

FOOD

for Thought

The vital link between food and hunger.



**YOU'RE
PREPARING
CHILDREN
FOR
SUCCESS
THIS
SCHOOL
YEAR!**

Alexis

8

\$1 = ~~4~~ Meals!

**FOODBANK IN MIDST
OF BIGGEST MATCHING
CHALLENGE EVER!**

SEE PAGE 5



**Cleveland
Foodbank**

The vital link between food & hunger.

A Member of
**FEEDING
AMERICA**



ANNE CAMPBELL GOODMAN
President and CEO

Dear Friend,

Foodbank supporters like you have had an incredible impact in the lives of our struggling neighbors this summer. Children, especially, have benefitted from your support. During the past three months, we've been able to provide 9,000 nutritious meals each weekday at 42 summer feeding sites for kids in need. On behalf of these children, thank you.

As the Foodbank's fiscal year comes to a close next month, I'm so encouraged by our progress in the fight against hunger. We set some lofty goals in our strategic plan, and thanks to the consistent outpouring of community and donor support, we've been able to achieve much of our ambition.

One very exciting benchmark is that we've already exceeded our goal for distribution of fresh fruits and vegetables – by 1 million pounds! The [Cleveland Foodbank](#) is committed to distributing highly nutritious food, and you've made it possible.

The Foodbank has also helped provide meals through SNAP (formerly food stamps) outreach. Our team of seven benefits counselors visit hospitals, libraries, housing authorities and produce distribution sites to educate people about SNAP and help provide access to those who qualify. This fiscal year alone, we've filed SNAP applications for 3,142 households.

We could not have met any of our aggressive goals without the support of dedicated neighbors like you. As you take a look at the enclosed back-to-school edition of *Food for Thought*, I hope you'll remember that these children are receiving backpacks full of nutritious weekend food and hot afterschool meals because you've chosen to support these and other important programs.

Thank you for your continued partnership in the fight against hunger here in Northeast Ohio. You make such a difference!

All my best,

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YOU'RE HELPING FOOD-INSECURE FAMILIES FILL MEAL GAPS

Nalis and Andres are precious and playful 8-year-old twins. Their mom, Aslin, works full-time, so on weekday afternoons they head to Salvation Army Ohio City, a [Cleveland Foodbank](#) Kids Cafe and Backpack for Kids program site. Here they get afterschool tutoring and an early supper.

Luz Rivera, the site's office manager, knows a hot meal before bedtime has a positive impact on children's academics, behavior and development. She also knows what that evening meal means to struggling caregivers, especially single parents.

"The parents know that when they pick up their kids, they will have just had a meal," Luz says. "It's a program that is giving families the opportunity to be relieved."

Salvation Army Ohio City also hosts the Backpack for Kids program to cover weekend meals and serves breakfast, lunch and an afternoon snack during its summer day camp. The summer camp is an "open site" where any child can come in for lunch between noon and 1 p.m.

Nalis and Andres' grandma, Nilsa, comes to retrieve the twins when their mom is tied up at work. She says the Salvation Army programs are a huge help for her daughter, and the evening meals and kid-friendly weekend foods really help to stretch the family's budget.

"This is a wonderful program for the children," Nilsa says. "We're grateful for everything!"

