



Harry Chapin Food Bank
OF SOUTHWEST FLORIDA

Take Action!

September is Hunger Action Month...so here are two chances to "Fill Our Fleet—Feed Our Hungry!"

- For the first time, Collier Area Transit will fill its buses with donations at three Collier County Publix Super Markets on Saturday, September 13.
- In their sixth year as partners, LeeTran and Publix collect food donations at Lee County sites on Sunday, September 21.

"Fighting Hunger, Feeding Hope"

Vol. XIV, No. 3

Newsletter — Summer 2014

Need in Southwest Florida Takes On Greater Urgency in Summer

The Harry Chapin Food Bank observed a milestone on May 10: the 100 millionth pound of food distributed since its founding in 1983.

For families at the mobile pantry distribution that day in Bonita Springs, however, it was just another day in the struggle for food. Formerly full-time workers were barely getting by on fewer hours and reduced income. As it always does, the Food Bank delivered on its promise to them.

"When you think about how much time, effort and commitment it has taken to reach this plateau, it really makes us thankful that we live in such a generous community," said Al Brislain, Food Bank President and CEO.

These mobile distributions are particularly critical for Southwest Florida during summer, when children go without school-provided breakfasts and lunches, and

seasonal jobs are scarce. This summer's 28 mobile pantries will fan out in all directions, bringing a projected 300,000 pounds of food — a third of that nutritious fresh produce — to more than 7,000 families. And six of the mobile pantry distributions come directly from a Walmart grant of \$60,000.

With your help, our neighbors will make it through the summer. Thank you!

On the Front Line of Food Insecurity...

From the mobile pantry distribution at St. Leo's Catholic Church in Bonita Springs:

Four-year-old Jorge plucked a can of soup from his mother's shopping bag like a toy tucked in a Christmas stocking. He came to the mobile pantry with mom, Alida, and sisters Alejandra, 3, and Allison, 1. Wages



BANNER DAY! The 100 millionth pound of food since the Harry Chapin Food Bank's inception passed to a family in need during the May 10 mobile food distribution in Bonita Springs.

from Alida's job stocking shelves at a clothing store barely cover rent and child care. Now, her family would have enough to eat for the next few weeks. "As long as my children have something to eat," Alida said, "that's plenty for me." She wiped her tears and carried the bags of food to a friend's waiting car, her children in tow.

From the mobile pantry distribution at Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Punta Gorda:

A few elderly and physically challenged recipients shared their stories of hardship. One had owned several bakeries in Oklahoma before arriving in Florida a few years ago. He has several medical conditions and was grateful for the food assistance. A woman in her mid-80s was barely able to walk. She drove two hours before the mobile pantry opened to be assured a place in line. She had worked for a local employer before being laid off and is still applying for jobs but doesn't expect to be hired due to her age and physical limitations.

Letter Carriers Collect 366,067 Pounds of Food!



Lee County residents donated 14 percent more food than last year during the 22nd National Letter Carriers Food Drive! Our thanks go to 375 volunteers that day and to Publix Super Markets for providing collection bags and postcard reminders.

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



Harry Chapin Food Bank OF SOUTHWEST FLORIDA

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Marta Hodson, *Special Events*
Tanya Phillips, *Volunteers*

Maxine Golding, *Newsletter Editor*

Food Bank Welcomes New Staff

Sam Kelly, the Food Bank's social media and website guru, was adopted from Bolivia, grew up in Maryland and earned her BFA from Temple University. She is passionate about helping others and works at spreading smiles everyday!



(l-r) Sam Kelly, Kelli King, Marc Rodrigues

Kelli King, philanthropy relations manager, holds a BA from Francis Marion University. She relocated from North Carolina where she worked extensively with non-profit organizations.

Marc Rodrigues, data processor and analyst, was born and raised in Yonkers, N.Y. After several years working in Immokalee to improve conditions for farmworkers, he's glad to be part of the Food Bank team!

Grants and Donations

Copperleaf Charitable Fund: \$4,000
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America: \$2,500
Italian America Society of Marco Island: \$1,000
Jamaica Bay Worship Service: \$1,000
The League Club: \$10,000
Lee County Alliance of Legal Professionals, Inc. \$1,500
Moorings Presbyterian Church: \$1,813.45
The Mosaic Company: \$14,000
Naples United Church of Christ: \$10,070
Publix Super Markets (Food For All): \$25,000

Sanibel Congregational United Church of Christ: \$1,419.65
Shadow Wood Country Club: \$2,664.45
Southwest Florida Corvette Club: \$1,500
Tamiami Ford: \$1,700
United Way of Charlotte County: \$18,500
United Way of Lee, Hendry, Glades and Okeechobee: \$134,345
Vanderbilt Presbyterian Church: \$3,685
Walmart: \$17,500
Will Dance for Food: \$4,000

A Big Thank You to the Sponsors...



...of the Farmers Feeding Southwest Florida BBQ event for leaders of the state's agriculture industry.



Bayer CropScience

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



Catholic Charities of Collier County Serves up Food, Services, Support

While hunger strikes around the clock, the seasonal nature of agriculture in Southwest Florida can create enormous lines of people needing food. Catholic Charities of Collier County works hard to serve them through its Guadalupe Social Services and

Casa Maria Soup Kitchen in Immokalee, and Family Resource Center Pantry in East Naples, all partner agencies of the Harry Chapin Food Bank.

