



Feed Public Radio, Feed a Family!

On October 21, WGCU-FM kicks off this year's "Feed Public Radio...Feed a Family" campaign. For 12 days, you can donate to support great radio programming, and Walmart will match 10 percent of every pledge to benefit the Harry Chapin Food Bank. Last year that came to \$21,000! Go to www.wgcu.org.

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At a tour of the Harry Chapin Food Bank were: (l-r) Ron Hamel, Gulf Citrus Growers Association; Adam Putnam, Florida Agriculture commissioner; Ray Pavelka, Mariner Properties Development and Food Bank board member.

4.8 Million Pounds of Fresh Produce Pack Lots of Nutrition on Many Plates

When the Harry Chapin Food Bank bought its first refrigerated truck in 1996, who could have imagined delivering 4.8 million pounds of fresh food to partner agencies in the past year?

The fresh vegetables, fruits and meats packed into our fleet of 14 trucks are exactly what is needed for children and seniors most at risk of poor nutrition. Without nourishing food, children won't grow or learn, and seniors can't retain

their health, mobility and cognitive skills. The importance of fresh food stood out during a recent tour of the Food Bank by Florida Agriculture and Consumer Services Commissioner Adam Putnam, joined by Robin Safley, director of the school food and nutrition program, Florida House Reps. Heather Fitzenhagen and Dane Eagle, and participants from corporate, legislative, nonprofit, and farm sectors.

Putnam lauded the collaborative efforts of growers and packers to glean produce that is unsalable through normal channels, specifically citing the Farmers Feeding Florida program. "Some of the food we grow goes through the Harry Chapin Food Bank, which is a wonderful place," said Kim Jamerson of Jamerson Brothers Farms. "While we have to run our 2,000 acres of farmland as a business, we see a lot of people who truly need the food. Our faith directs us to help them."

Your donations help support our programs!

In Their Own Voices: Stories of Need

From the in-school pantry at Tortuga Preserve Elementary in Lehigh Acres:

"I started the food pantry in April. As news of it surfaced, teachers told me that so many of their students are hungry and asked for food regularly! The Food Bank plays a huge role in our pantry, as does St. Vincent de Paul. We have picked up food every Monday, and we are now getting a weekly truck delivery that gives us food from local

grocery stores." — *Margo Nolen*

Luis, 17, is a senior at Lehigh Senior High School. His niece and nephew, who live with his family, are students at Tortuga. His mother works as a restaurant cook, but after paying bills, there's little money left to buy food, even with the help of food stamps. Their need was particularly acute this past summer because they

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WINK News Feeds Families Hunger Walk Needs YOU to Help Us Surpass \$340,000!

What: The 6th Annual WINK News Feeds Families Hunger Walk. **When:** January 18, 2014. **Where:** Miromar Outlets in Estero. Help us roar past last year's \$340,000! "The Walk's success is all about your generosity," said co-chair Brian Schwartz, M.D., 21st Century Oncology. Form your team and sign on at www.harrychapinfoodbank.org. With 1,000 participants expected, the Walk is also a great place for sponsors to make a big splash; call 334-7007 to sign up.



For every \$1 donation, the Food Bank can source and distribute \$6 worth of food! Please give generously...



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www.harrychapinfoodbank.org

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Join Us in Welcoming New Board Chair, Board Members and Staff to Food Bank

Summer was a busy time at the Food Bank, as we welcomed many new faces:

Noelle

Melanson, attorney, Melanson, Law, begins a two-year term as Board Chair.



Noelle Melanson

New members of the Board of Directors:

David Fry has held senior positions, including CEO, for WCI Communities. He also serves on the board of United Way of Lee, Hendry and Glades counties.

Maura Matzko retired from Encore National Bank after a 36-year career in banking. Her volunteer work includes the United Way of Charlotte County and the Virginia B. Andes Community Volunteer Clinic.

Ken O'Donnell is executive vice president and Florida market president for Busey Bank. He has served on the Foundation for Lee County Public Schools and Fort Myers/Lee County Enterprise Zone, among others.