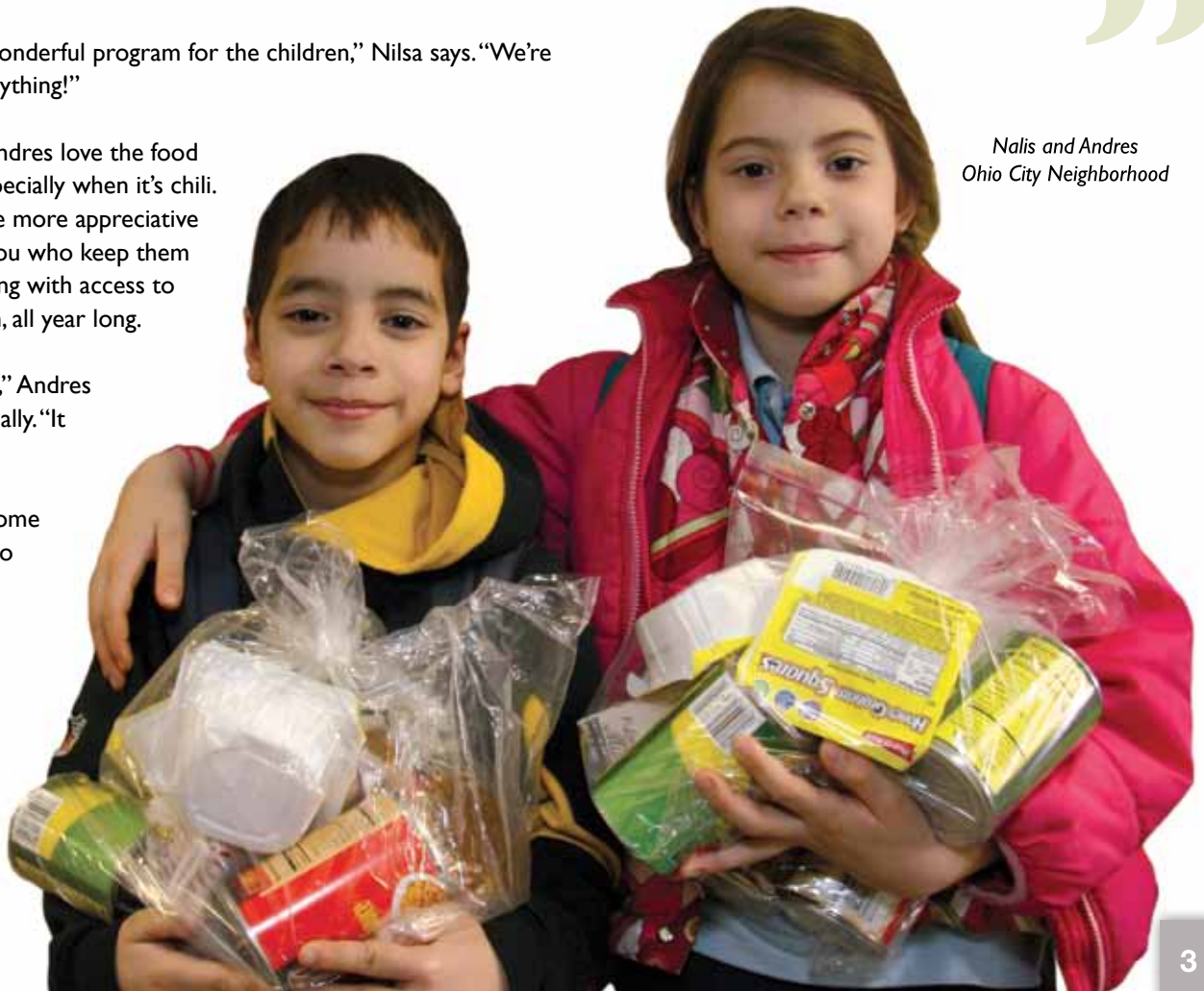
Nalis and Andres love the food they receive, especially when it's chili. They couldn't be more appreciative of donors like you who keep them happy and thriving with access to regular nutrition, all year long.

"Thank you," Andres says enthusiastically. "It helps me play!"

Your gifts come as such a relief to Northeast Ohio families in need. Thank you for providing meals for hungry children!

“IT’S A PROGRAM
THAT IS GIVING
FAMILIES THE
OPPORTUNITY TO
BE RELIEVED.”

*Nalis and Andres
Ohio City Neighborhood*



HARVEST FOR HUNGER A TREMENDOUS SUCCESS

HARVEST for HUNGER



This year's Harvest for Hunger campaign broke a record by raising over \$3.6 million — enough for more than 15 million meals. More than 900 companies, schools,

nonprofits and governmental entities, supermarket and media partners participated by running food and fund drives this year. The food and funds raised will provide free food for local soup kitchens, pantries and shelters to feed neighbors in need.

The success of the campaign was due in large part to our two corporate co-chairs, Albert Ratner and Ken Marblestone, and the very successful Check Out Hunger campaign, a cashier-led fundraising effort in grocery stores across the region during March. Collectively, participating supermarkets raised \$1,347,125! Thanks to Giant Eagle, Heinen's and Dave's for their support.

To see pictures of this year's Harvest for Hunger campaign, please visit www.harvestforhunger.org.

THANK YOU FOR PROVIDING NEEDED MEALS

URGE YOUR LEGISLATORS TO PROTECT NUTRITION PROGRAMS

Food banks and hunger programs throughout the country rely on federal nutrition programs to help feed hungry Americans. These programs are authorized through the Farm Bill.

The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) is particularly important as the source of 27 percent of the food moving through the national network of food banks. As demand has increased, this nutritious food from the USDA has declined, putting a strain on food banks across the nation.

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), formerly known as food stamps, is the foundation of the nutrition safety net.

Both of these important programs are authorized and funded through the Farm Bill, which will expire at the end of September. **Please take a minute to send a message to your Senators and Member of Congress urging them to protect these programs.** Visit www.clevelandfoodbank.org and select "Advocate" from the menu on the left. From there, select "Current Issues" from the menu.

