



MEMBER OF
**FEEDING
AMERICA**

HARVEST NEWS

We are dedicated to relieving hunger in metro Detroit and preventing nutritious food waste.



DELIVERING HOPE TO THOSE IN NEED

When the pandemic hit our community, the City of Detroit, in particular, saw “alarmingly high” unemployment. Detroit residents were more likely to rely on jobs affected by the pandemic, including those in manufacturing, food, and the entertainment industries. The city was hit hard by the pandemic, both in terms of loss of family members and economically. The jobless rate skyrocketed to 38 percent in April and May 2020 and averaged 22 percent for the year, the highest since the Great Recession. Though the unemployment rate is recovering more quickly than expected, many residents are still not making enough to support their families.

“This is not a political issue, this is a public health crisis,” said Kirk Mayes, CEO of Forgotten Harvest.

“Forgotten Harvest is committed to being here for our community through tough times.”

With ongoing pandemic uncertainties and the impending cold winter months along with the rising cost of heating a home, more and more people are going to be turning to Forgotten Harvest for help. We have continued to operate in a state of emergency preparedness and are distributing almost 142,000 thousand pounds of food every day. That is an amazing 51.8 million pounds of food distributed from July 2020 - June 2021 — food distributed to metro Detroiters in need, free-of-charge.

Your ongoing support is critical this time of year so that Forgotten Harvest can deliver hope to those in need.

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LETTER FROM KIRK



Summer has drawn to a close and we are so excited about the results of our Summer Feeding programs. The two programs — Healthy Food Healthy Kids and Summer Food Service Program — distributed more than **234,000 summer lunches to nourish the hungry children of metro Detroit.**

These ready-to-eat meals were distributed through our network of pantry partners from mid-June to the end of August.

The pandemic continues to be an area of concern, infection rates continue to surge, and the economic impact of the crisis continues to hit thousands of our neighbors. We anticipate the demand for emergency relief food will continue this winter and most likely will increase as the weather gets cold and the cost of heating a home increases. Your continued support of Forgotten Harvest will give hope to those in need this winter.

The organization continues to work on a new strategic plan to help fulfill our mission and

vision. Our Solutions that Nourish campaign and construction of the new campus and relocation to a new, purpose-built headquarters is moving ahead at full steam. The project, at 15000 8 Mile Rd., Oak Park, MI is 75 percent completed. We anticipate moving into the space in the spring of 2022. This new facility is essential for Forgotten Harvest to optimize its daily operations and programs, so they are better aligned with current community needs and better prepared to execute at the levels required in the decades ahead. Your support in this undertaking is greatly appreciated. Learn more at forgottenharvest.org/solutions.

Kirk Mayes
CEO, Forgotten Harvest



248-967-1500

www.forgottenharvest.org



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DELIVERING HOPE TO THOSE IN NEED

Thanks to a generous grant from UnitedHealthcare, Forgotten Harvest is able to establish 7 new mobile pantry sites in areas of need, like Sumptner Township located near Belville. This pantry has been set up to distribute food twice a month. This

will allow us to provide fresh, nutritious food to additional underserved communities. Forgotten Harvest connected with a few of the community members visiting this pantry on August 23.

HOW HAS THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC AFFECTED YOU?



“Well, COVID has been tough for us. My husband has a kidney problem, and I have diabetes. We both got the shot but since we’re both at a higher risk of catching the virus, we’ve still been quarantining for a while now. And with the Delta

variant starting up, you know, it’s scary. So, being able to depend on Forgotten Harvest and get this food has helped a lot. We really appreciate everything you do.”

— *Jacqueline Kyler-Sargent*



“It’s been hard, very hard. Having to stay inside because of quarantine was tough, you know? We couldn’t go out. I don’t want to get emotional, but your

services have done so much for me. You guys are fantastic. Just, fantastic”

— *Sandra Dehaan*



“I lost my job. But, in our household, I’m the one that pays for groceries. And with my sister and her baby staying with us, groceries are usually \$150 a week. Forgotten Harvest has

definitely helped us out a lot with food and gotten us through these times.”

— *Richard McClaysun*



DONOR HIGHLIGHT

Sue is a dedicated member of her community and has been generously giving to Forgotten Harvest for the last 15 years. She first became interested in Forgotten Harvest because she believes in reducing food waste and hates to see things unnecessarily thrown away.

“I’ve always been a big recycler. I don’t like to see things thrown out that can be used by somebody. There’s so much food waste, it’s sad when people are hungry and others are throwing away food. I believed in [Forgotten Harvest’s] mission and just started giving.”

Part of our mission is to prevent the waste of nutritious food. Last year, Forgotten Harvest rescued 51.8 million pounds of food. Food that would otherwise be thrown away instead went directly to feed children, families, and seniors right in the local community.