Anne Rose is vice president of revenue cycle for Lee Memorial Health System. Her volunteer service includes Rotary Club of Fort Myers, Southwest Florida Wine Fest and PACE of Lee County.

Laura Worzella is Gulf South Community Bank president for Wells Fargo, serving Charlotte, Collier and Lee counties. She is involved with the Guadalupe Center of Immokalee, March of Dimes, and Habitat for Humanity of Collier and Lee counties.

Marianne Zuk is general counsel for Collier Family Office, Inc. She also served as president and CEO of Revere America, a national advocacy organization.

New staff members:

Volunteer manager **Tanya Phillips** advanced from volunteer at a food bank mobile pantry in Madison, Wisc., to volunteer services manager, before coming here.

Deima Torna, SNAP outreach coordinator, hails from Worcester, Mass., where she worked in special education for 21 years and volunteered with Catholic Charities.

Child hunger coordinator **Maggie Bouza** was born in Cuba, raised in Ohio, and lived in Georgia for almost 20 years. Her background is administration and real estate.



Tanya Phillips



Deima Torna



Maggie Bouza

In Their Own Voices...

Continued from page 1

had to buy school supplies and clothing.

"I'm not embarrassed when I come here," he said. "We are treated with dignity and respect. It's good food and really a big help."

Lakisha has two children who attend the school. She is a certified nursing assistant and a mother of four, ages 17, 14, 10 and 7. Like Luis' family, Lakisha comes to the pantry because she doesn't make enough to buy groceries. "It helps me keep food in the house," she said. "Sometimes we run out," said her daughter, Alisha, 10, who comes to the pantry with her mother to help choose the food and carry out it out in bags.

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.



Partner Agency



Find the Food Bank on Facebook

A member of



The Mosaic Company: A Serious Commitment to Community

The Mosaic Company takes its responsibility to the Charlotte County community seriously. That's where the Harry Chapin Food Bank comes in.

The company's commitment to the Food Bank started in 2009, and has grown over the years. In 2012, it awarded the Food Bank a grant for a new 24-foot refrigerated truck, which now delivers food to partner agencies (particularly in Charlotte County) and picks up produce and other food from area growers, packing houses and retailers. Then in 2013, The Mosaic Company — a global producer and marketer of concentrated phosphate and potash — presented the Food Bank with a grant of \$70,000.

But there's more. The Mosaic Company recently hosted a "Hunger Summit" in Tampa, where it donated another \$10,000 to the Food Bank and presented checks to 11 other food banks that work to combat food insecurity in Florida. The forum was held to spearhead a regional conversa-

Participants on a panel during the Hunger Summit in Tampa: (l-r) Neil Beckingham, The Mosaic Company, Patrizia La Trecchia, Ph.D., University of South Florida, Patel College of Global Sustainability; Rebecca Brislain, Florida Association of Food Banks; and Thomas Mantz, Feeding America Tampa Bay.



tion about hunger, as well as encourage volunteerism, donations and increased awareness.

"At Mosaic, our mission — to help the world grow the food it needs — presents a valuable opportunity to partner with organizations that build food security, ensure access for all to nutritious food and advance agricultural development," said Neil Beckingham, Mosaic sustainability manager. "We support the important work the Harry Chapin Food Bank is doing to fight hunger in local communities."

Find more photos online at www.harrychapinfoodbank.org

'Why I Proudly Volunteer at the Food Bank'

"I grew up poor and hungry — often times my only meal of the day was school lunch. Volunteering at my local food bank has become a lifelong mission that is very close to my heart." — *Bernadette Deis*

"A friend recruited me to sort food, then help with the 'Stuff the Bus' drive, the 'Empty Bowls' event and the Letter Carriers Food Drive. I started helping with mobile food pantries, and that's when I truly came to understand the importance of what the Food Bank does to overcome

hunger in Southwest Florida communities." — *Donna Miceli*

"Someone at my church was trying to raise funds for 'backpacks' of food for school kids so they would not go hungry on weekends. I was shocked...I looked at the Food Bank's website to learn how I could help. I have been a volunteer for almost two years now." — *Carol Connor*

Join our dedicated group of volunteers! Call 334-7007, x141.

