

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

SUMMER 2015

Fighting hunger
Feeding hope



Volunteer



Host A Food Drive



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FoodBank.org



“My stomach hurts when I don’t get to eat food.”

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“The Food Bank Helps Us When We Don’t Have Food”

On a sunny spring day, Natalie, age 10, stands in line for food with her mother at the Food Bank’s monthly food distribution in southeastern San Diego.

Natalie’s mother usually comes to the distribution alone, but Natalie joined her mother today because she is on spring break from Euclid Elementary School where she is in the 5th grade.

Natalie lives with her parents and brother in a nearby neighborhood. Both of her parents lost their jobs about a year ago, and they were unable to put food on the table for their family so they called the Food Bank for help. Since then, they have both found jobs, but they make minimum wage and continue to struggle to feed their children.

“We have gone to bed hungry. My stomach hurts when I don’t get to eat food,” explains Natalie as she describes her experience with hunger before her parents started getting food from the Food Bank. “My brother and I don’t have energy to play, and I get very sad when we don’t have food at home.”

Natalie’s mother works cleaning houses, and her dad works two part-time jobs as a cook at two fast food restaurants. “We don’t have much money,” explains Natalie. “The Food Bank really helps my family to get enough food to eat.”

When asked about her hobbies Natalie beams, “I like to cook with the food from the Food Bank and I enjoy school. My favorite subject is writing. I like to write essays about things that are hurting our world like the loss of biodiversity and climate change. I get good grades in school.”

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Jacobs & Cushman San Diego Food Bank

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Greetings!



First and foremost, I would like to thank everyone in our community that supported us during our School’s Out, Hunger’s Not Summer Food Drive. Thank you!

I would also like to give a special thank you to our food drive partners the Sycuan Band of the Kumeyaay Nation and SDG&E who were instrumental in the success of this year’s food drive, which surpassed our goal, raising more than 342,000 pounds of food! And a big shout-out to our media partners CBS 8 and the San Diego Union Tribune, who encouraged the community to donate nonperishable food items in our famous red barrels at all San Diego County Vons and Albertsons locations throughout the county.

And speaking of our supermarkets, both did an amazing job helping collect food from the public. Albertsons-Vons made giving easier by preparing pre-filled \$5 bags of food, which included our most needed food items, saving customers the extra step of having to find our most needed food items while shopping in the store.

On another note, I wanted to express my deepest gratitude to everyone who attended and supported our annual gala in May. The event was a huge success with over 450 attendees, and raised \$368K for our vital hunger-relief programs. I’d like to thank our gala chairs, Debra Devine and Jennifer Schwarz, our title sponsor Viejas, and our presenting sponsors Vons and Chevron, our emcees Kimberly Hunt and Billy Ray Smith, our gala committees, the amazing chefs who donated their time and culinary talent, our volunteers, and everyone who made the third annual Foodtasia a night to remember.

Even though summer is coming to an end, that doesn’t mean time slows down. The month of September is going to be a busy one dedicated to raising awareness about hunger in our community with our “End Hunger San Diego” campaign, which will kick off at the Food Bank’s fifth biennial Hunger Conference. Later on in the month, Sysco San Diego is sponsoring a social media-based campaign during San Diego Restaurant Week, Sept. 19 – 26. Sysco is inviting restaurant patrons to restaurants across the county to support the campaign by posting photos of their meals on social media platforms using the hashtag: #Food4Kids. For each post, Sysco will donate \$1 to the San Diego Food Bank, up to a maximum of \$10,000 to the Food 4 Kids Backpack Program. We encourage you to dine out at participating restaurants and support this vital program!!

Additionally, San Diego Restaurant Week has chosen the San Diego Food Bank as this year’s official charitable beneficiary.

The month will end on a high note with the two-day AimLoan.com San Diego Blues Festival fundraiser! The blues fest will take place on Saturday, Sept. 26 and Sunday, Sept. 27 at Embarcadero Marina Park North on the downtown waterfront. We have 18 acts playing both days with James Cotton and Booker T. Jones headlining. Tickets are a bargain ranging from \$25 for one day up to \$200 for two days in VIP. Get your tickets today! Visit www.SDBluesFest.com.

James A. Floros,
President & CEO





Natalie and her mother receive food from the Food Bank.

“The Food Bank Helps Us When We Don’t Have Food”

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“My favorite meal to cook is fried rice, and I like to make Mexican food. My favorite Mexican food to cook is enchiladas. My mom and I will cook together,” says Natalie.

