



COMING UP!

WINK News Feeds Families Hunger Walk



Sign up for the 8th annual **WINK News Feeds Families Hunger Walk** presented by Garden Street Companies and the Lee County Sheriff's Office on Saturday, Jan. 16, at 9:30 a.m.! Join more than 1,000 participants expected at this year's event, as we aim to raise \$330,000. That amount will provide almost \$2 million in food to 150 partner agencies. "We invite the community to take a stand against hunger at this fun and special event," said co-chair Anne Rose, vice president, revenue cycle, Lee Memorial Health System. You can register at harrychapinfoodbank.org to "Fight Hunger and Feed Hope."

SAVE THE DATE!

Empty Bowls Naples

This fundraiser for the Harry Chapin Food Bank, presented by Tamiami Ford/Tamiami Hyundai, is set for Saturday, Jan. 23, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Cambier Park. For a \$15 donation, guests can choose from 2,000 hand-made pottery bowls and sample 46 soups from area chefs. Become a friend at emptybowlsnaples.org.

In-store Pick-up Program Rescues Food from Retailers

When Mark Camacho drives up to a Harry Chapin Food Bank partner agency in the early afternoon, he can feel the excitement. That's because his truck is filled with nutritious food rescued just hours earlier. As soon as it's unloaded, the food will go home with a family in need and become dinner that evening.

About a third of the food produced in the U.S. is wasted every year. So instead of watching out-of-date food wind up in a landfill, the Food Bank is working with retail store partners on a "rescue" program. In FY 2014-2015 alone, 143 stores in Southwest Florida donated 7.6 million pounds of food for distribution to food-insecure children, families and seniors!

These rescue efforts must move fast. Workers at Publix, Walmart, Winn-Dixie, Costco, Target, Big Lots and other local retailers identify close-dated bread, deli, produce, dairy, meat and dry goods. Store Retail Coordinator Camacho and five other Food Bank drivers arrive early at stores to pick up food that has been boxed, labeled and refrigerated. Back at the warehouse, these pallets are weighed. The food is checked for safety, sorted into product categories, and sent on its way to agencies.

As little as 2 percent of rescued food is found to be unfit for human consumption,



"Rescued" fresh food moves quickly from retail stores to the Food Bank warehouse to agencies.

but even that is put to good use, redirected to animal care organizations, explained Chris Robinson, food resourcing manager at the Food Bank. "These collaborations put the Food Bank well on its way to becoming a 'zero waste' organization."

Food rescue programs "bring in expensive product we could never afford to buy," said Eric Hitzeman, Food Bank director of operations. "And because the food has such a short shelf life, we rely on our volunteers to sort the food quickly. Kudos to them!"

Camacho takes pride in the 650,000 pounds he's rescued so far. Even more meaningful is the response from agencies. "They are very appreciative of the Food Bank," he said. "The food moves out fast!"

Mobile Pantries Big Help to Families

At the mobile pantry distribution at Pinecrest Elementary School in Immokalee:

Waiting patiently among at least 200 individuals, parents and children were Beatrice, her two daughters Clorona, 9, and Valentina, 5 (*in photo*), and son Isereol, 2. Beatrice works hard cooking, cleaning and waiting tables at a local restaurant. But she can't make enough



to feed her family.

The mobile pantry provides what she can't. So she was happy to stand in the heat with her two daughters. "It's good. It's helping," she said. Her household received more than \$60 worth of fresh produce, frozen meats and other food items. At this mobile pantry, 14,000 pounds of food were gone in 90 minutes.

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Fort Myers, Florida 33901

NAPLES:
2221 Corporation Blvd.
Naples, Florida 34109
Phone: (239) 334-7007

www.harrychapinfoodbank.org

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A Warm Good-bye...

After eight-and-a-half years leading the Harry Chapin Food Bank, departing President and CEO Al Brislain crosses the country to take the helm of Feeding America San Diego. The entire Southwest Florida community and the Food Bank team send best wishes to Al and his wife, Rebecca, as they move closer to their large, extended family.

