



2023 SPRING NEWSLETTER

# **EXCITING PLANS FOR THE FUTURE**

Harvest Regional Food Bank recently broke ground on the construction of an addition to our warehouse and facility, which will allow the food bank to provide even more hunger relief to food insecure families in need, throughout Northeast Texas and Southwest Arkansas.

Thanks to the generous support of the Mackenzie Scott Foundation, Feeding America, and many generous local donors, this additional space will include a multi-purpose education and community room, as well as a commercial kitchen, which will allow for cooking and wellness classes, and increase the food banks capacity to prepare nutritious meals for several ongoing feeding programs.

"This multipurpose space will allow us to address hunger in new ways and create long-term solutions to food insecurity." According to Camille Coker Wrinkle, Harvest Regional Food Bank Chief Executive Officer. "For example, the new commercial kitchen will allow us to partner with culinary programs to prepare meals for our summer and after-school feeding programs and, as a result, we can add more local feeding sites, and reach more food insecure children than ever before.



Another focus of the recent expansion will be community education, and collaboration with other local charities to address the overall issue of poverty and food insecurity. Harvest will utilize the multipurpose area to offer financial wellness and nutrition classes to the community, and allow other non-profits to use the space to educate those they serve.

Harvest Regional Food Bank is excited for this next step in our mission to end hunger in Northeast Texas and Southwest Arkansas.

# GOOD TIMES ARE BACK, AND IT WAS A SUCCESS!

Taste of Texarkana is back, and its return was a successful night for Harvest Regional Food Bank. After canceling the event for three years due to COVID-19, we wanted to bring it back with a bang! Nearly 2,000 excited guests gathered together to sample delicious foods from over 40 restaurants, caterers, and beverage providers.

### THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS!



 ENCOURSE OF

 BUDGET TO YOU BY

 Dr. Ly & Aaron Caylor

 ENCOURSE OF

 DESENTING

A special thank you goes to our Presenting Sponsor, Dr. Ly and Mr. Aaron Gaylor, along with several generous sponsors and volunteers, including the Texarkana Regional Correction Center, who provided assistance in setting up and breaking down the event.

Thank you to everyone who helped make the 29th Annual Taste of Texarkana one of the best events yet!

### **EVENT WINNERS**

Best Dessert Crowd Favorite Best Spread Rookie of the Year Best in Show Harvester's Pick Best Spirit Best Theme Best of Taste Buttercup Bakery Chef on the Run Cornerstone Texas Chuckwagon Eagle Distributing Coca-Cola Refreshments Blue Water Bayou Monjuni's Italian Cafe Silver Star Smokehouse





### THANK YOU, DONORS!

#### Grants Received (August 1, 2022 - December 31, 2022)

Arkansas Community Foundation Support for Backpack Food for Kids Programs American Electric Power Foundation Support for Backpack For Kids and Mobile Pantry Programs **Albertsons Foundation** Nourishing Neighbors Child and Family Food Support Bobbie Atkinson Foundation Student Pantry Programs in Miller and Bowie County Feeding America Support of Equitable Food Access for Families and Seniors Papa John's Foundation Support of Family Food

Box Programs

**Regions Foundation** Support of Area Mobile Pantry Programs Thomas H Mayme P Scott Foundation Inc Support of Family Food Box Programs **Feeding America** Support of SNAP Advocacy and Outreach for Low-Income Families United Way of Greater Texarkana Support of Backpack Food for Kids Programs in Southwest Arkansas and Northeast Texas United Way of Hempstead County Support of Backpack Food for Kids Programs in Hempstead County Schools

CHRISTUS Fund Support of Healthcare Partnerships for Food Insecure, Low-Income Patients and Seniors Arkansas Hunger **Relief Alliance** Support of Equipment and Fresh Produce Program **Feeding America** Support of Technology Services to Provide Tablets and Software to Partnering Agencies

# HARVEST GIONAL FOOD BY THE NUMBERS



318 **New Donors** Since This Time Last Year



# 7,800

Calls to the Food Bank for Assistance

# Over 13,000

Commodity Boxes Distributed in 2022 through Mobile Pantries

112

**Requests** for Assistance Via Our Website or Facebook



### 33,328 Visitors on Our

Website in the Last 12 Months





Pounds Distributed to in 2022

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

2B Builders Brittany Ackley AEP/SWEPCO Albertsons Companies Foundation Debbie and Chris Alkire Kate Anderson Arkansas Blue Cross Blue Shield Arkansas Community Foundation Arkansas Farm Bureau Federation Arkansas Foodbank Arkansas Hunger Relief Alliance Averys Chapel Church Betty Ball Kiff and Traci Barker **Billy Barnes** Amelia Beasley Beauty Outlet Mall, Inc Steven Beckman Mary Bigger Bobbie Atkinson Foundation Wayne Braswell Brentwood Industries Brookshire Grocery Co. Ann Brown Jim Buie Kirby and Diana Bunel Jo and Carl Burns Martha and Samuel Butler Cabe Cook Foundation Cadence Bank Cardinal Revenue Solutions LLC Amanda Chandler Chapel Hill Church Of Christ Christ United Methodist Church Christus Health Gail and Gene Cogbill Blake and Allie Cogbill Commercial National Bank Diane Cooper Cooper Tire & Rubber Co. Patrick Craven Dr. Emily Cutrer Sharon and Walter Davis Miranda and Braden Davis Domtar **Douglas Companies** Natasha Dowd Joseph Drewery Norma and Fay J Durrant Express Employment Professionals FA Financial Partners LLC Farmers Bank & Trust Fav-J Packaging Ronne Fett

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# SAVE THE DATE



Join us for a day of fun out on the green and help fight hunger in Southwest Arkansas and Northeast Texas.

Sponsorship opportunities are available! Visit hrfb.org for more information. To secure your team, call (870) 774-1398 or email development@hrfb.org. Chances to Win: Longest Drive Closest to the Hole Many More!

### THANK YOU TO OUR HARVESTER'S CLUB PARTNERS









Dr. Ly & Aaron Gaylor



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