As Natalie and her mother walk through the food line, they put food in an old stroller of Natalie’s to make it easier to carry the food to their car.

Food Bank volunteers hand Natalie and her mother fresh bread, lettuce, cabbage, a bag of oranges, a bag of potatoes, a bag of onions, fresh yellow squash and other fresh produce items.

Natalie is excited about all of the fresh produce that they receive from the Food Bank and says that she plans to help her mom cook the food for their family when they return home.

As they turn to leave, Natalie thanks a volunteer at the food distribution, telling the volunteer, “This food will really help my family right now. The Food Bank really helps us.”

You can help families like Natalie’s by becoming a member of our Monthly Meals Club. Your monthly donation to the Food Bank will enable us to provide food assistance to families struggling to put food on the table. Visit: www.sandiegofoodbank.org/donate/monthly-meals-club for more information.

Support August’s ‘Dollar a Dish’ Fundraiser for the

FOOD 4 KIDS

BACKPACK PROGRAM

The Food Bank encourages our supporters to support Dollar a Dish throughout the month of August at these participating restaurants:

San Diego restaurants are coming together in August to support our annual ‘Dollar a Dish’ fundraiser benefiting the Food Bank’s Food 4 Kids Backpack Program. To participate in the fundraiser, restaurants select one best-selling signature dish and donate \$1 to the program every time that dish is ordered. The Food Bank extends our gratitude to our restaurant supporters!

For more information visit: www.SanDiegoFoodBank.org/DollaraDish

Analog
Bali Hai
Blue Point Coastal Cuisine
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Cucina Enoteca Del Mar
Cucina Urbana
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OB Warehouse
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The Patio on Goldfinch
The Patio on Lamont
The Red Door

The Swell Café
Tom Ham’s Lighthouse
URBN Coal Fired Pizza – El Cajon
URBN Coal Fired Pizza – Encinitas

URBN Coal Fired Pizza – North Park
Village Pizzeria Coronado
The Prado at Balboa Park



Come to the 5th Annual AimLoan.com San Diego Blues Festival Benefiting the Food Bank, Sept. 26 & 27

The Food Bank's 5th annual San Diego Blues Festival will be held on Saturday, Sept. 26 and Sunday, Sept. 27 from noon to 8 p.m. daily at the Embarcadero Marina Park North on the downtown San Diego waterfront, next to Seaport Village.

The family-friendly event will feature 18 national and local blues acts on two stages both days. Mississippi harmonica player James Cotton will headline Saturday's lineup while the legendary Booker T. Jones will headline Sunday's.

Other performers at this year's festival will include Texas pianist Marcia Ball, New Orleans guitarist John Mooney, Chicago's Lil' Ed & the Blues Imperials, harmonica player Kim Wilson, and guitarist Anson Funderburgh.

The event will feature specialist food vendors, local craft beer and wine, along with arts and crafts booths. Advance tickets for the event are now on sale for \$20 for one day and \$30 for two days. Daily VIP tickets are also available for \$125. Children 12 and under are free of charge. All proceeds from the event benefit the Food Bank.

Bring your family and friends for a fun-filled weekend of music by the scenic San Diego downtown waterfront, and help the Food Bank give hunger the blues.

The Food Bank is encouraging all event-goers to bring two cans of food. For more information and to purchase tickets online visit: www.sdbluesfest.com



A BENEFIT FOR THE JACOBS & CUSHMAN
SAN DIEGO FOOD BANK



Food Bank CEO Visits Sacramento

With a series of anti-hunger bills facing key votes in Sacramento, Food Bank CEOs across the state met with legislators to advocate on behalf of essential hunger-relief programs.

In May, Food Bank CEO James Floros attended the California Association of Food Bank's (CAFB) biennial conference and legislative day for the state's food banks.

Floros met with elected officials in Sacramento who represent districts in San Diego County that are being served by the Food Bank to discuss anti-hunger legislation and the work of the Food Bank in each official's district.



CEO Jim Floros with
Asm. Rocky Chavez



CEO Jim Floros with Senator
Ben Hueso



CEO Jim Floros with
Senator Pat Bates



CEO Jim Floros with
Asm. Lorena Gonzalez



CEO Jim Floros with
Asm. Brian Maienschein



2015 Annual Gala Raises \$368K for Food Bank

The Food Bank raised \$368K at our 2015 annual gala, Foodtasia: Hail to the Chefs, which was held at the Food Bank’s warehouse in May and attended by 450 supporters.

