There’s more than enough food in the U.S. to feed everybody. It’s a matter of rescuing that food so it ends up in the hands of people who need it most. The USDA estimated that 30-40% of the food supply goes uneaten — ending up in landfills and becoming the second largest contributor to municipal landfill waste in the country.

Forgotten Harvest’s Grocery Rescue Program, presented by Kroger’s Zero Hunger Zero Waste Foundation, is an innovative approach to reclaiming nutritious food waste to fight hunger and food insecurity in metro Detroit. Through partnerships with local grocery stores big and small, Forgotten Harvest can rescue healthy foods like fruits, vegetables, dairy, grains, protein, and even prepared food and deliver it to the community free of charge. This program not only benefits the people receiving surplus food to feed their families, it also keeps grocery store waste disposal down, keeps food out of landfills, and benefits the environment.

In 2004, Forgotten Harvest became the first organization in the country to engage in large-scale grocery rescue through an initial partnership with Kroger known as the company’s Zero Hunger Zero Waste initiative. Over the years, our Grocery Rescue Program has grown to include 249 partners. In FY 21-22, these grocery stores donated over 7 million pounds of nutritious food to relieve hunger in our community.

Forgotten Harvest’s move earlier this year to a new warehouse will improve Grocery Rescue by increasing capacity and efficiency and better meet the needs of the people we serve.

“We did a study a few years ago to help solidify our mission,” says Mike Spier, Chief Operating Officer at Forgotten Harvest. “The goal was not necessarily to bring more food, but that will be an important result of the new building, but it was to do a better job of mixing and distributing the food. That will give our agency partners a better mix of healthy food, which in turn gives a healthier mix to our neighbors in need.”

From Forgotten Harvest’s warehouse workers, truck drivers, and food sourcing team to our partnerships with food retailers and manufacturers, getting healthy food to the hands of people who need it most is a collaborative effort. “The building is just a tool,” says Spier. “We’re using it to get the right food to the right place in the right quantity at the right time.”

One of Forgotten Harvest’s largest programs is our Healthy Food, Healthy Kids initiative. This initiative works to provide access to nutritious food for nearly 205,000 children in Wayne, Oakland, and Macomb counties.

Three different programs make up the Healthy Food, Healthy Kids initiative — the Youth Snack Program, School Pantry Program, and Summer Lunch Program. Each program takes a unique approach to serving our youngest neighbors in need. The Youth Snack Program partners with the Detroit Public Library, as well as the Pontiac Public Library, Inkster Public Library, Mosaic Youth Theatre, and Brilliant Detroit, to provide healthy snacks for students attending after-school enrichment programs.

Our School Pantry Program distributes fresh food year-round to families facing food insecurity in our community. By working side-by-side with agencies that provide Head Start programming for young children, Forgotten Harvest was able to provide over 2.8 million pounds of nutritious food to relieve hunger in our community.

Forgotten Harvest has partnered with the VA through our Safe Place Vets Initiative. Forgotten Harvest has partnered with the VA to bring food to the families of members of the military who served our country. Although many Veterans are still working today, there are many who need help. Many people would be surprised by the number of Reservist members who are among the homeless. Older Veterans are also arriving to make ends meet with their Social Security payments. There is not enough housing in senior centers. “Forgotten harvest is a godsend. We can take food off the table in their list of worries,” says Mark.

Forgotten Harvest has 12 card designs for sale, including three tribute cards. The holiday season is upon us! Treat your friends, family, and guests for their support of Forgotten Harvest this holiday season and purchase holiday cards to serve as a great way to show your support of Forgotten Harvest.

To purchase holiday cards, please visit forgottenharvest.org/holidaycards2022. Cards may also be purchased for $5 and serve as a great way to show your support of Forgotten Harvest. Customization options are available for an additional $5. 

One of Forgotten Harvest’s largest programs is our Healthy Food, Healthy Kids initiative. This initiative works to provide access to nutritious food for nearly 205,000 children in Wayne, Oakland, and Macomb counties. These different programs make up the Healthy Food, Healthy Kids initiative — the Youth Snack Program, School Pantry Program, and Summer Lunch Program. Each program takes a unique approach to serving our youngest neighbors in need. The Youth Snack Program partners with the Detroit Public Library, as well as the Pontiac Public Library, Inkster Public Library, Mosaic Youth Theatre, and Brilliant Detroit, to provide healthy snacks for students attending after-school enrichment programs.

Our School Pantry Program distributes fresh food year-round to families facing food insecurity in our community. By working side-by-side with agencies that provide Head Start programming for young children, Forgotten Harvest was able to provide over 2.8 million pounds of nutritious food to 2 million children last year.

