

January - March 2022



Shared Harvest

FOODBANK

OUR MISSION

To find, rescue and distribute food to people living in poverty through an efficient network, uniting the public and private sectors; To raise awareness of the impact of poverty.

[sharedharvest.org](http://sharedharvest.org)



## A Letter From Our Director...

Each month, we have the privilege of providing food boxes to our senior neighbors. We currently have 1,859 seniors enrolled who depend on this program as their primary source of food. We work with organizations such as Partners in Prime who help deliver the boxes, or we set up our trucks in a parking lot at designated locations and times and load their cars as they drive through. However, nearly one third of the boxes we provide are delivered door to door.

Throughout our region, we have multiple low-income senior housing communities where many are homebound and have little interaction with the outside world. Throughout the pandemic, they have been especially concerned about going out in public to the grocery stores and were worried about not being able to fight the crowds or being exposed. To help alleviate their stress, we've been providing fresh produce, dairy, and refrigerated items in addition to their shelf stable box of food. Most of our participants are female at 67% and the average income is just over \$1,000 per month, which is primarily Social Security Income. The oldest participant is 92 years old, and the average participant is 67.

In this issue, we take a deeper dive into senior hunger. As we advocate for federal food assistance programs, we are driven by the people we know and love who depend on them. When work requirements are enforced,

mandating participants to work for their food assistance, I think of Irma, our 92-year-old participant. Is it fair to require her to work for her food assistance? Should she be punished for being a stay-at-home mother at a time when career opportunities for women were limited, both ultimately impacting how much Social Security Income she has now?

How many of these mandates are created by the perception that people in need are lazy and working the system? With these programs only being available to people who are at or below 130% of the federal poverty level, which equates to less than \$1,473 per month for one person, there are so many more who are in need but don't qualify based on these limited income thresholds. This is why they turn to us and our partner charitable food distributors for help.

Your continued support is so important. We need volunteers to deliver these boxes. We need your financial contributions to fuel our trucks and purchase supplies to pack food. We need your voice – even if it is just within your circles, to speak out against the myths that are demonizing people living in poverty. If you aren't already, follow us on social media, tour our facility, or volunteer. We have a place for you.

*Terry L. Perdue*  
TERRY PERDUE

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Patricia Plavko**  
Chair  
Frost, Brown, Todd LLC

**Mike Sullivan**  
Vice Chair  
Retired, Meijer

**Debbie Jones**  
Secretary/Treasurer  
Community Volunteer

**Bryan Cooper**  
Woodforest National Bank

**Gary Cornett**  
Community Volunteer

**Becca Desai**  
Community Volunteer

**Eric Knapke**  
Kroger

**Mark Lunt**  
Lunt Associates, Inc.

**Kyle Musser**  
Meijer

**Russ White**  
Retired, Frito Lay

**Steve Woody**  
Retired, Kroger



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# Meet Our New Board Members



Bakhtavar (Becca) Desai, through her job as an auditor, conducted a lot of audits for nonprofits. She began to learn more and more about the different organizations which led to her participation in non profits both local and globally for the last 25 years. While her children were in elementary school, she also spent time volunteering where she worked with students helping them with reading and math. It was through this that she began to learn more about food insecurity right in her backyard. When the founder of Fairfield Food Pantry approached her to join the board, she was more than ready to get involved. With Becca's accounting background, she primarily helped to bring in funds for the pantry which included applying for the Emergency Shelter and Food Program which was administered by Shared Harvest Foodbank. She learned more about the role we played as a foodbank, so when Terry Perdue asked if she would be interested in joining the board, she gladly accepted as she felt this would allow her to have an even bigger positive impact in her community. Even though Becca comes to us with a financial and fundraising background, she is eager to learn even more about all we do and pitch in wherever she is needed. Her motto is: "Many brains are better than one when working to find solutions".

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Most people who get involved in the nonprofit world have that one moment that locks them in for life. Kyle Musser, one of our newest board members, was no different. Growing up he was in the Boy Scouts where he first learned about the Big Brothers and Big Sisters Organization. When he became a big brother, he went in it thinking he would be a role model for a little brother and that they would be doing activities like playing sports, games, and helping with homework. The first time he picked up his little brother, they got in the car to go to the park, when this 8 yr old boy asked if they could get something to eat because he was hungry. He asked to go to McDonalds because he had never had it before. Kyle of course agreed to take him and asked why he was hungry for which his little brother replied, "we don't have any food in the house". This was eye opening. "Going out to eat, or eating when I was hungry was something I always took for granted". From that point on, while they continued to do many of the activities that Kyle had anticipated they would do, it was often centered around food. His passion to help in his community continued in his career, both at Walmart and Meijer. Currently in his role as Director of Operations, he oversees the employee's engagement in their give back programs, something that is a part of Meijer's core values. Along with his passion, Kyle brings with him his knowledge and expertise in distribution that can help us have an impact in the communities we serve for years to come.



# Senior Hunger Relief



**1 in 14  
Seniors were  
Food Insecure  
in 2019**

7% of Ohioans age 60 and over were living with food insecurity in 2019. This is comparable to national percentages. Even more troubling is the astonishing 213% increase in the number of very low food security (VLFS) seniors across the country in 2019.