SAVE THE DATE

TASTE OF THE BROWNS
SEPTEMBER 10TH, 6 – 9 P.M.
CLEVELAND BROWNS STADIUM

Come enjoy samplings from more than 25 of Cleveland's finest restaurants and beverage purveyors. Cleveland Browns alumni and current players will be there to mix and mingle with the crowd. To purchase tickets, please go to www.cleveland.com/tasteofthebrowns!



Jada and Brooklyn
Garden Valley Neighborhood

Tracye
Ohio City Neighborhood

Glen
Mentor, OH

Nate
Near West Side
Neighborhood

Yariliz
Near West Side
Neighborhood

OUR BIGGEST MATCHING GIFT CHALLENGE EVER

Have you heard the news? The Kent H. Smith Charitable Trust, the Community West Foundation and the estate of John Minco, along with several generous leadership donors, have offered a \$500,000 matching gift challenge! That means that every dollar donated toward this campaign will be matched – until we reach a total of \$1 million! There's still time before the August 31 deadline to have individual and corporate gifts matched. Visit www.clevelandfoodbank.org to give today!

\$1 = ⁸/₄ Meals!

AGENCIES HONORED AT 2012 RECOGNITION EVENT

The [Cleveland Foodbank](#) recently honored the successes of our member agencies for the meaningful work they do throughout the year. More than 250 member agency staff and volunteers attended a luncheon at Landerhaven. Special guest speaker, Anthony Rego of Giant Eagle, spoke about the importance of participating in the fight against hunger. He also presented an oversized check to the Foodbank for \$1,102,302.70, representing the dollars raised by Giant Eagle cashiers for the 2012 Harvest for Hunger Campaign. Several awards were given for agencies' extraordinary commitment and innovation. The winners of this year's

Ed Worley Award were Don and Arlene Spence from St. Ladislus Church at St. Ignatius of Antioch Pantry and Hot Meal Program. The Ed Worley award, which is named after one of the Cleveland Foodbank's founders, is given to an agency that demonstrates outstanding hunger-relief efforts in our community.



Pictured left to right: Deb Beckwith, Vice President of Agency Services; Lou Keim, Foodbank Board member; Arlene Spence, Ed Worley awardee; Anne Goodman, Foodbank president and CEO; Don Spence, Ed Worley awardee.

Congratulations to the 2012 Award Winners:

Pantry of the Year:

Chagrin Falls Park Community Center

Hot Meal of the Year:

St. Edward's Hunger Center

Kids Program of the Year:

Urban Community School

Innovative Program of the Year:

May Dugan Multi-Services Center

Multi-Service Program of the Year:

Lakewood Community Services Center

Ed Worley Award:

St. Ladislus Church at St. Ignatius

CELEBRATING OUR VOLUNTEERS

On Thursday, June 7 the [Cleveland Foodbank](#) hosted a special dinner at the Terrace Club to recognize and thank the thousands of volunteers who give their time to help us fight hunger. Last year, more than 10,000 volunteers assisted with projects including sorting and repacking foods, preparing meals in the Community Kitchen and helping out in the office. The hours these volunteers committed equaled the work of 32 full-time staff members.

At the event, Cathy Wyban was recognized with the Volunteer of the Year award. She has volunteered at the Foodbank for eight years, donating more than 600 hours of service — with 160 hours last year alone. Even after retirement from AT&T, Cathy still manages the monthly AT&T Pioneer volunteer group.

This year's Volunteer Group of the Year award was presented to Mayfield United Methodist Church. This remarkable group has volunteered at the Foodbank for six years, with some members dating back to 2001. The group comes twice a month and is always willing to take on any project assigned to them.



Cathy Wyban (center) accepts the Volunteer of the Year award from Anne Goodman, President and CEO, and Wayne Hill, Chair of the Foodbank Board of Directors.

The Cleveland Foodbank also recognized 34 volunteers who contributed 100 hours or more during the past year:

Latasha Anderson
Roger Baden
Chris Barwidi
James Beatrice
Rosemarie Beveridge
Stuart Cohen
Dennis Corban
Greg Darroch
Dorothy Lynch

Donald Epstein
Joanne Epstein
Bill Fleck
Kris Gill
Sheldon Gisser
Vida Habjan
Robert Hardy
Lea Jacobson
Melvin Kamins

David Lloyd
Dorothy Lynch
Jane Martin
John Mitchell
Marybeth Muehle
Edie Paetow
Earl Player
Connie Pool
Lincoln Radcliffe

Penny Roberts
Carolyn Segro
Jack Siggins
David Tomberg
Carol Trenka
Ronald Wiesenthal
Henry Williams
Cathy Wyban

To learn more about volunteering at the Foodbank, please contact Alan Fratus at af ratus@clevelandfoodbank.org or call 216.738.2053.