The Casa Maria Soup Kitchen seats up to 150 a day for its hot lunch service. Meanwhile, Guadalupe Social Services gives nutritious bags of food to 525 families and individuals each month. The Food Bank supplies most of the quarter of a million pounds of food distributed there over a year. At the Family Resource Center Pantry, where 559 families and individuals receive help monthly, “we’ve taken great advantage of the Food Bank’s fresh produce distribution,” said Armando Galella,

Executive Director of Catholic Charities of Collier County. This agency also supplements the pantry at Mike Davis Elementary School in Golden Gate with weekly food bags for 200 homeless children.






“The Food Bank’s role is essential,” he explained. “Food is a point of entry to see



Lines form early at Catholic Charities of Collier County’s Casa Maria Soup Kitchen in Immokalee.

how we can help families with services beyond the food. And we’ve gotten a tremendous amount of assistance from the Food Bank with refrigerators and freezers, which are so hard to afford. They enable us to meet the need out there.”

Connect with the Food Bank...

-  [Facebook.com/HarryChapinFoodBank](https://www.facebook.com/HarryChapinFoodBank)
-  [Twitter.com/HCFBSWFL](https://twitter.com/HCFBSWFL)
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-  [Pinterest.com/hcfbswfl/](https://www.pinterest.com/hcfbswfl/)

Sign up for...

WCI Communities Golf Promotion, now through September 15! Donate \$100 to the Food Bank through the www.

WCIgolf.com website and receive a complimentary foursome at one of four WCI golf courses in Southwest Florida. Or call Shelley Johnson: (239) 390-4724.

Your Gift Means a Lot!

Gifts of all sizes to the Harry Chapin Food Bank can mean the world to our neighbors in need. You can leave bequests (gifts by will or living trust), gift annuities, life insurance and/or IRAs. Contact Kelli King, Philanthropy Relations Manager, at (239) 334-7007 x202 or kelling@harrychapinfoodbank.org.

Tackling Issues Beyond Food at Hunger Summit



Table discussions at the Hunger Summit.

The 130 representatives of partner agencies who joined the Harry Chapin Food Bank at the 5th annual Hunger Summit on May 9 at Hodges University focused on three goals:

- Finding pathways toward self-sufficiency for the people they serve.
- Sharing best practices that work for their organization and tools for collaboration.
- Rededicating themselves to fight hunger in Southwest Florida.

Join Us in Recognizing...

- **The Mosaic Company**, which donated \$12,000 to feed hungry families in Charlotte County, thanks to its Home Runs for Food program with the Tampa Bay Rays.
- **Stylists Unite to Help Cut Hunger** raised \$14,000 at The Salon Professional Academy. Local hairstylists joined national and international artists in cutting hair for a minimum donation of \$15 per cut.
- Terry Eberle and Tom Hayden from The News-Press and Michael Hayes from More FM 96.9 went toe-to-toe on treadmills at the grand opening of **Anytime Fitness**. The event raised \$1,700 for the Food Bank.

Golf Tournament Scores \$27,815



The Fighting Hunger, Feeding Hope Golf Tournament, presented by Audi Fort Myers, drew 84 players to The Colony Golf & Country Club in Bonita Springs on May 16. The winning team was all smiles: (l-r) Al Moscato, Terry Jerulle, Matt Nolton and Jonathan Brooke.

Publix Food Drive Nets 234,932 Pounds



A cashier at Publix Super Markets offered donation tickets at the register during the Publix Spring Food Drive.

A Whole Lot of Packing Going On!

Good things happen when corporate groups join forces with the Harry Chapin Food Bank! Volunteers from KeyBank, Chico's FAS, Inc., and Marco Island Marriott Beach Resort, Golf Club & Spa gave their time in May in the spirit of service back to their communities.



(left) More than 6,000 KeyBank employees participated in its national Neighbors Make the Difference Day. Thirteen Key Private Bank employees in Southwest Florida chose the Food Bank as their project. "Everyone wants to fight hunger," said Renee Porter-Medley, CFP, vice president. And they did, packing two pallets of potatoes at the Food Bank's Naples warehouse.



(left) Sixty-three Chico's employees packed 3,125 pounds of nutritious rice and beans in a United Way Day of Caring. "Chico's has a long tradition of giving back to the community," said David Dyer, President and CEO of Chico's. "We are very thankful for the support of Chico's employees," added Cliff Smith, President of United Way of Lee, Hendry, Glades and Okeechobee. "Volunteers make it possible for agencies like the Food Bank to accomplish much more than otherwise possible."

(right) Marco Island Marriott's Associate Appreciation Week coincided with worldwide Marriott Spirit to Serve Community Day. Volunteers at the resort packed food for the Food Bank. "Our associates are thankful they work for a great company and understand that people in the community aren't as fortunate," said Chris Major, general manager of golf and Marriott Spirit to Serve team chairman.



Volunteers Needed!
Please help us help those in
need get through the summer.
Call (239) 334-7007 today!

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