



Time to Tee off for the Food Bank!

Experience a great day of golf as you give back to the community at the Harry Chapin Food Bank's 3rd Annual Golf Classic at the Club at Grandezza on Thursday, May 9. To register, become a sponsor, donate auction items, or volunteer, contact Miriam Pereira at 334-7007, x127, or visit harrychapinfoodbank.org.

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Newsletter — Spring 2013

Funding Slows, Yet Need Continues

It's great to hear good economic news: In March, the stock market soared to pre-2007 levels, and corporate coffers were overflowing with profits.

But the recession isn't over for more families, children and seniors than ever in Southwest Florida, due to continuing unemployment and underemployment, and decreased state funding of food support programs.

"The need has leveled off, but much higher than pre-recession," said Al Brislain, President and CEO of the Harry Chapin Food Bank.

The numbers tell the story. In FY2007-08, the

Food Bank sourced and distributed 4 million pounds food. That more than doubled to 9.6 million pounds 2009-10, and soared again to 15 million pounds in 2011-12.

Fully one-third of the food that the Food Bank now collects from its store pick-up program — 52,000 pounds a week from 160 stores, and much of its fresh produce and meats — wouldn't come in without a growing fleet of trucks funded by individual and corporate donations.

Ellie and Walt Goff are so generous as donors and volunteers because the Food Bank has one simple goal — to feed hungry people. "It's

been amazing to see how the food distribution has grown since we started 12 years ago," said Walt, former owner of a grocery store chain in Michigan, and Ellie, a former home economics teacher. They especially noted the meats, baked goods and fresh produce the Food Bank can now handle.

"It's gratifying that the community has responded to their neighbors and friends, who have lost their jobs and houses and are going through tough times," said Brislain.

With children and seniors representing more than half of those at risk of hunger, however, the Food Bank remains more important than ever.

Go to harrychapinfoodbank.org to donate now! And thank you for your continuing support!

Charitable Gift Annuities for the Food Bank
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Hunger Walk A 'Huge' Success!

The 5th Annual WINK News Feeds Families Hunger Walk hit a new high with \$340,000 in pledges for the Harry Chapin Food Bank, including a "huge" \$50,000 match from Billy Fuccillo, owner of Fuccillo Kia of Cape Coral. That's \$30,000 more than last year! The January walk was also the biggest ever, with almost 1,000 participants, 116 teams (including 29 from agency partners of the Food Bank), and \$81,250 in sponsorship donations.



Thanks go to everyone — donors, walkers, sponsors, volunteers, families and friends! (See inside pages 2A and 2B)

Next up...



Donate...volunteer... promote it within your community!

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



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Fort Myers, Florida 33901
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Phone: (239) 334-7007

www.harrychapinfoodbank.org

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For information, contact:

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Bedzaida Bryen, *Volunteers*

Maxine Golding, *Newsletter Editor*

Message from the Board Chair...

As I enter into the final months of a rewarding five-year term, I reflect on all that we have been able to accomplish because of your caring and generous support. The positive impact you have had on the lives of so many is hard to put on a fact sheet or even express in words.

Visualize...what it is like to "not" have to deny your kids food so that you can pay for gas to go to work the next day... that you and your family do "not" have to go to bed on an empty stomach and "not" wake up to a kitchen lacking of food...that the elderly couple down the street need "not" face each other with empty plates... that fresh fruits and vegetables "are" the answer to "What's for dinner?"

These visions are becoming a reality for many because of your support, but don't stop now! Let's visualize a day when every

child, every senior, every human being has met the basic need for food. How can you "not" help, if you can?

— Jo Anna Bradshaw



Grants and Donations

Bank of America — \$10,000

CarMax — \$9,000

Evangelical Lutheran Church
in America: \$2,500

Heritage Palm Men's Golf
Association: \$15,358

Saint Michael & All Angels
Episcopal Church: \$10,000

Welcome Rev. Campbell to Food Bank Board

If you want something done, goes the adage, ask the busiest person in the room. That will surely be **Rev. Stephanie Munz Campbell**, the newest member of the Harry Chapin Food Bank board of directors.



Under her leadership as founder and executive director, Grace Place for Children and Families reaches many of the most vulnerable and underserved within Golden Gate City.

The agency's primary mission is education — teaching literacy, language and life skills to 500 children and 300 adults every week. But they can't concentrate on learning when food is scarce, so in 2008 Grace Place opened its food pantry. In 2012, it provided emergency groceries to 29,183 individuals in 1,538 households.

"I'm so impressed with the work of the Food Bank," she said. "Particularly during the recession, I saw them expand what they have to offer — especially fresh foods — and work closely with partner agencies so each could do their job better."

Connect with the Food Bank...

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www.twitter.com/HCFBSWFL

www.youtube.com/harrychapinfoodbank

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Scan this QR code on your smartphone to go right to the Food Bank!

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



Food Bank Programs and Warehouse Expand Their Reach in Collier County

The Food Bank's Collier County warehouse is a beehive of activity.

Three new refrigerators, with more than 500 square feet, will enable the Food Bank to move 400,000 pounds of food through June 30, the end of this fiscal year, and 1.5 million pounds of food next fiscal year.

This new distribution point is helping



A mobile pantry distribution took place at Golden Gate Elementary School in Collier County.

the Food Bank expand activities throughout the county. A second school pantry (at Avalon Elementary in East Naples) opened in January. Avalon's sponsor is North Naples United Methodist Church. "The response has been fantastic," said Katie Schweikhardt, Collier County Food Coordinator and Director of Programs. "In early March, the pantry served more than 100 families."