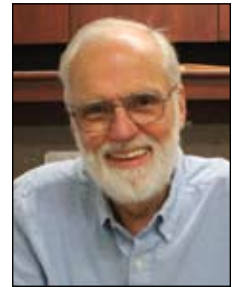
(Photo right: Board Chair P. Keith Scoggins, Jr., and Board Member Noelle Melanson flank Al Brislain after he was honored for his service to the Food Bank.)



...A Welcoming Hello

The Harry Chapin Food Bank family warmly welcomes Interim President and CEO Toby Ives.

With almost 30 years in food banking, Ives has served as interim chief executive for six food banks in the Feeding America network — including our own in 2007. His goal is to maintain the high quality of service here and assist the board of directors in the process of selecting a new president and CEO.



Joining the Board

Retired certified public accountant **Curtis Holaway** joins the Food Bank's board of directors after a career in tax consulting and finance, as well as extensive community service.



GRANTS AND DONATIONS

- Bank of America Charitable Foundation: \$10,000
- BJ's Charitable Foundation: \$5,000
- Bonita Springs Lions Charities Inc.: \$2,000
- Claiborne and Ned Foulds Foundation: \$20,000
- Comcast Foundation: \$10,036.91
- Costco: \$20,000
- Dunkin' Donuts & Baskin Robbins Community Foundation: \$5,000
- Kellogg: \$7,155.10
- Lipman Produce: \$5,000
- Mosaic Company: \$40,000
- Panera: \$4,623.87
- Red Nose Day Fund: \$10,000
- Richard M. Schulze Family Foundation: \$200,000
- Target: \$2,500
- The Charles E. and Mary Elizabeth Scripps Foundation: \$10,000
- The Quinton B. and Beverly H. McNew Foundation: \$2,500
- U.S. Sugar: \$10,000
- Walmart Foundation: \$2,000
- Wright Interior Group: \$3,800

OUR MISSION

To overcome hunger in Charlotte, Collier, Glades, Hendry, and Lee counties through education and by working in a cooperative effort with affiliated agencies in the procurement and distribution of food, equitably and without discrimination.

**CONTACT US TO DONATE, VOLUNTEER
or SCHEDULE A TOUR: (239) 334-7007**

Look for us on:



A copy of the Food Bank's official registration and financial information may be obtained from the Division of Consumer Services by calling toll-free within the state. Registration does not imply endorsement, approval or recommendation by the state. For more information, contact the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Affairs at 1-800-435-7352 or visit freshfromflorida.com.

Bank of America Gets Local With 'Give a Meal' Campaign

Bank of America's Give a Meal program just keeps gaining momentum.

Last year was the fourth year that Bank of America and Feeding America have partnered to benefit food banks around the country. For every \$1 donated to the program from Sept. 1 through Dec. 31, 2015, the Bank of America Charitable Foundation gave \$2, up to a \$50,000 match per food bank. Individuals were able to direct donations to their local food bank.

"What we love about the campaign is that it provides local impact in fighting hunger," said Gerri Moll, Southwest Florida president, Bank of America. And that impact is big! Last year's Give a Meal program raised \$89,080 for the Harry Chapin Food Bank. "The Give a Meal gifts enabled us

to distribute food for more than 250,000 meals," said Toby Ives, Interim President and CEO of the Harry Chapin Food Bank. "Thank you for caring." The Food Bank will be notified of its 2015 award in the spring.

Bank of America's corporate giving strategy focuses on housing, jobs and hunger. "You can't have strong communities if people are hungry and don't have a place to live or a job," Moll said. "While good things are happening in the economy, those hardest hit struggle the most. It's important to support their basic needs."

"Bank of America employees here in Southwest Florida love to volunteer at the Food Bank," Moll added. "They like giving back to their community, thanks to the Food Bank's great impact and efficiency."



Bank of America employees recently teamed up to package food for Harry Chapin Food Bank partner agencies.

