

2017 FALL
NEWSLETTER

THE DISH HARVEST

REGIONAL FOOD BANK

COUNTIES SERVED



FROM FARM TO TABLE

Thanks to the generosity of growers in our region, Summer 2017 was a very plentiful one of those served by Harvest Regional Food Bank and our partnering agencies. And we couldn't have done it alone. In one day, the Harvest staff and dozens of volunteers were able to "glean" approximately two acres of sweet corn, weighing almost 40,000 pounds. Weeks later, Harvest was able to provide another 40,000 pounds of fresh watermelon to hungry families throughout our area.

Arkansas and Texas are both ranked in the top ten for overall and childhood food insecurity. Harvest Regional Food Bank recognizes that those most food insecure are often those with the fewest options available for nutritious food choices. According to the most recent Hunger in America Study, which

includes our service area, 44 percent of clients surveyed reported being in fair or poor health.

While research shows fresh produce is key to fighting obesity, and critical to disease prevention and management, many of the families we serve simply cannot afford to include produce in their diets. Access is also a barrier due to the lack of nearby markets and affordable nutritious options.

For this reason, Harvest is thrilled to be able to provide fresh produce to food insecure individuals in our communities. We are committed to continuing, and increasing access to healthy nutritious fruits and vegetables children, families and seniors throughout Southwest Arkansas and Northeast Texas.



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FOOD BANK BOARD
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CEO/Executive Director



**AGENCY HIGHLIGHT:
WILLIAMS MEMORIAL FOOD PANTRY**

Williams Memorial Food Pantry has partnered with Harvest Regional Food Bank for over 6 years. The Pantry works to end food insecurity by providing a variety of food items to hungry people in our community. In 2011, the Williams Memorial Sunday school class decided to take on a mission and chose the pantry. This same year, the pantry began buying their food from Harvest Regional Food Bank. The pantry started growing and they began serving meals. In the beginning, Williams Memorial Food Pantry was very small, only serving about 20 families a month. Clients were able to shop and choose items for themselves. As the pantry has grown, prepacked groceries are now passed out to clients. Last year, the pantry gave over 3,500 prepacked sacks and served over 6,600 meals to needy families in our community. The number of meals served has gone down to only serving 2 times a month, but increased the amount of prepacked sacks given out because the amount of pantry clients has grown.

“We view our pantry as a mission to love our brothers and sisters in need as Jesus did in his time,” says Lisa Mitchell, Volunteer at Williams Memorial Food Pantry. “We serve our

clients at the table as if they were eating at our own houses with real plates and silverware. We want them to feel welcomed and special when they come through the doors.” Before supper is served, everyone joins together for a short devotion. Food Pantry clients also have the option to fill out prayer request that a prayer team prays over weekly.

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For over 20 years, Williams Memorial Food Pantry has been serving Texarkana families in need. The clients come from all walks of life. Senior citizens, single mothers, or just the average person down on their luck. The volunteers at Williams Memorial Food Pantry believe it is up to them to give a smile and a helping hand to people in need, as it may be the only one they get.

HARVESTER'S SPOTLIGHT: E-Z MART

For over ten years, EZ MART has been a friend and partner of Harvest Regional Food Bank, supporting many of our programs such as Food Rescue, Mobile Pantry and Backpacks for Kids. Once again, the E-Z Mart Jim Yates Foundation is supporting the food bank as a Harvester's Club Partner. Harvester Club members contribute to the Food Bank's signature events in addition to choosing a specific hunger relief program to support.

As their mission states, The E-Z Mart Jim Yates Foundation is dedicated to supporting communities in which we serve by improving the lives within those

communities through support of Charitable Organizations that respond to challenges and create positive change in the areas of Education, Health and Humanities. According to Mike Ingram with the E-Z Mart Jim Yates Foundation, “E-Z Mart is proud to be a sponsor of such a caring and giving organization, that reaches out to so many people in our community that are in need.”

Harvest Regional Food Bank is grateful for the continued friendship and support of the E-Z Mart Jim Yates Foundation. We thank them for all they do to promote the food bank and many other worthwhile causes in our community.

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

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



Mr. and Dr. Minhly Gaylor





2016 ANNUAL REPORT

the numbers

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION, DECEMBER 31, 2016

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

Letter from the CEO and Board President

Dear Supporters, Hunger Relief Agencies and Friends,

For Harvest Regional Food Bank, 2016 marked a successful year in partnering with communities throughout Southwest Arkansas and Northeast Texas, in the fight against hunger. Along with our partners, Harvest continued to expand our reach through both direct, and collaborative, hunger relief programs.