The Summer Lunch Program brings volunteers to our warehouse to pack lunches to distribute back out to those children who lose access to school-based breakfast and lunch programs during their summer break. This summer, Forgotten Harvest successfully distributed 95,767 meals to approximately 3,900 children in metro Detroit.

Forgotten Harvest is especially grateful for our “village” of volunteers, donors, and supporters who make the healthy food, healthy kids initiative a reality for the children in our community. A special thank you to Children’s Foundation of Michigan, the PNC Foundation, Lear Corporation, United Way of Southeastern Michigan/Meet Up and Eat Up, General Motors Corporation, Russell Family Foundation, and the Robert B. Beard Charitable Foundation.

The 2022 holiday cards can be purchased for $5 each online at forgottenharvest.org. Each card purchased helps Forgotten Harvest purchase food for our neighbors in need throughout the county — meeting the needs of the people we serve.

The Community Employment Coordinator of the U.S. Veterans Affairs Department, Mark Headen, is dedicated to honoring those in metro Detroit who served our country. Although many Veterans are still working today, there are many who need help. Many people would be surprised by the number of Reservist members who are among the homeless. Older Veterans are also arriving to make ends meet with their Social Security payments. There is not enough housing in senior centers. “Forgotten harvest is a godsend. We can take food off the table in their list of worries,” says Mark.

Forgotten Harvest has partnered with the VA throughout our service area. Safe Place Vets moved their facility to Macomb County to allow us to serve the large number of Veterans near Selfridge Air National Guard Base. Operating the pantry on the 2nd and 4th Saturdays enables Selfridge Veterans to come on weekends. Forgotten Harvest is now part of the Selfridge Community Council. “This is a game-changer,” remarks Kelli Kaschimer, Director of Volunteer and Client Services at Forgotten Harvest. “We now have a seat at the table.”

The collaboration that Forgotten Harvest has with Oakland County Veterans’ Services Division allows us to attend 1-2 events every month throughout the county — meeting the Veterans where they live. In addition to our participation, Forgotten Harvest also recently partnered with the VA to bring food to the families of members of the military who served our country. Although many Veterans are still working today, there are many who need help. Many people would be surprised by the number of Reservist members who are among the homeless. Older Veterans are also arriving to make ends meet with their Social Security payments. There is not enough housing in senior centers. “Forgotten harvest is a godsend. We can take food off the table in their list of worries,” says Mark.

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Volunteers: Critical to the Mission

Forgotten Harvest relies on the dedicated volunteers who help us complete our mission each year. Last year, 3,140 volunteers provided 40,000 hours of labor. Without this critical support, our mission would not be possible. We find many individuals and organizations willing to volunteer at the Eight Mile warehouse for groups of up to 60 in both the morning and afternoon. These volunteers help our team break down and create family-size portions from the bulk rescued food and data sheets and markdowns for the food that comes in through the Grocery Rescue Program.

Why: Our community has seen a rise in the number of people needing our services. With the costs of gas and groceries, many people are turning to us for help, and we can respond thanks to people like you!

How: These are different ways to become a Harvest Circle member: one-time gifts of $1,000, become a Harvest Sustainer by setting up monthly gifts of at least $85, gifts given through your individual retirement account (IRA) or cryptocurrency gifts. Memberships start with gifts of $1,000, but anything above and beyond helps to feed as many in the community as possible.

For more information on how you can help metro Detroit by partnering with Forgotten Harvest and becoming a Harvest Circle member, contact Kim Kalmar for more information at (248) 964-7525 or kkalmar@forgottenharvest.org.

Harvest Shop

You can now order cool Forgotten Harvest merchandise from our online HarvestShop! Not only will you look good representing Southeast Michigan’s only food rescue organization, you’ll also be supporting our neighbors in need. A portion of the proceeds from every piece of apparel sold will go to benefit Forgotten Harvest. You can find the merchandise store on our website by clicking on the HarvestShop link.
VOLUNTEERS: CRITICAL TO THE MISSION

Forgotten Harvest relies on the dedicated volunteers who help us complete our mission each year. Last year, 4,000 volunteers provided 460,000 hours of labor. Without this critical support, our mission would not be possible. We look forward to expanding our team at the Eight Mile warehouse for groups of up to 20 in both the morning and afternoon. These volunteers help our teams break down and create family-size portions from the bulk rescued food and also assist in operating the food link through the Grocery Rescue Program.