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING NEIGHBORS IN NEED

Both still recovering from major surgery, Cheryl and her 11-year-old daughter, Millenia, are in great need of access to regular, nutritious meals.

But having enough in the cupboard has been a struggle since Cheryl was diagnosed with thyroid cancer and had to leave her job with a local nonprofit. She recently had surgery and chemotherapy treatment to remove her tumor, and she says that her health is now improving every day.

“THANK YOU FOR WHAT YOU GIVE.”

Cheryl is able to visit Lakewood Community Services Center, a Foodbank partner agency in her hometown of Lakewood, to keep her family strong and thriving while she looks for new work opportunities. The agency's fresh produce, meat, bread and other nourishing staples help stretch her budget so she can afford things like school supplies for Millenia.

Millenia, who Cheryl named after the year of her birth, has also had health problems and underwent a 10-hour surgery to close a hole in her heart. She's had a long recovery – just this past spring she was thrilled to finally be healthy enough to ride roller coasters at an amusement park. Cheryl is so appreciative of generous people like you who help her provide for her daughter.

“Thank you for what you give,” she says.

Trish Rooney, Lakewood Community Services Center's executive director, says the need for healthy food is growing in her community. During the first quarter of this year, the center served 43 percent more people than at the same time last year.

With the demand for nutritious food on the rise, Trish says she's grateful for the community center's strong relationship with the Foodbank, which supplies a large portion of the food on her agency's shelves. She's also excited about the center's 5,000 square foot community garden, where 10 client families each have a 10' x 40' plot to grow their own produce. The families keep what they need and donate the rest back to Lakewood Community Services.

Your gifts make such an impact. Thank you for helping the [Cleveland Foodbank](#) and its valued partners reach people in need with life-giving meals and groceries.



HELP SUSTAIN THE FOODBANK'S WORK BY BECOMING A MEMBER OF TOMORROW'S HARVEST

The largest matching gift challenge ever was made possible in part by an estate gift. By including the Foodbank in your estate plans, you too will have a lasting impact on our hunger relief efforts, ensuring that nutritious food is available for hungry men, women and children of Northeast Ohio in the future. You will also become a member of Tomorrow's Harvest, our recognition society, which honors and thanks those who have let us know of their decision.

If you would like more information or if you already decided to leave a gift to the Foodbank in your will, please contact Mary Lavin at 216.738.2056 or mlavin@clevelandfoodbank.org. With a little planning today, you can leave a legacy that will help provide food for families in need for years to come.

YOU'RE KEEPING CHILDREN FULL AND FOCUSED THROUGHOUT THE SCHOOL YEAR

On the near west side of Cleveland, students at Urban Community School don't have to stress about skipping meals during the weekends, thanks to your gifts.

The school offers the [Cleveland Foodbank's](#) Backpack for Kids program to about a third of the school's families. The program stocks schools and agencies throughout Northeast Ohio with backpacks full of nutritious, kid-friendly food items for children from food-insecure households.

Milka Peric, Urban Community School's Backpack program coordinator, understands the hardships of the area's population — nearly 80 percent of students come from low-income families. She greatly appreciates the nutritious weekend meals available to students on her list.

"If this program did not exist, I shudder to think how many children would go hungry," Milka says. "This may be the difference for them to make a good life for themselves."

Carina, 8, is going into the third grade at Urban Community School and looks forward to the backpack of food she's able to take home each Friday during the school year. She's been receiving backpacks since kindergarten and she shares the food with her little sister, who's in preschool.

Carina loves to go to the library at school and enjoys experimenting in science class. She wants to become a scientist when she grows up, and you're helping her get there with access to balanced nutrition. She has a deep understanding of gratitude for someone so young.

"Thank you," Carina says. "I appreciate it because when we run out of food, we can use [the backpack food] until we have more."

Even short periods of hunger can have lasting effects on a child's development and ability to concentrate. Thank you for preparing our community for a better future by looking out for children in need.

**“IF THIS PROGRAM
DID NOT EXIST,
I SHUDDER TO
THINK HOW MANY
CHILDREN WOULD
GO HUNGRY.”**

*Carina
Near West Side
Neighborhood*



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You can follow the
Cleveland Foodbank on
Facebook
and **Twitter**.

local coordinator of
**HARVEST
for HUNGER**