Overall, Harvest Regional Food Bank was able to provide nearly 3.25 million meals to those in most need of hunger relief. Nearly 1,000 children were reached through our Backpack and summer meals programs. These are children who might otherwise go hungry on days when there is no access to school provided breakfast and lunch. We were also able to expand our hunger relief to rural, underserved areas through our mobile pantry program, going from 8 in 2014 to 26 in the past year. In addition, Harvest made significant increases in the amount of fresh vegetables and fruits provided to food insecure families.

While Harvest works to reach as many food insecure families in all of our ten counties, we continue to recognize the need for excellence right here in our warehouse and fleet. In late 2016, Harvest received a grant to secure an additional refrigerated truck, and was also able to refurbish a previously donated truck to further expand our fleet. By improving operations and expanding our fleet, we expand our reach, to more food insecure people, in more underserved areas.

As we look ahead to the next few years, we are planning for even more progress in the fight against hunger. Our goals include 25 percent of distribution coming from fresh fruits and vegetables, and expansion to our refrigeration for added capacity. We are also preparing to launch programs specifically aimed at reaching food insecure seniors. On top of getting food out to those we serve, we are busy preparing our facility for a rigorous independent food safety audit, so those we serve can be assured of the quality and safety of our services.

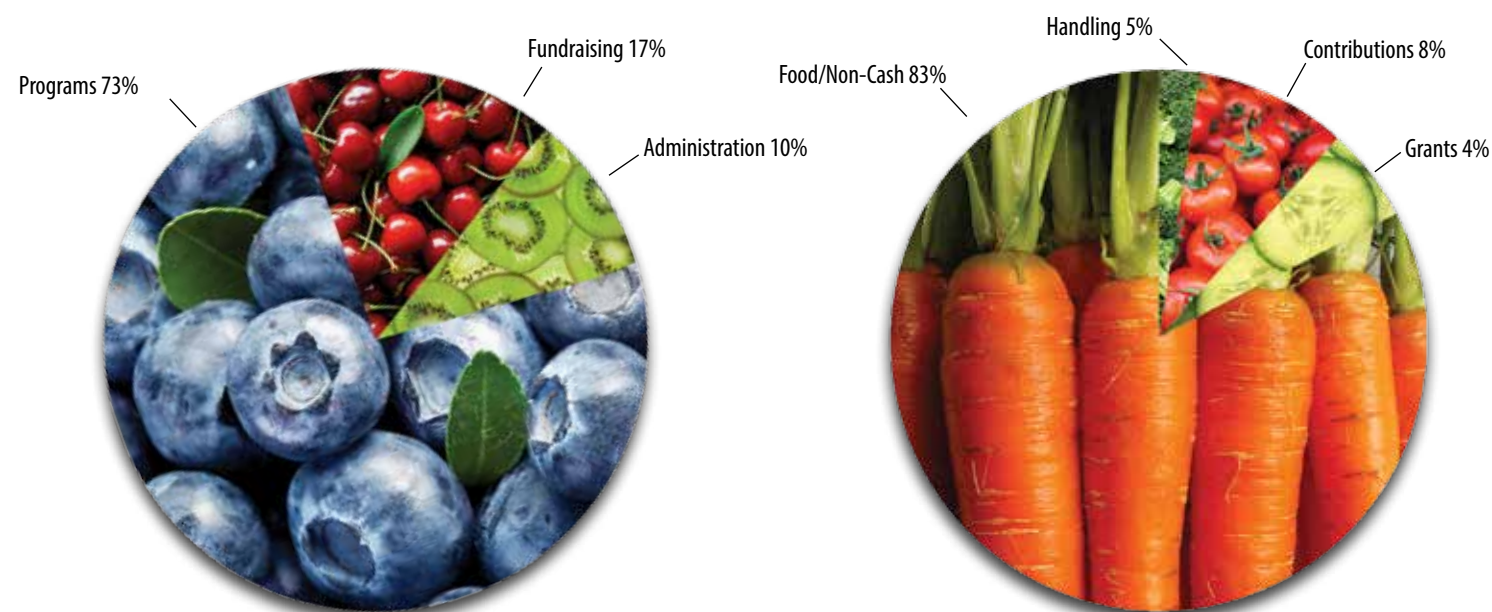
Arkansas and Texas still lead the nation in overall hunger and childhood hunger, but we are closing the gap every day. However, we can't do it alone. It takes over 75 agencies, hundreds of volunteers, and countless friends who support us with food and resources. We are proud to say that together, we ARE closing the hunger gap in Southwest Arkansas and Northeast Texas!