**Become a corporate partner!
Call (239) 334-7007**

Chapin Family Supports 'Harry's Legacy'



Robert Berkowitz

"Congratulations for all your good work in Southern Florida. Today, we know there is a greater and greater rise in food insecurity, but we know a food bank must deliver more than food. Hopefully, not a handout, but a helping hand, with opportunities for individuals to choose services for specific needs. It is so very important to me and my family that Harry's legacy continues. We have all worked in donating our time and resources to this cause. Harry would be proud of your work, and my family joins with me to thank you for all the good work that you do." — *Sandy Chapin*

Making a Difference: 'Miss Alice'

Chris Robinson, food resourcing manager at the Harry Chapin Food Bank, spotlights a special woman:

Alice Washington, who spent her life marching the common good forward, passed away recently at the too-young age of 62. A pillar of Charleston Park, "she would share her heart with whoever she thought needed it," said her husband, Benny. "Miss Alice" ran food drives, brought fresh produce to her neighbors and cooked for community picnics. She will be missed by so many!



Turkeys Everywhere!

With so many families in need, the Harry Chapin Food Bank set out to provide 10,000 turkeys and chickens over the Thanksgiving holiday. After WINK-TV aired the story, the Southwest Florida community quickly responded. Billy Fuccillo of Fuccillo KIA donated \$5,000. Helping put holiday birds on dinner tables was the Blossoms for Birds program, sponsored by Fort Myers Floral Designs. And the public dropped off some 1,400 turkeys and cash donations at the warehouse. In addition, the USDA provided 7,000 whole chickens.



Kari Lefort, director of programs at the Food Bank, shows off turkey donations at the Fort Myers warehouse.

'Twas the Season of Challenge Matches!

Local individual and corporate donors provided us with a \$100,000 challenge match that doubled gifts we received before the end of 2015! Our appreciation goes to the **AI and Nancy Burnett Charitable Foundation, the Ethel and W. George Kennedy Family Foundation, the Hoffer Family Foundation of Punta Gorda, and the Richard M. Schulze Family Foundation** for their financial support.

Just before Thanksgiving, Billy Fuccillo of Fuccillo KIA announced he would match donations made to the Food Bank from Thanksgiving through Christmas Eve, dollar for dollar, up to \$100,000! Now that is *huge!*

Publix Delivers: 22 Pallets Plus Money for a Refrigerated Truck

The front loading dock at the Food Bank warehouse was a sea of green, as a small army of **Publix Super Markets** officials and associates in signature green shirts delivered a semi-tractor trailer load of food for those in need — 22 pallets containing such basic grocery items as peanut butter, jelly, cereal, pasta, pasta sauce and tuna. And there was more...a \$120,000 donation from Publix Super Markets Charities to buy a new refrigerated truck! (See photo below.)

The donation of the new refrigerated truck means that the Harry Chapin Food Bank will be able to increase its pickup and transport of perishable items that are donated by retailers, thus rescuing more food from going to waste. Since 2011, Publix has donated a total of 15.5 million pounds of food to the Harry Chapin Food Bank. Using today's value per pound of food (\$1.69 per pound) these donations have a total food value of \$26.1 million, all benefiting our neighbors in need in Southwest Florida.



Baker Center Pantry Helps Families Stretch Their Food Budgets

Children accepted at the early-education **Baker Center** not only enjoy academic and extracurricular activities, their families get nutritious food from the in-house pantry, thanks to **The Mosaic Company's** Charlotte County Hunger Relief Program and the Harry Chapin Food Bank.

Baker Center families depend on the twice-a-month food pantry to stretch their food budgets and provide meals throughout the month. By mid-November 2015, the

Food Bank had supplied the Baker Center with more than 47,500 pounds of food, including fresh produce and frozen meats.

The pantry also helps parents who come in for food assistance become more involved with teachers and school activities. When registering parents for food assistance on pantry days, school staff identifies other areas of need and connects families with community resources on employment, housing and medical care.



Baker Center food pantry gets nutritious food to children and families it serves.

Food Bank Again Earns 4-Star Rating From Charity Navigator

The nation's leading nonprofit watchdog organization, **Charity Navigator**, has awarded the Food Bank its top rating for the sixth year in a row. The rating goes to organizations that show sound fiscal management and commitment to accountability and transparency.