The event’s co-chairs, Debra Devine and Jennifer Schwarz, used the presidential anthem, “Hail to the Chief,” as the theme of the event to serve as an homage to the region’s celebrated chefs.

The event décor reflected the theme with bold presidential blue and gold colors featuring throughout the Food Bank warehouse. Guests entered through a warehouse roll-up door flanked with flowing blue and gold curtains and were treated to craft cocktails and hors d’oeuvres during the opening

reception and silent auction which featured live music by local blues singer, Big Jon Atkinson.

Following the reception, each table of 10 guests was hosted by a chef for the evening who personally prepared a mouth-watering, multi-course dinner. And the evening’s program was emceed by ABC 10 News anchor, Kimberly Hunt and her husband Billy Ray Smith of 1090 AM.

The Food Bank thanks our sponsors, supporters and volunteers who made the evening a great success! All funds raised from the gala will be used to support vital hunger-relief programs including the Food 4 Kids Backpack Program.



(L-R) Emcee Kimberly Hunt, Chef Jonathan Hale and Sofia Picazo of the Cohn Restaurant Group



(L-R) Diana Saale, Jason Puga and Lori Good



Gala Co-Chairs Debra Devine (L) and Jennifer Schwarz

Kaiser Permanente Receives 2015 Eugene “Mitch” Mitchell Community Hero Award

Max Villalobos, COO of Kaiser Permanente San Diego, accepted the Food Bank’s annual Eugene “Mitch” Mitchell Community Hero Award on behalf of Kaiser Permanente at the Food Bank’s 2015 gala.

The award recognizes Kaiser Permanente’s contributions to the Food Bank through food donations, monetary support and volunteerism. In the past 5 years, Kaiser Permanente has donated nearly \$250,000 to the Food Bank for vital nutrition assistance programs, in particular, programs targeting children living in poverty.

The award was established in honor of former board chairman “Mitch” Mitchell and recognizes an individual or organization for demonstrating outstanding support for the Food Bank.

Mitch Mitchel (L) and Food Bank CEO Jim Floros (R) present the 2015 Eugene “Mitch” Mitchell Community Hero Award to Max Villalobos (Center), COO of Kaiser Permanente San Diego



One Chef, One Dish, One San Diego

Join Harvard Cookin' Girl for its One Chef, One Dish, One San Diego monthly program featuring our community's greatest chefs.

Every month, a local celebrity chef will teach guests how to cook the one dish that put them on the culinary map. Following the cooking demonstration, the chef prepares dinner for attendees who are able to savor gourmet cuisine in an intimate environment.

All proceeds benefit the Food Bank's Food 4 Kids Backpack Program which provides weekend backpacks filled with food to children living in poverty who receive free school meals during week, but face hunger at home over the weekend.

For info and tickets visit: harvardcookinggirl.com



Executive Chef William Bradley of Addison and Bibi Kasrai of Harvard Cookin' Girl

School's Out, Hunger's Not- Summer Food Drive Raises 342,000 Pounds of Food!

Thanks to our supporters, the Food Bank's summer food drive was a huge success raising over 342,000 pounds of food to help the Food Bank feed children living in poverty who stop receiving free school meals over summer vacation.

Albertsons Vons made giving easy with \$5 pre-filled bags of food for customers to donate.



Your support helped the Food Bank feed thousands of children in need this summer! Thank you!



THANK YOU TO OUR SUMMER FOOD DRIVE SUPPORTERS!

Take a Pic during Restaurant Week and Sysco Will Donate \$1 to Food 4 Kids Backpack Program

You can support the Food 4 Kids Backpack Program during Restaurant Week!



Simply take a picture of your meal and upload the photo to Instagram, Facebook or Twitter and tag your picture #Food4Kids during Restaurant Week, Sept. 20 - 27. For every picture that is posted, Sysco San Diego will donate \$1 to the Food 4 Kids Backpack Program up to a maximum of \$10,000!

Dine out for a good cause, and help the Food Bank feed children in need.

Dine at Subway over the Weekend and Proceeds Will Benefit the Food Bank!

More than 220 Subway restaurants throughout San Diego County are participating in the "You Share. We Share." campaign to help support the Food Bank.



Dine at Subway restaurants any weekend in August, and a portion of very percentage increase in weekend sales will be donated to the Food Bank, up to \$40,000. Help us feed local families in need by dining at Subway restaurants on Saturdays and Sundays in August.

Thank you to San Diego County Subway restaurants for supporting the Food Bank!