Thank you for your continued support,

Camille Coker Wrinkle
CEO/Executive Director

Jason Clanton
President, Board of Directors

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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	\$	540,414	73%
Admin	\$	76,504	10%
Fundraising	\$	122,355	17%

Total **\$ 739,237**

REVENUE

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.

Handling Fees	\$	328,182	5%
Contributions	\$	573,757	8%
Grants	\$	305,760	4%
Non-Cash (Food)	\$	5,804,424	83%

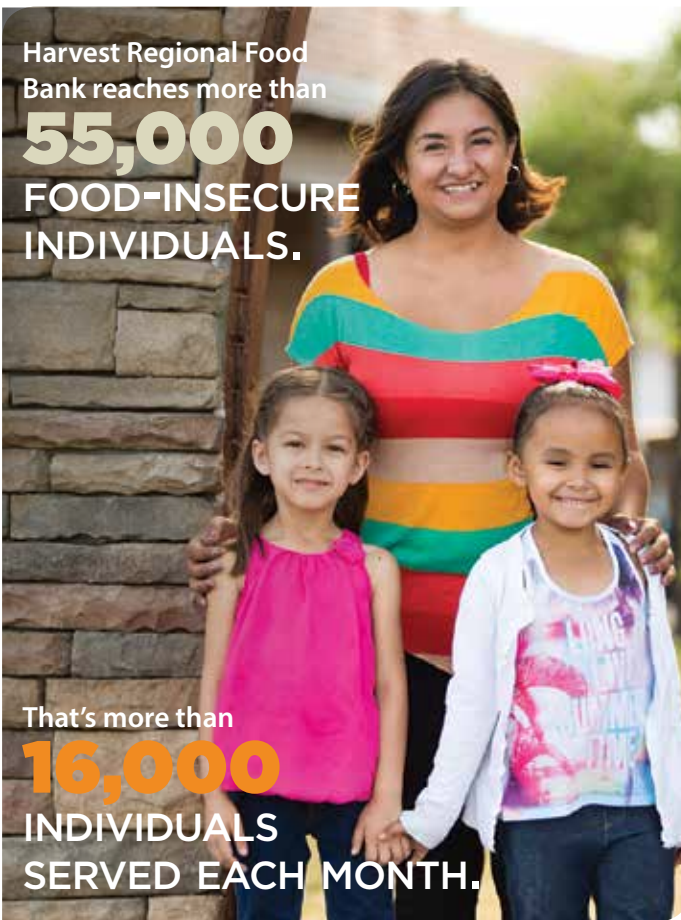
Total **\$ 7,012,123**

91%

OF OUR
RESOURCES
SUPPORT
IMMEDIATE FOOD
DISTRIBUTION

Harvest Regional Food Bank reaches more than **55,000** FOOD-INSECURE INDIVIDUALS.

That's more than **16,000** INDIVIDUALS SERVED EACH MONTH.



Nearly **25%** of the individuals served by the Food Bank are **children under the age of 18.**

25,000 BACKPACKS were distributed.



BUILDING HUNGER-FREE COMMUNITIES...

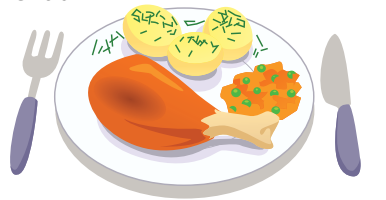
Last year Harvest Regional Food Bank distributed more than