Donor Loyalty Pins! As a result of your incredible generosity, we will be awarding five, ten, fifteen, twenty-twenty-five, and thirty-year pins. The pins represent the number of years you have given to our mission, dedicated, and continuous donation. We know that our work would not be possible without our loyal supporters. The look stunning and are a great reminder of how your support has helped Forgotten Harvest serve those in need. A portion of the proceeds from every piece of apparel sold will go to benefit Forgotten Harvest. You can find the merchandise store on our website by clicking ‘Link to Feed’ for more information at (248) 964-7525 or kristin@forgottenharvest.org.

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HOW: These are different ways to become a Harvest Circle member: one-time gifts of $1,000, become a Harvest Sustainer by setting up monthly gifts of at least $50, gifts given through your IRA, donor-advised fund (DAF), stock, or cryptocurrency gifts. Memberships start with gifts of $1,000, but anything above and beyond helps to feed as many in the community as possible.

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Kirk Mayes, CEO, Forgotten Harvest

about this new, meaningful Fund and its positive impact. Stay tuned!

food for those we want to help. We are excited to share more in the coming months to strengthen our food distribution network and create better access to and supply of access and supply to those who need our help. These grants and support will greatly support to our pantry partners that need capacity assistance to improve food

People are at the center of all we do, and Forgotten Harvest remains committed to advancing hunger relief in metro Detroit to help neighbors in need of experiencing food insecurity, with a focus on increasing equitable food access for every community. As part of our vision, Forgotten Harvest will be investing in and working with our 200 agency partners to strengthen their capacity to nourish and feed our neighbors in need.

We will be utilizing some of the funding we received from philanthropist Mackenzie Scott to establish an Agency Capacity Fund that provides direct funding and support to our pantry partners that need capacity assistance to improve food access and supply to those who need our help. These grants and support will greatly strengthen our food distribution network and create better access to and supply of food for those we want to help. We are excited to share more in the coming months about the new, meaningful Fund and its positive impact. Stay tuned!

Thank you!

Dear Friend,

Forgotten Harvest is working hard to provide as much highly nutritious food as possible to the many neighbors who need our help, including children, families, and seniors. Your continued support of our mission makes it possible for us to provide a variety of nutritious food to the families and individuals who need our food assistance and those who are making very difficult life choices during this time of economic uncertainty and increasingly high costs of food, housing, utilities, and fuel. Thank you!

LITTLE ACTIONS, BIG IMPACT

It’s often hard to see how our efforts can make an impact in their community. When Claire and Elise’s mom asked what they wanted to raise money for, all of their immediate minds, together, was “hungry people.” This season, Claire and Elise raised $77 to go towards helping Forgotten Harvest feed their neighbors.

As a small token of our appreciation, we will send to our pantry partners, and the Veteran is able to decrease the amount of time spent at the pantry since their information has already been collected.

A “little bit of food goes a long way” says Mark. His job is to create opportunities for Veterans. Not worrying about where they will find their next meal allows Veterans to take part in those opportunities. You are making Forgotten Harvest to alleviate that worry. Thank you

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by signing up the Veteran for Link to Feed, our client intake and case management system. Forgotten Harvest is better able to plan the amount of food to send to our pantry partners, and the Veteran is able to decrease the amount of time spent at the pantry since their information has already been collected.
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Thank you!

Kirk Mayes, CEO, Forgotten Harvest

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Little Actions, Big Impact

It's easy to think about how they can make an impact in their community. When Claire and Elise were asked what they wanted to raise money for, they chose Forgotten Harvest because they knew what it meant to them. 

Whether you’re giving time or money, involving your kids strengthens the idea of helping families in our community. There is no too-small measure when sharing your kids what they can do to make a difference!

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Volunteers: Critical to the Mission

Forgotten Harvest relies on the dedicated volunteers who help us complete our mission each year. Last year, 11,400 volunteers provided 45,000 hours of labor. Without this critical support, our mission would not be possible. We need your help! Mark, our CEO, says, “A little bit of food goes a long way.”

Why: Our community has seen a rise in the number of people needing our services. With the costs of gas and groceries, many people are turning to us for help, and we can respond thanks to people like you!

How: These are different ways to become a Forgotten Harvest member:

- **One-time gift:** $1,000 becomes a Harvest Sustainer 
- **Monthly gift:** $50 provides monthly support to Forgotten Harvest 
- **Gifts of stock or cryptocurrency:** Memberships start with gifts of $5,000, but anything above and beyond helps to feed as many in the community as possible.

For more information on how YOU can help metro Detroit by partnering with Forgotten Harvest and becoming a Harvest Circle member, contact Kim Kalmar for more information at (248) 967-7525 or kalmar@forgottenharvest.org.

