

Feeding Hope

Summer 2019



ALSO IN THIS ISSUE

Volunteer Spotlight

Page 2-3

El Pasoans Fighting Hunger Food Bank Distributes Nutritious Food to Elderly Citizens

Page 3

Winter Wonderland Gala

Page 4

3rd Annual Doing Good Golf Tournament

Page 4





Our Mission

We combat the hunger crisis in our region by strategically procuring and distributing nutritious food through community partners...

because no one should go hungry.

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Susan E. Goodell

Dear Caring Friends,



I am excited to announce the first stages of our planned expansion here at the El Pasoans Fighting Hunger Food Bank. We recently unveiled our "state of the art" twin 5,500 square foot refrigerators and a 9,500 square foot freezer as part of the food bank's expansion plan. This expansion means we can increase the acceptance, proper storage, and distribution of healthy and nutritious foods such as milk, eggs, yogurt, frozen meats, fish, and poultry, and fresh produce to our tri-county region.

We are the youngest food bank in America and since we became an independent non-profit organization in 2013, we have come a long way. To date, the food bank has made long lasting impacts on the families of our community. This food bank serves as the back bone and social safety net for food insecure individuals; producing 60,000 daily meals Monday through Sunday, 365 days a year.

The good news is that El Pasoans Fighting Hunger has spent 2018 and 2019 growing sources of healthy foods while expanding the reach of the food bank into difficult to reach communities/populations. The food bank has had great success in finding new sources of food during this time-period and has increased service to the community by 47% in 2018 and is currently on pace to grow by 94% this year.

“To date, the food bank has made long lasting impacts on the families of our community.”

None of the success we have seen in the last 18 months would have been possible without the support of the community and our generous donors. Thank you for choosing to be a part of our food bank family. We look forward to you taking part in our journey to serve the most vulnerable members of our community.

Best,

Susan Goodell
Chief Executive Officer



“The El Pasoans Fighting Hunger Food Bank now gives me the opportunity to be able to give back to those who are food insecure.”

— Fred

El Pasoans Fighting Hunger Food Bank Distributes Nutritious Food to Elderly Citizens

Many senior citizens do not have the means and support to live properly during their golden years.

For many, it is hard to understand food insecurity. Nutrition and health are important to older citizens. Additionally, it is hard to imagine having a monthly budget of \$600 to meet all your basic needs.

According to The Journal of Nutrition, "When you are food insecure, it means that there is a limited or uncertain availability of nutritionally adequate and safe foods or limited or uncertain ability to acquire said foods in socially acceptable ways."

Fortunately, for over 3,100 older citizens in El Paso, food insecurity is no longer something to worry about. The Commodity Supplemental Food Program, also known as CSFP, is a program that was authorized under the Agriculture and Consumer Act of 1973. While this program was initially created for pregnant / postpartum women, infants and children, the program was redesigned in February of 2014 to solely assist elderly men and women over 60.

In October of 2018, this program was introduced in El Paso via the El Pasoans Fighting Hunger Food Bank (EPFH), in order to feed over 2,000 senior citizens in the community. The purpose of CSFP is to improve the health and nutritional status of low-income elderly persons through nutrition education, activities, and the donation of nutritionally balanced supplemental foods.

EPFH aids in this mission by distributing nutritious food to elderly citizens at over 26 locations throughout the metro area. **"Many times, they must choose between food and other basic needs," said Robert Maldonado, Mobile Pantry Coordinator for El Pasoans Fighting with Hunger Food Bank. "Thankfully, due to the El Pasoans Fighting Hunger Food Bank and the CSFP, they can have both."**

Originally, EPFH was able to provide assistance to over 2,000 qualifying seniors. Then in January of 2019, EPFH was allowed



“Many times, they must choose between food and other basic needs. Thankfully, [now] they can have both.

— Robert Maldonado, Mobile Pantry Coordinator

to assist an additional 1,123 seniors based on our success in implementation and local demand. This expansion allowed the food bank to assist a total of 3,123 senior citizens who qualify to utilize the CSFP. In order to qualify, individuals must be 60 years of age and older, and meet any additional state and federal requirements. The Texas Department of Agriculture has an agreement with the United States Department of Agriculture to administer CSFP in Texas, and does so in accordance with federal and state requirements.

