



Feeding Hope

Winter 2019

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EL PASOANS
**FIGHTING
HUNGER**
FOOD  BANK

MEMBER OF
**FEEDING
AMERICA**



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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Dear Caring Friends,



“Your support in 2018 assisted us in working to alleviate hunger in the El Paso area.”

It was a wonderful and impactful 2018! This past year, El Pasoans Fighting Hunger Food Bank (EPFH) distributed **15.5 million pounds** through our network of over 130 community partner pantries, soup kitchens, and shelters to ensure that hungry people are fed. These agencies are located throughout our region and are dedicated to tackling the challenge of easing hunger among our neighbors.

Your support in 2018 assisted us in working to alleviate hunger in the El Paso area. Three new programs expanded our distribution efforts to ensure that seniors, children, and individuals are served nutritious food.

- **The Commodity Supplemental Food Program** provides 2,000 seniors at local community centers with food boxes each month.
- **The National School Lunch Program** provides 185,000 low-income school children with food through the free breakfast and lunch program.
- **Three Client Choice Mobile Pantries** a week, in the same neighborhoods weekly, give clients the option to choose food items that are best for them in some of the most underserved areas.

Your support also contributed to 14 school pantries that ensure students, from Pre-K through high school, and their families receive food. During the summer and holiday breaks, many of these students don't know where their next meal will come from. School pantries can help fill those gaps.

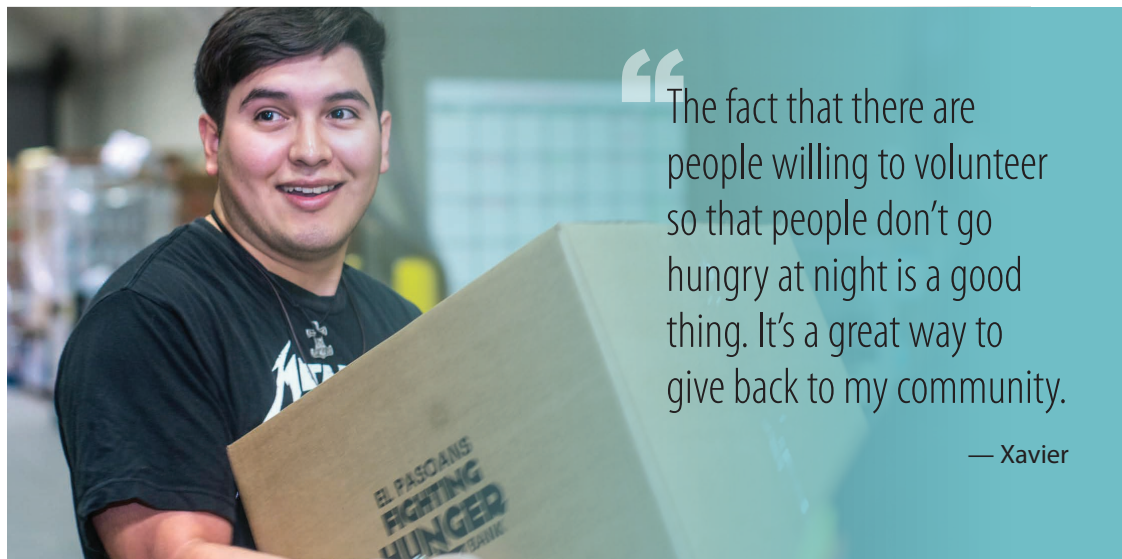
Above all, please know that **your help goes a long way in impacting so many lives.** There are so many instances where we see first hand how that impact is made. One in particular stands out among the rest. At a recent mobile client choice pantry hosted by United Healthcare, a woman named Marisela had such a grateful smile on her face as she packed up her food. As she filled out a form to receive help for her and her husband for the first time, she said she was grateful to have been treated with respect and dignity. As she gave our team member a hug and went on her way she said, "This has given us an eye opening experience to know that people are here offering services (help) and you all have showed a lot of kindness through it".

Thank you once again for choosing to partner with us. We look forward to the rest of 2019 and are proud to serve the most vulnerable in our community!

Best,

Susan Goodell

Chief Executive Officer



“The fact that there are people willing to volunteer so that people don't go hungry at night is a good thing. It's a great way to give back to my community.”

— Xavier

“It’s a Help Like You Can’t Even Imagine”

The line of individuals wraps around the building, through the gate and into the parking lot area.

At one of our partner food pantries, in Socorro, Texas, nearly 250 families wait their turn to receive life sustaining fresh produce, bread, milk, and other nutritious food items to feed their family members.

“We see the need and we want to make sure to fill it,” said Benny, a long-time volunteer member who oversees the food distribution at Ebenezer Food Pantry.

Depending on the number of volunteers and access to food, Benny along with a handful of others, coordinates the food pantry distribution one to three times per week.

“Most of the clients we serve are retired and take care of their grandchildren,” said Benny. **“It is a help like you can’t even imagine. If it was not for you (El Pasoans Fighting Hunger), the clients we serve would have to continue making the difficult decision between clothes and food, utilities and food and other necessities.”**



Amazing Things Happen Because of Friends Like You

We are so fortunate to have great food partners who donate their resources. **G & H Dairy donated 505,806 pounds of milk to EPFH in 2018.** Clients are extremely joyful to receive a milk carton at food distributions, and so are we! **Thank you G & H Dairy for your generosity.**



Volunteer Spotlight

Xavier has been volunteering since May of 2018.

“The people here are great,” he said. “Everyone from the processing area, to the drivers to the volunteer coordinator make you feel welcomed and like you are a part of something bigger.”

This has been Xavier’s first experience volunteering at a Food Bank. He said **he’s seen some of his friends struggling to feed themselves and this was one way he feels he can give back.**

“**Not everyone is as fortunate as everyone else,**” Xavier said. “The fact that there are people willing to volunteer so that people don’t go hungry at night is a good thing. It’s a great way to give back to my community.”

We Love
our Volunteers



It's All About the Food — A Look Back at 2018



Volunteers donated nearly 26,000 hours in 2018!

Interested in donating time this year?

Our volunteer hours are Monday-Saturday from 8am-4:30pm.



Over 130 food pantries, soup kitchens, and shelters served food throughout the community last year **to ensure no one goes hungry!**



In 2018, a total of **15.5 million pounds of food including fresh produce was distributed** through mobile client choice pantries, 14 school pantries, senior boxes, and physical pantries. This represents a 47% increase over the previous year.



El Pasoans Fighting Hunger Food Bank became the local food distributor for 182 schools feeding low-income children across seven West Texas counties, including El Paso, Culberson, Hudspeth, Brewster, Jeff Davis, Reeves, and Presidio Counties. With child food insecurity on the rise, this partnership between EPFH and the Texas Department of Agriculture to supply children with free and reduced price breakfast and lunch at school **could not be more urgent.**

Looking Ahead ...

This year, we are so excited to get started on the expansion of a brand new cooler and freezer! **Nearly 23% of our area population lives below the poverty line and the need to feed more children, elderly, veterans, and families is growing.** This new project will expand our capacity to store more fresh produce, dairy products and meat, all of which are nutritious and needed to feed our community.



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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!

