



Food Bank Volunteers Rise To Post-Hurricane Challenges

As soon as Hurricane Irma moved out of Southwest Florida, the Harry Chapin Food Bank encountered a flood...no, not storm surge... of volunteers calling to find out what they could do to help.

More than 600 new applicants offered to volunteer their time, and so many of our regular volunteers stepped up to the plate to provide additional hours.

They rallied to “Recover, Rebuild, Restore” — the Food Bank’s campaign to raise \$500,000 in six weeks to support our neighbors in need. With the Food Bank’s ability to turn every

dollar into \$8 worth of food value, that half a million becomes \$4 million!

Just since Sept. 9, the Food Bank has received and distributed 46 semi-tractor trailer truckloads of disaster relief supplies — more than 1.85 million pounds of food, water and ice for hurricane victims. The truckloads are still coming.

After focusing on emergency mobile pantries to get immediate food into our communities, the Food Bank is making sure to replenish food for partner agencies.

THANK YOU ALL!

SAVE THE DATE...

Take a ‘Hunger Walk’ For the Food Bank

WINK Feeds Families Hunger Walk — Saturday, Jan. 20, 2018, at Miromar Outlet Mall — is the Food Bank’s signature annual event, and WE NEED YOU! Many volunteers provide helping hands prior to and during the morning of the Walk. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m., the Walk at 9 a.m. Volunteers also love to participate in the walk, so now’s the time to form your own team of walkers!



Find out more at harrychapinfoodbank.org

Help Us Fight Hunger This Holiday Season!

No one wants to see families, children or seniors go hungry during the holiday season. That’s why December is a particularly busy month for the Harry Chapin Food Bank. Hundreds of volunteers are needed to sort food at the Fort Myers and Naples warehouses, as well as set up, hand out food, pack and clean up at mobile pantries. For volunteer schedules, contact Tanya Phillips at (239) 334-7007, ext. 141.

TRACKING OUR VOLUNTEERS

(FY 2018 July 1, 2017 to Sept. 30, 2017)

Volunteers: 1,556

Collier County hours: 791

Mobile pantry hours: 2,172

Total hours: 8,781

Value of volunteer hours: \$211,973.34

Pounds packed/sorted: 1,057,688

Total meals: 881,406

At the Warehouse: A Refresher Course

Some key reminders when you volunteer to sort or pack food at the Food Bank’s Fort Myers or Naples warehouses:

- In Fort Myers, park outside the fenced-in area and enter through the office door.
- Let the the receptionist know you are here and get a name tag before proceeding further into the building. Use your volunteer pin number to sign in and out.
- The Fort Myers warehouse is not climate-controlled, so dress according to the temperature outside and in clothing (like T-shirts) you would not mind getting dirty. Attire must be clean and modest. Wear closed-toe shoes — no sandals or flip-flops; no tank tops or bare midriff tops.
- Weekday volunteers must be 16 years or older.
- No smoking, eating or beverages are allowed. Snacks are available.
- Do not use cellphones, iPods or other electronic devices during your shift. Lock purses, phones, and other valuables in your vehicle.
- Some volunteer duties may include reading “best by” dates. So bring glasses with you if you need them to read.

If you need additional assistance, call at 334-7007, ext. 141 for Tanya, ext. 204 for Todd.

Your financial support is always appreciated!



Wells Fargo staff fights hunger by packing and sorting at the Fort Myers warehouse.

Wells Fargo Devotes Saturdays To Fight Hunger in Our Communities

Whether for a United Way “Day of Caring” or “Make a Difference Day,” volunteers from Wells Fargo “always love going” to the Harry Chapin Food Bank, said Amanda Gardiner, branch manager of the bank’s Cape Coral Parkway location and president of its volunteer chapter for west Florida.

Fifteen staff members signed up for each of three packing and sorting events on Saturdays in August and September. For a few participants, it was their first time.

They handled onions, bread, potatoes and cucumbers, prepared individual bags and checked canned goods for expiration dates.

Food Bank president and CEO Richard LeBer led one group on a tour of the Fort Myers warehouse. They learned how much effort goes into food distribution and how much neighborhoods benefit. “It’s inspiring that they can impact the areas where they live,” Gardiner noted. “They know that fighting hunger is not a one time thing.”

NetJets Volunteers Help Initiate New Collier County Center

The Harry Chapin Food Bank’s new **Collier County Center** became operational just in time to help with post-Hurricane Irma food assistance. Volunteer groups enthusiastically responded to the increased need.

The entire sales force from the central and southwestern regions of **NetJets** teamed with the **Naples Children & Education Foundation (NCEF)** — founders of the Naples Winter Wine Festival — at the Naples warehouse on Oct. 24. The group of 31 NetJets volunteers (*photo at right*) and eight other volunteers packed 12,321 pounds of produce, including onions, sweet potatoes, apples and carrots!

NetJets is sponsor and exclusive private aviation partner of the festival. NCEF also sponsors several Food Bank mobile pantries in Collier County.

Our new 13,568-square-foot facility utilizes a 10x30-foot refrigerated cooler, which can store overnight 14 pallets of fresh food from the daily retail rescue pick-up at 14 stores. This storage enables the Food Bank to more effectively spread out fresh food distribution to multiple partner agencies.



‘Here’s Why I Volunteer at the Food Bank...’

Lori Adamchek: *“I was interested in volunteering around hunger insecurity, and after searching online, I found the Harry Chapin Food Bank. Food is a basic human need, and I feel strongly that no one should be hungry in the wealthiest country on earth.”*



Robert Perlmutter: *“I sort and pack frozen products at the warehouse two mornings a week. I’m fortunate not to need the Food Bank to support me. But too many people out there need help. I want to be a giver, so that’s why I’ve volunteered here for six years.”*



FORT MYERS:
3760 Fowler St.
Fort Myers, Florida 33901

NAPLES:
3940 Prospect Ave. #101
Naples, Florida 34104
Phone: (239) 334-7007

harrychapinfoodbank.org

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

Look for us on:



A member of
FEEDING AMERICA