Twice-a-week mobile distributions are continuing at local elementary schools. Since these began less than two years ago, the Food Bank has delivered 2 million pounds of food, "an amazing milestone," Schweikhardt noted. About 350 families can be fed by each mobile distribution.

Find more photos online at www.harrychapinfoodbank.org

Valentine's Day Turns Into 'Thank-you-a-thon'

This year, Valentine's Day for the Harry Chapin Food Bank was all about saying "thank you."

Over almost six hours, eight volunteers and five board members personally called 233 donors to thank them for their generous giving.



John Kuhn (pictured above), senior director of business development for the Fort Myers Miracle hatched the idea. He had participated in a similar program by the Children's Miracle Network and Sanford Hospital when he ran a minor league

ball club in Sioux Falls, S.D. "We did phone-a-thons all the time, and I thought the 'thank-you-a-thon' was really cool."

In January alone, volunteers gave 2,778 hours of service to the Food Bank and sorted 1.036 million pounds of food. You can volunteer, too! Call Bedzaida Bryen at 334-7007 x141.

Charlotte Organizations Launch 'Food Connection'

The Harry Chapin Food Bank, Charlotte Community Foundation, United Way of Charlotte County, Laishley Group and several leading emergency food programs have formed a working committee called "The Food Connection." Together, they will focus on strategies to more effectively and efficiently expand food resources within Charlotte County. A first action is to document the growing number of people needing food assistance in the county.

Spring 2013

Holiday food drives by Publix (498,320 pounds), Sweetbay (1,396 food boxes), and Winn-Dixie (19,283 pounds) gave many families and seniors meals to remember. Your food stores help the Food Bank all year, so please support them!

'Twas the Season For Food, Funds, Fun!

Some results from special events for the Harry Chapin Food Bank:

- The annual Paul Todd concert in December brought in \$14,000.
- The 5th Annual New Year's Doubles Challenge at Vivante on Charlotte Harbor raised \$9,000.
- Algenol Biofuels employees donated 622 turkeys for Christmas, plus \$4,500 for all the fixings.
- Norma Jean Joyner spearheaded the turkey fund drive at Montenero at Pelican Bay in Naples, raising \$4,540.
- Tom and Pam Marciniak raised \$6,675 at their "Party With A Purpose."
- Punta Gorda Pub Crawl hit a record, donating 2,687 pounds of food and \$775.
- Southwest Florida & Lee County Fair brought in 6,987 pounds of food.
- Members of the Fort Myers Beach Yacht Club donated \$2,197 and 197 pounds of food through its "Dolphins in the Pantry."

Naples Empty Bowls Soars Past \$54,000



With delicious soups from 38 restaurants available for sampling, the 7th Annual Naples Empty Bowls was a smashing success. The event, held in Cambier Park on January 26, raised more than \$54,000 for the Food Bank.

Taste of Boca Grande Raises \$41,000



In unique style, the 11th Annual Taste of Boca Grande delighted those on hand with foods from 17 premier restaurants and music by the Steve Chapin Band with special guest Jennah Barry (above). Participants responded by donating more than \$41,000 to the Food Bank.

Remember the Harry Chapin Food Bank in your estate planning.

Special Partnership For Charitable Gift Annuities

Here's one way to set up a legacy for the Harry Chapin Food Bank and still benefit during your lifetime.


The **charitable gift annuity** is one of the most popular types of planned gifts due to its simplicity, attractive rates and guaranteed fixed payments over the lifetime of the annuity beneficiary (annuitant). Now it's being made available through a partnership of two highly respected local organizations.

In a simple contract between a donor and the Southwest Florida Community Foundation, the donor transfers an asset to the foundation in exchange for a fixed, guaranteed payment for life. Payout rates for gift annuities are based on the age of the annuitant(s) at the time payments begin — the higher the age, the higher the payout rate. At the death of the final annuitant, the balance goes to the Harry Chapin Food Bank endowment fund at the community foundation. *For more information, please call Tom Brown at (239) 334-7007 x124.*

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Dear Harry Chapin Food Bank...

The following letter arrived at the Food Bank in December:

Hello, my name is.....from.....Middle School. It would be my honor to donate \$110 to the Harry Chapin Food Bank. Please use this donation to help feed the unfortunate families this holiday season. It is my pleasure to donate this money so that people will have a nice meal on Christmas Day. To carry on, have a wonderful holiday season. MERRY CHRISTMAS!
Thank you  Sincerely.....

Scoring Goals for the Food Bank!



The Boys of Winter hockey team of over-50-year-olds had fun raising \$1,500 for the Food Bank during their games at the Skatium in Fort Myers.

Spring 2013

Attention Snowbirds!
Leave a little something for the
Food Bank before you go home.
Call 334-7007 today!

The Harry Chapin Food Bank
of Southwest Florida
3760 Fowler Street
Fort Myers, Florida 33901

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Thank you!



The 5th Annual WINK NEWS Feeds Families Hunger Walk was a tremendous success, raising more than \$340,000, thanks to the generosity of so many sponsors, teams, walkers, and dedicated volunteers.

Please join us in thanking the companies and organizations on these pages for their support. And be sure to visit harrychapinfoodbank.org to view many more wonderful photos!

Presenting Sponsors



Jo Anna & Wilson
Bradshaw



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WINK News Feeds Families Hunger Walk

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WINK 96.9 Radio



Lois Thome of WINK News welcomes almost 1,000 participants this year.

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Francis Walsh
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Hunger Walk participants share stories on "I walk because..." signs.

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