



Harry Chapin Food Bank
OF SOUTHWEST FLORIDA

VOLUNTEER VIBES

Serving Charlotte, Collier, Glades, Hendry and Lee Counties

August 2019

YOU Can Help 'Care & Share' Seniors

The Harry Chapin Food Bank needs you to spread the word about our **Care & Share: Senior Feeding Campaign**. Bags of nutritious, easy-to-prepare food each month supplement the diets of 2,300 low-income seniors aged 60 and older in Lee, Charlotte and Collier counties. However, \$800,000 in government funding that we rely on for the program was not funded this

year. As volunteers, you are also our ambassadors. So spread the word that we need donations to benefit this program!

(See box at right for ways to take action now.)



SAVE THE DATE!

September Is Hunger Action Month

Join Feeding America — the nationwide network of food banks — and the Harry Chapin Food Bank of Southwest Florida as we work together to end hunger. You can help in myriad ways:

- Hold a food drive with family, friends and neighbors.
- Buy BOGOs for donation.
- Volunteer at a mobile pantry.
- Give generously!

Call (239) 334-7007

Lori Harrington ext. 141

Todd Lewis ext. 204

(to volunteer)

Meg Madzar ext. 120

(to hold a food drive)

(Clockwise from top) A mix of foods in each "Care & Share" package; bags to hold the food, decorated by the Kindness Club at Northwest Regional Library in Cape Coral; Naples volunteers at a recent packing session.

TRACKING OUR VOLUNTEERS

(For our complete fiscal year July 1, 2018, to June 30, 2019)

Volunteers: 2,545

Lee County hours: 32,631

Collier County hours: 8,217

Total hours: 42,976

Value of volunteer hours: More than \$1 million

(Volunteer hours valued at \$25.43 per hour by Independent Sector)

Making the Volunteer Program Even Better

Since Volunteer Champion Lori Harrington joined the food bank a few months ago, changes to the **Volunteer Program** have been in the works.

Here's what you need to know:

- Saturday shifts (from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m.) start up on August 17 at the Fort Myers Distribution Center.
- The food bank's new website makes it easier for existing volunteers to sign up. Go to harrychapinfoodbank.org and click on Take Action, then Give Time/ Volunteer, then Volunteer Information Center to log

in; interested volunteers should click "Apply" bar.

- Food categories were revised.
- Sorting room systems and layout have been changed.



Lori Harrington, Harry Chapin Food Bank's Volunteer Champion

• Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP) is now one box instead of two bags.

- Shift start and end times are different.
- "Minute to get in it" training has begun.

Questions? Contact Lori at (239) 334-7007, ext. 141 or lharrington@harrychapinfoodbank.org.

Give Money...Give Food...Give Time

Bank of America Volunteers Join In Lipman Backpack Giveaway

The food bank brought two Fulfill Mobile Pantry trucks to Immokalee on Aug. 3 for the Lipman Family Farms 8th annual Backpack Giveaway and Back to School Event. Lipman distributed 1,500 backpacks filled with school supplies and 200 bikes and helmets. We distributed 18,053 pounds of food to 446 families. Joining in were Bank of America volunteers, including Gerri Moll, president of Bank of America of Southwest Florida. This event has become one of the bank's signature volunteer efforts. *(Bank of America volunteers distribute food in photo at right.)*



91 Volunteers + Six Stations = 18,317 Pounds of Food in One Day!



(Above) Most of the 91 volunteers from Southwest Florida Church of Christ gathered outside the Food Bank's Fort Myers Distribution Center on May 26. Operating six stations in the warehouse, they packed 18,317 pounds of food in a single session!

'Why I Give Time To the Food Bank...'

Bob Cochran: "I've lived in this community for 45 years. I think the Harry Chapin



Food Bank is a very good organization. I volunteer because I really enjoy it."

Community Boosts 18-Year-Old's Food Drive

In the May 2019 issue of *Volunteer Vibes*, we spotlighted **Sarah Cabrera's** 18th birthday food drive with the local community. Well, Cabrera's "celebration" delivered 2,794 pounds of food and \$5,419 in donations (right) for the Harry Chapin Food Bank!



Family Day at Food Bank

Tell friends how they and their children can learn about hunger in our communities — and help — at our next **Family Volunteer Day:** Saturday, Oct. 5, from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. at the Fort Myers Distribution Center and Collier County Center in Naples. Call **Lori Harrington** at (239) 334-7007 x141.

Harry Chapin Food Bank OF SOUTHWEST FLORIDA

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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**