“It’s sad to see people that are hungry, especially children. If there’s food that can be used by someone, it shouldn’t be thrown away. Getting food to people that need it is a good thing!”

This past year emphasized that rescuing and preventing any waste of good food is extremely vital. When the need for food increased, food rescue provided a way to ensure that our neighbors could be fed.

“This [last year] has been a difficult year for everybody ... [it’s great] to know that the mission continues during these unusual and stressful times because people still need food. It doesn’t matter what else is going on in the world, people still need to eat and so knowing that the mission keeps going on, even during bad times, is another reason to keep on giving.”

With the help and support of people like you, delicious and nutritious food is not going to a landfill but is given to those in need.

CHOP DOWN HUNGER EVENT PRESENTED BY KROGER CO. OF MICHIGAN RAISES NEEDED FUNDS FOR FORGOTTEN HARVEST

Congratulations to the first-ever Forgotten Harvest Chop Down Hunger Champion, Shanel DeWalt!

On October 14, four celebrated metro Detroit-area chefs showed off their skills during Chop Down Hunger, a virtual cooking competition benefitting Forgotten Harvest Farms. Together, we raised critical funds to grow produce for metro Detroiters who need it most! We’d like to commend our additional chef contestants, Genevieve Vang of Bangkok 96, Manal Hussein of For the Love of Sugar, and Allie Lyttle of Lala’s on an incredible, fierce performance.

Forgotten Harvest would like to sincerely thank all of our sponsors: The Kroger Co. of Michigan, Mercedes-Benz Financial Services, MGM Grand Detroit, Lear, Lineage Logistics, PNC Bank, Smith Family Foundation, Aaron’s, Ascension Michigan,

Chris & Jennifer Granger, HAP, Milk Means More, Priority Health, and RKD Group, for their support of our event.

Additionally, special thanks to our celebrity guest host, Food Network star Amanda Freitag, as well as our judges, *Chopped* champion Crystal Smith-Nichols and Detroit Free Press food writer Sue Selasky.

And thanks to YOU for tuning in! We couldn’t have been successful without your support.

Make sure to keep an eye out for additional details regarding our next fundraising event - the 29th Annual Forgotten Harvest Comedy Night at the Fox Theatre, coming Spring 2022!



FORGOTTEN HARVEST HOLIDAY CARDS NOW AVAILABLE

Spread holiday cheer this season with Forgotten Harvest holiday cards! Whether you send to family, friends, clients, or colleagues, our holiday cards make an impact in a big way. Last year, card sales helped us provide more than 150,000 meals to people facing food insecurity in our community!

This year, we have 12 different card options to choose from, including seven new designs!

You also have the ability to personalize the message inside your cards with pre-created or custom text and print your company or organization's logo on the card's interior.

Cards and envelopes are available in packs of 25 for \$25. We also have special tribute cards available for an additional donation of \$5 each, which can be slipped into your holiday card and sent as a



wonderful gift. The purchase of just one pack of cards will help provide \$175 worth of groceries for metro Detroiters in need this holiday season! Special thanks to our sponsor, Tom and Carol Cracchiolo. **Visit forgottenharvest.org to order your holiday cards today.**

Questions? Contact Erica at emarra@forgottenharvest.org or (248) 268-7511.

DOUBLE THE AMOUNT OF YOUR CHARITABLE DONATION

This season, you have the opportunity to feed twice as many families and individuals in need. The Harold and Kay Fund has set up a generous Matching Gift Challenge and offered to match every dollar donated before December 31 (up to \$50,000). Visit forgottenharvest.org/donate today to double the impact of your gift!

TODAY YOUR GIFT WILL MEAN TWICE AS MUCH!



CELEBRATING LISA AND HANNAN LIS

Forgotten Harvest was very proud to nominate Lisa and Hannan Lis for the **Max M. Fisher Award for Outstanding Philanthropist**. On November 15, Lisa and Hannan will be recognized with this award at the Association of Fundraising Professionals Greater Detroit 2021 National Philanthropy Day Awards event. The Max M. Fisher Award is presented to an individual or family with a proven record of exceptional philanthropic generosity, whose demonstrated philanthropic commitment encourages others to take leadership roles in philanthropy.

Lisa and Hannan Lis have been incredible longtime supporters

of Forgotten Harvest and many other Detroit area charities. Hannan and Lisa have been involved with Forgotten Harvest for many years, as volunteers, major donors, and active committee members. Hannan has served as past Board Chair, and is our Solutions That Nourish Campaign Co-Chair, as well as an active Board member. Together, they have chaired our annual Comedy Night several times. They understand Forgotten Harvest's mission and important impact in our community. They have introduced others to our organization, and several supporters now serve on our Board of Directors.

