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Healthy Food for a Healthy Community: Join Autumn Harvest to End Hunger!

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Your Gifts Change Lives for the Better!

Dear Neighbor,

Good nutrition is essential for a healthy life. Quality whole foods — like fresh produce — provide the vitamins and nutrients we all need to thrive. Unfortunately, these foods are among the most expensive at the grocery store and often out of reach for families struggling with hunger.

That’s why All Faiths Food Bank established our Autumn Harvest Campaign last year — to connect our neighbors with fruits and vegetables they need to live healthy lives. I hope we can count on you again to make this year’s campaign a success!

The campaign also includes a beautifully crafted farm-to-table dinner in our warehouse raising awareness and support for our produce programs. The success of the inaugural Autumn Harvest event last year allowed All Faiths to distribute 1.7 million pounds of fresh produce. Please join us September 27 for this special evening hosted by Jeremy Hammond of Innovative Dining.

Until then, take a look at this fall issue of Food for Thought and meet just a handful of the people whose lives you’ve touched. Flip to the back cover to learn how your generosity is helping feed 6-year-old Charlene — and bringing relief to her mother.

I hope you’ll also join us in celebrating the 30th anniversary of feeding our community and in recognizing Hunger Action Month, which happens each September. Caring communities across the nation come together at this time of year to give voice, funds and volunteer time to provide needed food for neighbors facing hunger.

Thank you for ending hunger during the fall and all year long. You change lives for the better every day!

With sincere gratitude,

Sandra Frank, JD
Chief Executive Officer

Create a Lasting Legacy

Help end hunger by including All Faiths Food Bank in your estate plans. When you make a planned gift, you’ll become a member of the Ending Hunger Society, be invited to special events and receive an annual legacy newsletters.

There are many ways to join the Ending Hunger Society:

Bequest — Include All Faiths Food Bank in your will or estate plan through a variety of bequest options, such as a charitable bequest, unrestricted bequest, or restricted bequest. For more information about All Faiths Food Bank, please contact Denise Cotler at dcotler@allfaithsfoodbank.org or call 941.549.8131.

Retirement Plan — If you participate in a 401(k) or 403(b) plan, IRA, or similar retirement plan, you can designate All Faiths Food Bank as a beneficiary of a portion or the remainder of your plan account.

Life Insurance — You can make All Faiths Food Bank a beneficiary of a life insurance policy or paid policy you no longer need.

Questions?
You can contact your attorney or financial advisor to discuss these and other ways to leave a legacy gift to All Faiths Food Bank.

For more information about the Ending Hunger Society, please contact Denise Cotler at dcotler@allfaithsfoodbank.org or 941-315-7671.

Thank you, Debra, for Helping End Hunger in Our Community!

“Your generosity helps make sure local families can access the nutrition they need to succeed. Thank you for sharing hope in the form of healthy food!”

Deb’s story continues...

Debra is committed to making her community a better place to call home. She loved volunteering at a local food pantry up in Atlanta, and when she relocated to the Sarasota area five years ago, she immediately began giving time with All Faiths Food Bank.

“Debra was able to offer her comfort and understanding during her time of struggle as she helped her fill her cart. There’s a very thin line between having enough and being in crisis,” Debra says. “It can happen to any of us.”

In addition to sharing food and hope with her neighbors, Debra helps run a shoe-and-sock drive, collects school supplies and distributes gift cards to families with low incomes during the holidays.

Debra goes above and beyond to support the health and well-being of our vibrant community. Our work would simply not be possible without caring, committed people like her.

Thank you, Debra, for your dedication to improving life for your neighbors here in Sarasota and DeSoto Counties!

“I t’s an opportunity to give back out of thankfulness,” Debra says of her volunteer efforts.

She says it’s important to her to raise awareness about hunger and increase funding to provide nutritious food, but she also enjoys making an impact one-on-one with the people she serves.

Debra remembers meeting a young woman who was ashamed to reach out for help with food. She was able to offer her comfort and understanding during her time of struggle as she helped her fill her cart.

“Thank you, Debra, for helping end hunger in our community!”

Thank you, Debra, for your dedication to improving life for your neighbors here in Sarasota and DeSoto Counties!

Sandra Frank, JD
Chief Executive Officer
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Sandra Frank, JD
Chief Executive Officer

Join Us for Autumn Harvest!

For an exclusive evening featuring Jeremy Hammond of Innovative Dining | 6:30 pm, Sept 27, 2019

For event information or to support our produce program, visit allfaithsfoodbank.org or call 941-315-7671.

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— Addy

“Your savings people’s lives.”

Local Families Are Giving Thanks for You

When you have kids money can get tight,” Addy says, glancing down at her son, Samuel, asleep in his stroller. “You have to find a way to feed them.”

Addy and her husband, Jose, were struggling to afford groceries before they found out about the regular All Faiths Food Bank food distributions at a local elementary school.

Both work hard to provide for 2-year-old Samuel — Addy works as a housekeeper and Jose is a roofer. But Jose can’t get many hours when the weather’s bad. And with the high cost of childcare, their combined incomes just don’t go far enough.

Because they’re able to get food from the distribution, Addy says they can afford to have a babysitter, so they can keep working and get on more solid financial footing. She’s truly grateful you choose to give.

“You save people’s lives,” Addy says to friends like you. “You are saving people’s lives.”

Your generosity helps make sure local families can access the nutrition they need to succeed. Thank you for sharing hope in the form of healthy food!

Thank you, Debra, for helping End Hunger in Our Community!

Addy and her son, Samuel, share gratitude at a Mobile Market.

Thank you for ending hunger during the fall and all year long. You change lives for the better!
Little Charlene, 6, is a bright kid with a happy spirit. You’d never guess from her cheerful smile and frequent giggles that her family doesn’t always have enough to eat.

But right now, her mom, Maria, is having a hard time. She’s raising Charlene on her own, and often, even basic necessities are out of her budget.

Can you imagine the stress of not having the means to feed your child? Maria knows firsthand what that feels like.

But thanks to friends like you, she also knows where to go for help.

Charlene attends elementary school in Sarasota, and All Faiths Food Bank shares a variety of healthy groceries with people at risk of hunger at her school every month.

Maria says having help with food has been life-changing. She’s a creative cook and loves using the food to prepare balanced meals for her little girl. Maria was excited to share her gratitude with you.

“Thank you!” she says with a warm smile. “The food helps me so much.”

Your gifts are a comfort to so many neighbors like Maria and Charlene — and they are truly grateful you choose to give.