**Persons over 60 are one of the fastest growing populations facing food insecurity.**

It is more important than ever that we continue to have programs that help meet the rising need of one of our most vulnerable populations.

## **Public programs that address seniors' nutritional needs include:**

- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP)
- The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP)
- Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program (SFMNP)
- Congregate & home-delivered meals, like Meals on Wheels



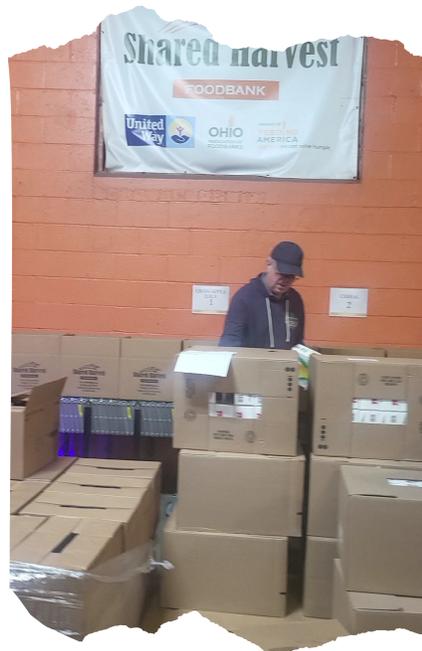
*Robert Zohfeld, Programs Manager, is unloading CSFP boxes to deliver to recipients at Belle Towers in Hamilton, Ohio.*

# Senior Hunger Relief

## Programs that SHF has to address senior food insecurity

- Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP)
  - This program is our largest response to Senior Hunger Relief
  - Eligible persons age 60 or older who are at or below 130% of Federal Poverty Income Guidelines can receive a monthly box of nutritious food items (a household of one is currently eligible if their monthly income is \$1,473 or less).
  - SHF is allocated to serve 1859 eligible participants in our 5-county service area.
    - according to 2019 American Community Survey, in 3 of the counties we served, households with at least one person age 60 or older was eligible and received SNAP benefits.
    - Based on this sampling, we know that additional funding for the CSFP program is needed in order to narrow the gap.
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
  - SNAP is the first line of defense for alleviating food insecurity.
  - Eligibility to receive SNAP is the same as CSFP.
  - Our program team actively works to help eligible CSFP recipients apply for for the box program and for SNAP.
- The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP)
  - Over the past few years, SHF has sought to include as many fresh commodities made available to us through TEFAP.
  - Seniors facing food insecurity or very low food security are at risk for poor nutrition and health outcomes(1).
  - All participants of our CSFP program are also encouraged to visit our Friday Food Distributions to receive additional food items include fresh fruits, vegetables, proteins and dairy provided through TEFAP commodities.

(1) Gundersen, C. & Ziliak, J. (2021). *The Health Consequences of Senior Hunger in the United States: Evidence from the 1999-2016 NHANES*



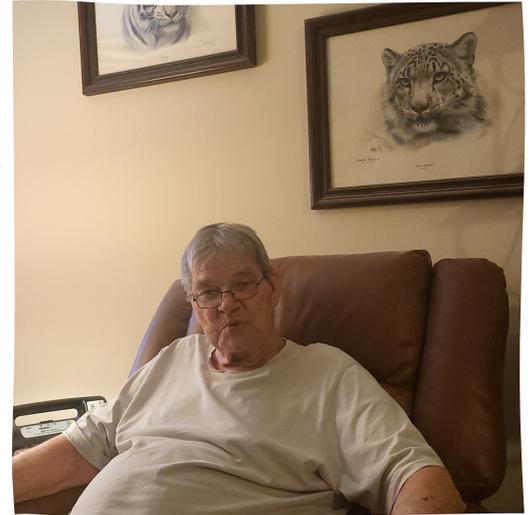
Every month, a combination of regular individuals and corporate groups come together to pack over 1800 42 lb. boxes of nutritious shelf stable food items for our CSFP program.

# Faces of Hunger



"I live on a fixed income and while I do get food stamps, the cost of food is high and I can't make it with just that."

"If I didnt have the assistance, it would be difficult and I wouldnt be able to live independently."



"After many years of working manual labor jobs, I was not able to continue first due to layoffs and then do to injuries. I lost just about everything in the process. I already don't eat very much but without help, I would barely eat at all."

## ADVOCATE TO END HUNGER

Public Programs like SNAP, CSFP, and TEFAP are essential to helping reduce not only food insecurity in our older population but also to reduce poor health outcomes and help our older generation stay independent at home. These programs are funded through what is known as the Farm Bill which is evaluated, updated, and renewed every 5 years.

To stay up to date on the Farm Bill and to find out how your voice can be used to strengthen these programs for the next 5 years, please contact our Executive Director, Terry Perdue, or visit our advocacy page at [www.sharedharvest.org](http://www.sharedharvest.org).