Every Saturday, EPFH creates 200 to 400 care packages for the senior citizens utilizing this program. **"We try to give the senior citizens of this program variety. We change the cereals, proteins and juices of these care packages,"** said Humberto Lopez Jr., processing coordinator for EPFH. The food bank also delivers fresh fruits, vegetables, and dairy items alongside these care packages in order to further enhance the nutrition provided to the seniors utilizing the program.

Volunteer Spotlight

Frederick (Fred) Connelly has been volunteering since March of 2019.

"Growing up, my parents utilized similar programs in order to make sure us children didn't go hungry," said Fred Connelly, marketing volunteer. "The El Pasoans Fighting Hunger Food Bank now gives me the opportunity to be able to give back to those who are food insecure."

Since his time volunteering, Fred has contributed in multiple ways. From processing

salvageable foods, to clerical support, Fred has served as a valued member of our community and been a truly amazing volunteer with the El Pasoans Fighting Hunger Food Bank.

"My volunteer experience at the food bank has taught me that everyone is able to contribute in one way or another. My journalism background has allowed me to contribute with the writing and editing processes at the food bank, which shows that there are always opportunities available to help out."

We Love
our Volunteers





Winter Wonderland Gala

Our Winter Wonderland Gala will be held on Saturday November 9, 2019 at the Marriott

Please join El Pasoans Fighting Hunger Food Bank on Saturday November 9th, 2019 at the Marriott Hotel located at 1600 Airway Blvd. Doors will open at 6:30 P.M. and the event will be from 7:00 P.M. to 12:00 A.M. Enjoy an evening of fun, participate in a silent and live auction and make memories at the Casino gaming area.

Together with community partners, El Pasoans Fighting Hunger Food Bank can continue its mission of making sure that no one goes hungry. Your support

will create an instant impact on the more than 200,000 food insecure people in the El Paso area. Community support of events like this allow El Pasoans Fighting Hunger to provide much needed food relief to children, seniors, and veterans.

To learn about how you can help or to participate, please contact Laura Rayborn at 915-479-3243, e-mail Laurasproduction@aol.com, or contact Sylvana Abbas at 915-487-2028, e-mail sabbas@epfhfb.org.

EPFH Launches Phase II of Capital Campaign



We are pleased to announce that on July 12, 2019, we unveiled a state of the art 9,500 square foot freezer and two 2,725 square foot refrigerators at a formal ribbon cutting ceremony as part of our Phase II Capital Campaign. This expansion plan allows us to better warehouse and distribute food to the 200,000 plus individuals in our community who are food insecure. Part of the expansion will include raising funds to renovate our 177,000 square foot warehouse to include a Food Farmacy, business offices, a commercial kitchen, teaching kitchen, food grade cleaning room, and a volunteer processing area to name a few. These developments will significantly increase the food bank's operations and will allow us to best serve our community. **Please visit our website for more information www.elpasoansfightinghunger.org or call 915-298-0353.**

3rd Annual Doing Good Golf Tournament

El Pasoans Fighting Hunger Food Bank will be hosting its 3rd Annual Doing Good Golf Tournament, in honor of Gary Del Palacio on Saturday September 21, 2019 at the Underwood Golf Course located at 3200 Coe Ave, El Paso, TX 79904. Registration will be at 9:00 A.M. and a shotgun start at 11:00 A.M. There will be prizes, awards, goody bags and raffles. All proceeds from the Golf Tournament benefit the El Pasoans Fighting Hunger Food Bank. **To learn about how you can help or to participate, please contact Laura Rayborn at 915-479-3243, e-mail Laurasproduction@aol.com, or contact Sylvana Abbas at 915-487-2028, e-mail sabbas@epfhfb.org.**



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Sustained Giving

Our new website allows donors the option to make a sustained gift through monthly payments. **We currently are seeking 2,500 donors to make \$20 monthly contributions;** that would result in \$600,000 for El Pasoans Fighting Hunger Food Bank and 4,200,000 meals for people in need!