Lisa and Hannan graciously give of their time, talent, and treasure to help us whenever needed. They also are very active with philanthropy in Israel as well as here in Detroit. Max Fisher would be very proud of their efforts to help so many in our community. We were honored to be able to nominate them for his prestigious award.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: CORPORATE TEAMS, GROUPS, AND INDIVIDUALS WELCOME

Looking for volunteer opportunities in the new year? Great, because we need your help! Forgotten Harvest typically sees a drop in warehouse volunteer numbers January — April, and we also expect shortages at our drive-thru Super Sites because of the cold weather. More than 1,200 volunteers are needed each month to meet the demand for food. We offer safe, distanced, and limited touch-point opportunities for you to help others.

Opportunities to volunteer include repacking at our Oak Park and Royal Oak warehouses and food distribution at our Forgotten Harvest on the Go mobile pantries throughout Wayne, Oakland, and Macomb counties.

Signing up to volunteer online is easy at forgottenharvest.galaxydigital.com/need. Groups of five or more should directly contact Nicole Peeples at npeeples@forgottenharvest.org.



Forgotten Harvest follows CDC guidelines at all of our sites.

HOPE FOR THE HOLIDAYS



Presenting Sponsor



With the 2021 holiday season upon us, Forgotten Harvest, in partnership with Kroger Co. of Michigan, will deliver 6,000 meals of hope to families just in time for the holidays. For the week leading up to Christmas (Monday December 20th through Thursday December 23rd), Forgotten Harvest's partner agencies will

receive holiday-themed boxes of food including green beans and pork loin to distribute to the community. These special distributions will bring relief to the 1 out of 6 families facing food insecurity and spread some holiday cheer.

Be on the lookout for Hope for the Holidays volunteer opportunities! There will be opportunities to pack the Hope for the Holidays boxes, as well as supporting distributions at Forgotten Harvest on the GO mobile pantries. Visit www.forgottenharvest.com/volunteer to sign up!

If you have any questions, or wish to sponsor Hope for the Holidays, contact Hank Wolfe Rodriguez at 248-890-5065 or hwolfe@forgottenharvest.org.

GROCERY RESCUE PROGRAM & KROGER PARTNERSHIP

The Kroger Co. has been invaluable to our success as our first grocery rescue partner. In 2004, Forgotten Harvest began the first large-scale retail food rescue program with Kroger, which was successfully piloted in southeast Michigan, and has grown to include 92 regional stores and distribution centers.

Forgotten Harvest is proud to recognize **The Kroger Co. Zero Hunger | Zero Waste Foundation** as the **presenting sponsor of our Grocery Rescue Program** due to its generous financial support of this critical initiative benefiting our metro Detroit community. We are excited to continue our partnership with The Kroger Co. Zero Hunger | Zero Waste Foundation to reduce hunger, food insecurity, and surplus food waste in southeastern Michigan.





SOLUTIONS THAT NOURISH CAMPAIGN

Forgotten Harvest has been working hard to care for so many neighbors in need of our assistance. Due to the demands on our capacities and the need to further improve our services to the community, we are building an innovative food distribution volunteer center and campus at 15000 Eight Mile Rd. in Oak Park, MI. This is the most impactful project that Forgotten Harvest has undertaken in its 31-year history and will greatly improve the nutritious mix and equitable distribution of food to more than 100 communities across metro Detroit, while also increasing the volume of surplus food that can be rescued and redistributed.

Our *Solutions That Nourish* Campaign publicly launched in April 2021 and currently is more than **75 percent complete** with gift commitments that total more than \$12.8 million toward our goal of \$17 million. The funding needed is *in addition* to our normal annual operating and program support. We hope to have the project completed and new facility operational by May/June 2022. Thank you to those who have already contributed to this important endeavor.

You may receive recognition in a variety of ways with lobby donor walls and naming opportunities available. One way to participate is to purchase a visible, personally engraved brick paver at our outdoor visitor and volunteer courtyard near our new facility entrance. Commitments over \$2,500 can be paid over a 3-5 year period if needed.

To learn more, please visit our website: www.forgottenharvest.org/solutions or call 248-298-3421. Site tours are available. We are truly grateful for your consideration.



SMART WAYS TO GIVE



SUSTAINERS: MONTHLY GIVING



AUTOMATIC GIFT PAYMENTS THROUGH YOUR BANK



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IRA



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LEGACY GIFT: WILL/TRUST/ INSURANCE BENEFICIARY

Please contact Kim Kalmar at 248-864-7525 or kkalmar@forgottenharvest.org with any questions about special ways to give.