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Harvest Circle

Harvest Circle members live all over the United States. You can give near or far and make a large impact and help the communities of metro Detroit. When: Some donors make a gift of $1,000 or more at one time during the year, others make multiple smaller gifts throughout the year.

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Grant Funding

As a small token of our appreciation, we will pin your gift to the mission. Your support helps us to provide food to our neighbors in need.

**Harvest Circle members**

One-time gifts of $1,000, become a Harvest Sustainer
Monthly gifts of $50, becomes a Harvest Sustainer
Gifts of stock or cryptocurrency, memberships start with gifts of $5,000, but anything above and beyond helps to feed as many in the community as possible.

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There’s more than enough food in the U.S. to feed everybody. It’s a matter of rescuing that food so it ends up in the hands of people who need it most. The USDA estimated that 30-40% of the food supply goes unused — ending up in landfills and becoming the second largest contributor to municipal landfill waste in the country.

Forgotten Harvest’s Grocery Rescue Program, presented by Kroger’s Zero Hunger Zero Waste Foundation, is an innovative approach to reclaiming nutritious food waste to fight hunger and food insecurity in metro Detroit. Through partnerships with local grocery stores big and small, Forgotten Harvest can rescue healthy foods like fruits, vegetables, dairy, grains, protein, and even prepared food and deliver it to the community free of charge. This program not only benefits the people receiving surplus food to feed their families, it also keeps grocery store waste disposal down, keeps food out of landfills, and benefits the environment.

In 2004, Forgotten Harvest became the first organization in the country to engage in large-scale grocery rescue through an initial partnership with Kroger, today known as the company’s Zero Hunger Zero Waste initiative. Over the years, our Grocery Rescue Program has grown to include 249 partners. In FY 22-23, these grocery stores donated over 7 million pounds of nutritious food to relieve hunger in our community.

Forgotten Harvest’s move earlier this year to a new warehouse is just a tool,” says Spicer. “We’re using it to give more healthy food to the right people at the right time.”

FROM FROZEN TO HANDS

“The goal was not necessarily to bring more food in, although that will be an important result of the new building, but it was to do a better job of mixing and distributing the food. That will give our agency partners a better mix of healthy food, which in turn gives a healthier meal to our neighbors in need.”

Forgotten Harvest has 12 card designs for sale, including three new designs! Blank cards are sold in packs of 25 for $25 each. To purchase holiday cards, please visit Forgotten Harvest’s website. For more information, please call 313-361-8000.
GROCERY RESCUE

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Forgotten Harvest’s warehouse workers, truck drivers, and food sourcing team to our partnerships with food retailers and manufacturers, getting healthy food in the hands of people who need it most is truly a collaborative effort.

One of Forgotten Harvest’s largest programs is our healthy Food, Healthy Kids initiative. This initiative works to provide access to nutritious food for nearly 200,000 children in Wayne, Oakland, and Macomb counties.

These different programs make up the Healthy Food, Healthy Kids initiative—the Youth Snack Program, School Pantry Program, and Summer Lunch Program. Each program takes a unique approach to serving our youngest neighbors in need.

The Summer Lunch Program brings volunteers to our warehouse to pack lunches to distribute back out to those children who lose access to school-based breakfast and lunch programs during their summer break. This summer, Forgotten Harvest successfully distributed 95,767 meals to approximately 3,000 children in metro Detroit.

Forgotten Harvest is especially grateful for our “village” of volunteers, donors, and supporters who make the healthy Food, Healthy Kids initiative a reality for our children in the community. A special thank you to Children’s Foundation of Michigan, the PNC Foundation, Lear Corporation, United Way of Southeast Michigan/Meet Up and Eat Up, General Motors Corporation, Russell Family Foundation, and the Robert F. Beard Charitable Foundation.

Food are able to provide 24,812 meals to 1,228 families with children facing food insecurity in our community. By working side-by-side with agencies that provide Head Start programming for young children, Forgotten Harvest was able to provide over 2.8 million pounds of food to 7 different partners last year.

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HOLIDAY CARDS

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Forgotten Harvest has partnered with the VA throughout our service area. Safe Place Vets moved their facility to Macomb County to allow us to serve the large number of Veterans near Seaside Air National Guard Base. Operating the pantry on the 2nd and 4th Saturdays enables Seaside Vets to come on weekends. Forgotten Harvest is now part of the Seaside Community Council. “This is a game changer,” remarks Kelli Kaschimer, Director of Volunteer and Client Services at Forgotten harvest. “We now have a seat at the table.”

The collaboration that Forgotten Harvest has with Oakland County Veterans’ Services Division allows us to attend 1-2 events every month throughout the county—meeting the Veterans where they live. In addition to our participation,