# Giving

## FOOD DONORS

- Chick Pea Chicks
- Chubby Bunny Bakery
- Columbia Freight
- Humana / Compass Group Springdale
- McLane Global/Roland
- Mondelez
- Ohio Association of Foodbanks
- Ohio Dept. of Job & Family Services
- Ohio Premium Provisions
- Party City
- SJ Express
- Snyder/Lance
- Tyson Foods
- Zenith Logistics



## 1.6M LBS DONATED IN FIRST QUARTER

## FOOD DRIVES

- Anonymous
- Brands Insurance
- Butler Co Children Services
- Butler Co JFS
- Butler Co Success Madison Schools
- Butler Tech BioScience Center
- Cleveland Cliffs
- Dagda's Cauldron
- Immanuel Lutheran School
- Mayank Moondra
- Plus Group
- ProClean
- Quinn Chapel AME Church
- Richmond Road Baptist Church

## RETAIL RESCUE

- Aldi
- Amazon
- Kroger
- Meijer
- Target
- Walmart

## IN MEMORY OF...

Alice Faye Delaney  
by Richard Vordem-Thoren

Bob Fiehrer  
by Scott Stephens

Charlene Estes  
by Arlene Holden

Chuck Osso  
by David & Melanie Calihan

Coyt Rains  
by Richard & Barbara Begley

Daniel B. Hileman  
by Rebecca Hileman

Danny Biondo  
by Nancy Biondo

Diane Robinson  
by Louis Robinson

Douglas Taylor  
by Thomas Wissing

James  
by Christina Bowling

Jeff Ingels  
by Jackie Weil

Jim  
by Judith Bowling

Joey Gibson  
by Deniis & Mary Garland

John Burkart  
by Joan Burkart

Joy Smith-Creech  
by Susan Marvin

Kathy Sarlo  
by Christopher Schleifer

Kelsi Poehlmann  
by Kerri Abney

Margie Doyle  
by Vincent Doyle

Mary Elizabeth Karem Saad  
by Christina Bennett

Mildred Lowther  
by Dan & Amanda Lowther

Ralph Abney  
by Mary Ann Long

Robert Fiehrer  
by Lawrence DeGuire

Robert Fiehrer  
by Ken Yelm

Siblings: Gary, Judy, Marcia & Kate  
by Davud & Nart Jayne Crow

Thomas Boehle  
by Stephen Crank

Thomas Lee Boehle  
by Diane Strugielski

Thomas Lee Boehle  
by Michele Huddleston

Tim Cassidy  
by Shelley Cassidy

Tom Boehle  
by Jason & Katie Crank

Tom Boehle  
by Karla Kaoud

## IN HONOR OF...

Belinda J. Brewer  
by Michael Stroup

Birthday for Doris Heffron  
by Richard & Mary Griss

Birthday for Martha Wenner  
by Janet Eckerfield

Garland & Emily Heflin  
by Etta Hawthorn

Joy & Jim Godsey  
by Paul & Karla Avance

Robert Conrad Fiehrer  
by Jack & Brigitte Cornett

Roger Hettesheimer  
by Phyllis Ensign



FOODBANK

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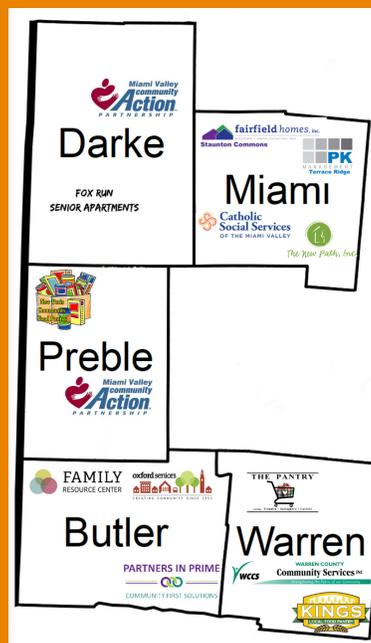
Jan-Mar 2022

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
Paid  
Cincinnati, OH  
Permit No. 770

## FOODBANK STAFF

Nathan Baker	Distribution Center Associate/Floater
Samantha Durko	Inventory Coordinator
Peter Engelhard	Programs Coordinator
Amberlee Finkes	Supply Chain Manager
Greg Fish	Driver/Distribution Center Associate
Nikki Jennings	Partner Relationship Manager
Kendal McBride	Driver/Distribution Center Associate
Sandra McCauley	Finance Manager
Sarah Ormbrek	Marketing Specialist
Terry Perdue	Executive Director
K.R.	Production Associate
B. S.	Production Associate
W. S.	Production Associate
Mike Stamper	Driver/Distribution Center Associate
Scott Stapleton	Distribution Center Manager
Robert Zohfeld	Programs Manager

## CSFP PARTNERS



- Community First Solutions (PIP)
- Fox Run Senior Apartments
- Franklin Area Community Services
- Kings Local Pantry
- Miami Valley Catholic Social Services
- Miami Valley Community Action Partnership (Darke & Preble)
- New Paris Community Food Pantry
- New Path Inc.
- Oxford Family Resource Center
- Oxford Senior Citizens
- Staunton Commons Apartments
- Terrace Ridge Apartments
- Warren County Community Services