Thanks to Fundraisers...

Please thank our partners:

- **Winn-Dixie Hunger Relief Backpack Program** provided many children and families with food that got them through the summer.
- **Fort Myers Miracle** baseball team recognized Food Bank employees and volunteers with free game tickets.
- **Lee County Transit** deployed its fleet of LeeTran buses to collect food at **Publix** area stores for the 5th Annual **Fill Our Fleet—Feed Our Hungry** event.
- For the fourth consecutive year, **WCI Communities** offered a complementary foursome at one of its three area golf courses for a \$100 donation.

Let's Talk Turkeys!

Jay and Sandy Russo, co-owners of Good Deals Appliances, will match up to 250 turkeys that are donated during the holiday season! Add a turkey to your shopping list,



donate it to the Food Bank and...it magically becomes two turkeys!

Grants and Donations

Cameo of Lee County: \$2,500
CenturyLink Clarke M. Williams Foundation: \$1,518.52
The Chapel of Cypress Cove: \$1,000
Enterprise Holdings Foundation: \$3,000
Marriott International, Inc.: \$2,500
Minnesota Twins Baseball Club: \$4,610
Naples United Church of Christ: \$9,000
PanelLockout.com: \$1,000
Slab-2-Shingles: \$1,100

LOOKING AHEAD...

- **Dry Zone**, a local fire and water clean-up and restoration business, hosts the inaugural "Water Ball Classic-Charity Golf Event" on October 11 at the West Bay Club in Estero. The \$100 entry fee per player includes cart and green fees, two beverages and a Scorecard Party. Contact Shannon O'Neill at (239) 643-1990.
- The 8th Annual Naples Empty Bowls takes place on Saturday, January 25, 2014, from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in Cambier Park. Donate \$15, and you will receive a hand-crafted ceramic bowl created by Collier County students, artists and residents. Fill it with delicious soup from 40 local restaurants and enjoy tasty bread from Panera Bread, plus auction items, music and pottery demonstrations.

Wake Up America's Services, Volunteers, Agencies Join Food Bank Family

The Harry Chapin Food Bank welcomes Wake Up America of Southwest Florida into the Food Bank family.

For 18 years, the nonprofit supplied food free of charge at more than 100 local social service organizations. Faced with changes in retail and wholesale policies on food donations and funding challenges, Wake Up America ceased operations. It turned to the Food Bank to serve as a collection and distribution site.

More than 60 percent of Wake Up America's agency partners already receive food from the Food Bank, and all of them are getting even more food, said Neal

McAlister, Food Bank director of operations. "We're also able to provide more dairy and fresh produce, thanks to our growing retail store pick-up program" — 78,000 pounds recovered in just over two months in Lee County were distributed at the Wake Up America site alone.

How to Automate Your Contributions...

More people are choosing to make regular contributions to the Harry Chapin Food Bank, using automatic checking or savings account transfers or credit card payments. About eight years ago, Paula Sklodowski did just that.

"Every month my donation is automatically transferred from my checking account directly to the Food Bank, just like my mortgage payment," she said. "The best part



Paula Sklodowski

for me is the end result — I'm able to give more over the course of the year than if I would write a single check. It isn't a large amount, but the Food Bank can count on my monthly donation to use where it's most needed."

Automatic payments are easy to set up. For checking or savings account withdrawals, just contact your bank. For credit card donations, go to www.harrychapinfoodbank.org and click on "Monthly Pledge." You'll be helping so many of our less fortunate neighbors!

Vote online to help the Food Bank win a Toyota Highlander! Visit 100carsforgood.com, search for the Food Bank and set a reminder to vote on November 10. It's that easy!



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Holidays Are Coming!
 Your time and donations are especially needed now.
 Call 334-7007 to help!

The Harry Chapin Food Bank
 of Southwest Florida
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