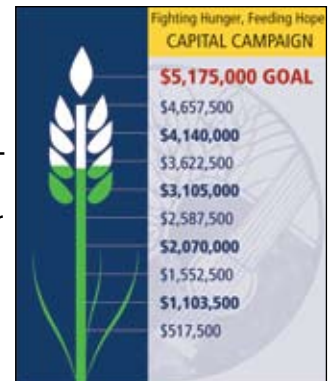
"Only 3 percent of the charities we rate have received at least six consecutive 4-star evaluations," said Michael Thatcher, president and CEO, "indicating that the Harry Chapin Food Bank of Southwest Florida outperforms most other charities in America." ***This assures you that the Harry Chapin Food Bank is worthy of your trust!***

Plan Now to Attend Taste of Boca Grande

Get ready for the 14th annual **Taste of Boca Grande**, Monday, Feb. 1, from 6 to 9 p.m. at the Boca Bay Pass Club on the Gulf. Great food, music and fun mark this special event that benefits the Food Bank. Call Joyce Jacobs for tickets at (239) 334-7007 x130.

Capital Campaign Scales \$3.5 Million Mark

The Harry Chapin Food Bank's **Fighting Hunger, Feeding Hope Capital Campaign** offers donors the opportunity to make a real impact on hunger in Southwest Florida. We've reached \$3.5 million of our \$5.1 million goal. These funds will help us complete the purchase of the Fort Myers warehouse, make necessary capital improvements, expand our truck fleet and upgrade our refrigeration systems. When it wraps up in April 2016, the successful campaign will save us \$15,000 every month! **Make a donation to the Capital Campaign at: harrychapinfoodbank.org/capital-campaign/**



Food Bank Photo Gallery: Many Helping Hands Pack and Distribute!

Find more photos at harrychapinfoodbank.org



Frozen Green Beans at Soma/Chico's



Marco Island Marriott



Ameriprise Day of Service



**Parkside Elementary Mobile
Pantry Distribution**



Hampton Inn & Suites



Fifth Third Bank

Food Bank Volunteer in Ohio Finds His Way to Naples Warehouse

Volunteering is in Bob Chrystal's blood, and the Harry Chapin Food Bank warehouse in Naples is the lucky beneficiary.

The transplanted Ohioan volunteers every Monday and Friday (and sometimes Tuesday and Thursday), doing an array of jobs — from collecting food to helping at events. "Bob is the always dependable volunteer who starts with one thing and gets involved with everything," said Todd Lewis, the Food Bank's volunteer coordinator for Collier County. "His knowledge about food banking is huge."

That comes from Bob's experience as a volunteer with the Food Bank of Dayton. Formerly in restaurant management, the 64-year-old retired after a stroke, but found he needed something to do. He happened to send his

local food bank a donation and innocently checked the "interested in volunteering" box. A phone call later, he was packing food and then doing mailings and surveys.

After Bob moved to Collier County full-time in June, it didn't take long to find his way to the Food Bank's Naples warehouse.

"He's always dependable — the first one in as we unlock the door in the morning. And it's great to have his energy here," said Lewis.

Bob feels the same about the people he works with at the warehouse. "They are fantastic," he said. "We have a core group Mondays and Fridays, and they make it fun to work."

Still, it all comes down to the needs of the community. He's just "helping people who need help."



Volunteer Bob Chrystal totes turkeys for those in need.

If There's a 'Will,' There's a Way!

When you make a planned gift in your will to the Harry Chapin Food Bank, you help ensure that:

- Hungry children, families and seniors have access to a wide variety of nutritious food.
- Our network of emergency food partners stays strong and effective.

We encourage you to explore legacy giving with your attorney and/or financial advisor. Then follow your heart to help the Food Bank help our neighbors in need.

Contact Kelli King at (239) 334-7007 x202 or kellinging@harry-chapinfoodbank.org.

The Food Bank loves volunteers!

In FY 2014-2015 (ended June 30):

3,600 volunteers donated...

53,160 hours at a value of...

\$1.2 million in volunteer hours

Call (239) 334-7007 x141

to make a difference!

Join in the Fun!
There's still time to
sign up for WINK
News Feeds Fam-
lies Hunger Walk,
Saturday, Jan. 16!
Call 334-7007

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