to reclaiming, storing and delivering food in the 10 counties we serve.

Fundraising: The cost of fundraising and marketing activities.

Administration: Compensation, accounting costs and other expenses not directly connected to food distribution.

 Programs
 \$ 9,432,983
 94%

 Fundraising
 479,214
 5%

 Administrative
 164,071
 1%

 Total
 \$ 10,076,268



REVENUE

Total

Handling Fees: Cost-sharing with partner agencies, who pay 6 to 16 cents per pound for grocery products.

Contributions: Free-will gifts from individuals, companies and other organizations.

Grants: Gifts from charitable foundations and government agencies.

Other: Income from investments, in-kind contributions, etc.

Non-Cash (Food)	\$ 7,545,531	80%
Grants	1,466,119	15%
Handling Fees &	438,850	5%
Contributions		

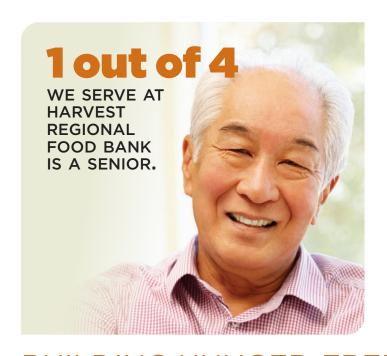
\$ 9,450,500

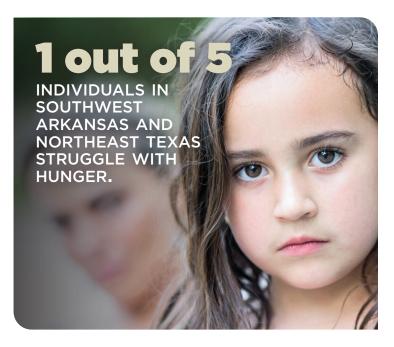




NOURISHING OUR NEIGHBORS ...

Harvest Regional Food Bank works closely with hundreds of volunteers, donors, and corporate partners to fulfill our critical mission.





BUILDING HUNGER-FREE COMMUNITIES ...

Last year Harvest Regional Food Bank distributed more than

4.4 million
POUNDS
OF FOOD



Which is the equivalent of





THANK YOU, DONORS!

Grants Received (May 1, 2023 - August 1, 2023)

Arkansas Community Foundation -Support of Backpack Food for Kids Program

Arkansas Hunger Relief Alliance -Support of Warehouse Equipment Purchases

Bobbie A. Atkinson Foundation -General Support of Hunger Relief

Christus Fund Support of Hunger Relief for
Low-Income Patients and
Healthcare Providers

American Electric Power Foundation -Support of Hunger Relief and Storm Recovery Caliber Collision Centers Foundation -General Support of Hunger Relief

Junior League of Texarkana -General Hunger Relief Support

Papa John's Foundation -General Hunger Relief Support

Patterson Troike Foundation -General Hunger Relief Support

Regions Foundation -Support for Mobile Pantry Program

United Way of Greater Texarkana -Support of Backpack Food for Kids Program

United Way Of Hempstead County -Support of Backpack Food for Kids Program

John Gregory

Christ Church -

Support of Childhood Hunger Programs at Genoa and Fouke Schools

Cadence Bank -

General Support of Hunger Relief

Socius Foundation -General Hunger Relief Support

Albertson's Foundation -Support of Backpack Food for Kids Program

Domtar - Support of Backpack Food for Kids Program

Donors with Cumulative Gifts of \$1,000+ (Over the last 12 months)

2B Builders Alan Schimming Alvis Lee Pennington Amanda Chandler Amelia Beasley Andrea Thomas Angela Peek Arkansas Blue Cross Blue Shield Arkansas Farm Bureau Federation Averys Chapel Church Benjamin & McCarley Dubois Betty Ball **Betty Scoggins** Bowie County Department Of Community **Brentwood Industries Brittany Ackley** Brookshire Grocery Co. Bruce Flint Cadence Bank Chapel Hill Church Of Christ -Nashville Christ United Methodist Church - Texarkana Christa and William Kolb Chuck Kissman

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Darren and Audrey Hostetler

David and Barbara Vershaw David and Debbie Haak Debbie and Chris Alkire Diane Cooper Dolly McGinnis Domtar - Ashdown Dr. Emily Cutrer Dr. Ly & Mr. Aaron Gaylor Farmers Bank and Trust Fay-J Packaging Fidelity Charitable Foundation First Baptist Church of Hicks Flanagan | Andrus Frances Moore Frederick Wichhart Gail and Gene Cogbill George and Kathy Shackelford Graphic Packaging International -Texarkana Mill Gregg Orr Auto Horatio State Bank Iris Hackett James and Penny Morphew James Freeman Charitable Trust James McPherson James Murphy Jimmy McLaughlin

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Joseph Drewery Jst Enterprises, Inc. Judy and Larry McNeal Karl Schirmer Kate Anderson Keith Williams Kelley-Morgan Foundation Kiff and Traci Barker Lester and Anne Houk Lucille Cook M. L. James Construction Company Dr. Dennis and Malise O'Banion Mary & Joseph Morriss Mary Bigger Matthew and Cynthia Young Matthew Nix Miranda and Braden Dodson Mitchell Noble Nantze, Inc. Norma and Fay J Durrant Northside Assembly of God Church Patrick Craven Perry Newton Precision Metal Industries, Inc. Rbis, LLC Riata Land & Cattle Company Riggs Employees Fund

Ritter Communications River Valley Tractor **RJ LaGrone** Robbins Toyota Robert Holmes Ronne and Wendell Fett Rose Hill Baptist Church Samuel Butler Scott Hopkins Scout Property Group Sharon and Walter Davis State Bank Steven Beckman Sybil Talley Texar Federal Credit Union Thomas & Thomas, LLC Thomas Phillips III Todd and Alicia Utz Troy Potter Veda Strait Vessel Church W.W. Metal Products Wavne Braswell Wayne H Garrison Charitable Trust Wholesale Electric Supply Co. Young & Thornton Insurance and Financial Services, L.C.C. Youngblood Insurance

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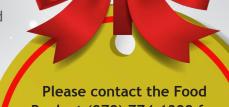
Amanda Ward Premier Pediatric Therapy

Melinda Vammen Community Volunteer

TIS' THE SEASON TO GIVE BACK

The holidays are here, and hunger does not take a break! Harvest has an easy way for you to spread hunger relief while you spread holiday cheer. With a \$10 holiday card, you can show family, friends, and colleagues how much you care about those in need. Simply send us your holiday list with addresses, and Harvest will send each one a personalized holiday card. The message inside will let them know a gift was made by you

or your business, in their honor.



Please contact the Food Bank at (870) 774-1398 for more information.

Names and addresses are needed before December 10, 2023 in order to be mailed before Christmas.



For each \$10 contribution, we will be able to provide 55 meals to those struggling during the holidays.



FEEDING AMERICA