3.5 MILLION POUNDS OF FOOD



Which is the equivalent of

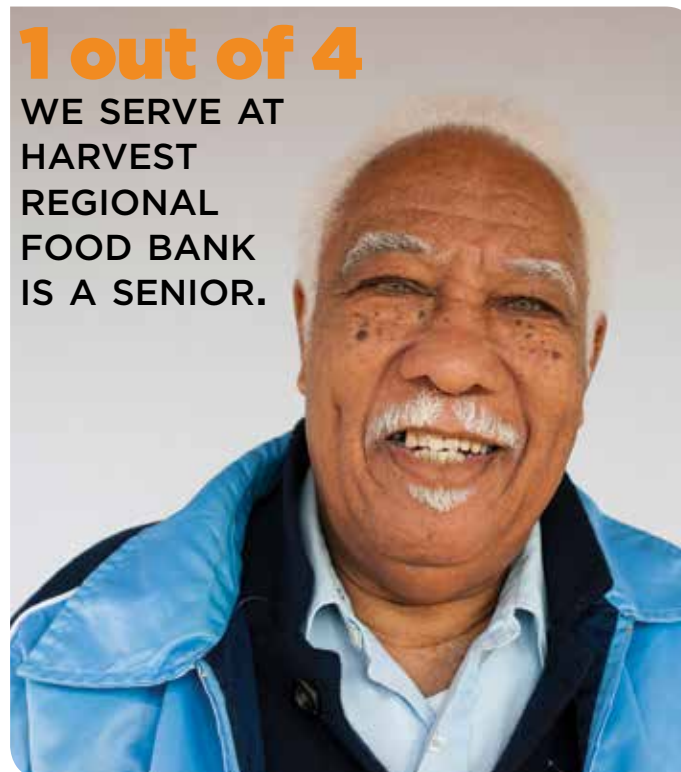
3.2 MILLION MEALS



NOURISHING OUR NEIGHBORS...

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

1 out of 4 WE SERVE AT HARVEST REGIONAL FOOD BANK IS A SENIOR.



1 out of 6 individuals in southwest Arkansas and Northeast Texas struggle with hunger.



We don't fulfill our mission alone. We count on our volunteers, who gave

3,200 HOURS



And we rely on a vast network of

75 PARTNER AGENCIES



in addition to the direct programs we offer at our campus and at various locations.

Our Partner Agencies are spread across our

10 COUNTY SERVICE AREA

and include meal programs, pantries, shelters, religious groups and a variety of other organizations.



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITES

Harvest Regional Food Bank always has a place for volunteers! If you would like to volunteer, we have a variety of opportunities for groups ranging from one or two people to more than twenty. For more information or to be added to the volunteer schedule, call 870-774-1398 or email development@hrfb.org.

NATIONAL HUNGER ACTION MONTH KICK OFF

Harvest Regional Food Bank kicked off national Hunger Action Month with the annual luncheon held at Williams Memorial United Methodist Church. Special recognition was given to volunteers, sponsors, and "2017 Hunger Heroes".

OUTSTANDING VOLUNTEER

Julie Furlow
Jennifer Lockman
Cindy Malone
Debbie Broussard
Joan Dean

OUTSTANDING GROUP VOLUNTEER

Pride Academy
Pleasant Grove Student Council
and Leadership
Beech Street First Baptist Church
Crossview Baptist Church
Ashdown High School Band

OUTSTANDING AGENCY AWARDS

Total Life Outreach - *Childhood Hunger Partner*
Community Freewill Baptist Church - *Childhood Hunger Partner*
Brister Baptist Church - *Childhood Hunger Partner*
Columbia County Senior Meal Service - *Senior Hunger Relief*
Praise Temple - *Special Community Outreach*
Our Lady of Good Hope - *Hunger Relief in a Rural County*
Church of Christ - DeQueen - *New Agency of Year*

AGENCY OF THE YEAR

Williams Memorial United Methodist Church - *Agency of the Year*

HUNGER HERO AWARD

McLarty Ford



FOUNDATION & CORPORATE GIFTS

BancorpSouth — \$1,000, program support
Feeding America — \$43,200, hunger relief
AEP/SWEPCO — \$2,250, program support
Floyd Capital Management — \$2,000, program support
Wholesale Electric Supply Co. — \$1,000, program support
TEXAR — \$6,500, program support
Ledwell & Son Enterprises, Inc. — \$7,500, program support
Barry Insurance — \$1,000, program support
Farmers Bank & Trust — \$1,100, program support

State Bank of Dekalb — \$1,000, program support
Neighbors Emergency Center — \$3,500, program support
E-Z Mart — \$3,500, program support
ORR Enterprises — \$5,000, program support
Wells Fargo — \$1,000, program support
Arkansas Community Foundation — \$2,125, Backpack for Kids support
Gateway Tire — \$890, program support
Ronald McDonald House Charities — \$15,000, Backpack for Kids support
McLarty Ford — \$7,500, program support