

# HARVEST NEWS

See how you help relieve hunger and prevent food waste in metro Detroit



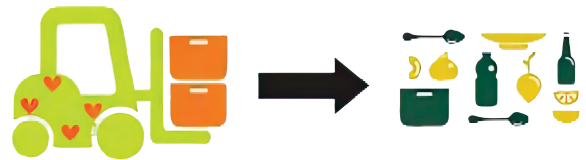
Rescued food arrives at the Forgiven Harvest warehouse from various suppliers, grocers, and restaurants.

## Behind the Scenes Mobile Pantries



Many Forgiven Harvest departments help with preparing the food and the trucks to be ready for every mobile pantry.

At our warehouse, volunteers pack boxes of shelf-stable goods. These boxes are 20-30 lbs of food and contain items like tuna, beans, noodles, etc. These packaged boxes are also distributed to families in need.



What goes on the truck?

Whatever got here first, needs to go out first, to ensure freshness. We try to build a nutritional mix for families that includes fruits, vegetables, grains, dairy, and protein with each mobile pantry distribution.

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## LETTER FROM ADRIAN

Dear Friend,

I am so very proud and humbled that the Board of Directors has chosen me to be the new CEO of this amazing organization. Since joining the team in mid-February, I have been very impressed by the dedication and enthusiasm of the staff, volunteers, and community partners that I have had the opportunity to meet.

I am excited to bring my 30 years of experience delivering strategic, financial, and operational excellence, while building trusting relationships at every level. I have a passion and a personal mission for making a positive impact in the community, drawing on my own personal experiences of food insecurity and disparity during my childhood, when, at age 16, I started work as a grocery store produce clerk to help provide for my younger siblings and family in Memphis, Tennessee.

Forgotten Harvest has an important role in fighting food insecurity in metro Detroit. Our strategic vision of delivering the Right Food to the Right Place in the Right Quantity at the Right Time will continue to be our waypoint as we execute our plan for the future. I bring a commitment of operational expertise and passion to the organization to help make this plan become a reality. I know that with your continued support and engagement, we can fight food insecurity and hunger together.

Adrian Lewis  
CEO  
Forgotten Harvest

Follow us:



(248) 967-1500  
[www.forgottenharvest.org](http://www.forgottenharvest.org)

FORGOTTEN HARVEST  
*Women's*  
HARVEST LUNCH

10.19.23



## Save the Date!

Join Forgotten Harvest on Thursday, October 19, 2023, at the Royal Oak Farmers Market for our annual Women's Harvest Lunch. Featuring whimsical and unique tablescapes, this fundraiser highlights the work Forgotten Harvest does in our community while bringing together business leaders and community leaders for a fun and charitable afternoon. Guests enjoy a coursed luncheon, an exciting online auction, a networking hour, and an impactful program.

Funds raised at the Women's Harvest Lunch support Forgotten Harvest's efforts to provide fresh, healthy produce, which is often unattainable to metro Detroiters facing food insecurity, through our farm and grocery rescue system. Tickets for this year's Women's Harvest Lunch will go on sale in August.

# Time & Treasure

We are fortunate at Forgotten Harvest to have so many people who give their time or their treasure to make our mission possible. On January 16th, we hosted a Harvest Circle Engagement Day so members of our Harvest Circle — donors who give \$1,000 or more a year — could volunteer in our warehouse and get a behind-the-scenes look at what we do here at Forgotten Harvest! These donors joined our other volunteers to take food that was donated to us in bulk quantity and create family-sized containers to distribute to families, seniors, and Veterans who come to our mobile pantries. **Thanks to our hardworking volunteers, the poundage repacked that day at our morning and afternoon sessions broke records!**



On Hunger Awareness Day, June 6th, we are once again inviting donors to attend an Engagement Day! People can sign up for a morning shift at our Forgotten Harvest Farm at 9153 Major Road in Fenton, or an afternoon in our warehouse at 15000 W. Eight Mile Road.

The morning session will run from 9 am-12 pm and the afternoon session is from 1 pm-4 pm. Call or email Kim Kalmar to sign up at [kkalmar@forgottenharvest.org](mailto:kkalmar@forgottenharvest.org) or (248) 864-7525. We look forward to seeing you there!



When tasked with a service project as part of his leadership training, 7th grader Anay Pai chose to devote his time and energy to Forgotten Harvest to feed food-insecure families in metro Detroit. Anay was unsettled by the number of people he saw asking for food when driving around the city. He stated, "I always wondered how people could survive without enough food and thought of helping them, but never got a chance."

He decided to act. **During the month of February, Anay and his friend Niranjan collected empty soda cans, canned food, and have**

so far raised **\$346.77, all of which are being put towards Forgotten Harvest's Healthy Food, Healthy Kids initiative!** This initiative provides access to nutritious food for nearly 200,000 children in Wayne, Oakland, and Macomb counties. To learn more about this program, please visit [forgottenharvest.org/hfhk](http://forgottenharvest.org/hfhk).

Forgotten Harvest encourages people of all ages to be proactive like Anay. If you or a child in your life is interested in making a difference, Forgotten Harvest has plenty of ways for everyone to get involved. To learn the ways you can help, please reach out to our Community Engagement Coordinator and become a hunger hero: [mmoorebutler@forgottenharvest.org](mailto:mmoorebutler@forgottenharvest.org).



**W**ith the school year coming to an end, thousands of children will lose their access to the National School Lunch or School Breakfast Programs. On average, Forgotten Harvest's "Healthy Food Healthy Kids" program provides approximately 130,000 lunches to thousands of children throughout metro Detroit every summer. Distribution is targeted to key community partners serving a significant number of at-risk children.

Among Forgotten Harvest's programs benefiting children, is our participation in USDA's Meet Up and Eat Up program, which succeeds due to our amazing partnerships with community heroes like Glenda Fields and her Gateway Garden.

Gateway Garden is a community garden nestled in the Jefferson Chalmers neighborhood on Detroit's east side. We took an afternoon to sit amongst the fairy garden next to the mobile library to discuss how Meet Up and Eat Up has benefited east side children.

During the summer, the Gateway Garden program starts at 11 am and runs Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday. Children commonly arrive without having had breakfast. With the program, Glenda has been able to feed numerous children lunch. She also sends each child home with kid-friendly food kits funded by United Way for Southeastern Michigan so they will have food in the evenings and on weekends.

**"We really need these programs. We really need Meet Up and Eat Up. And we really need the food boxes to send home. They are very important and essential to these kids."**

Gateway Garden becomes a safe place for not only children, but their parents too. Glenda's Garden enables countless parents facing hardships to get a break from stress, knowing their children have somewhere to relax and get the nutrition they need.

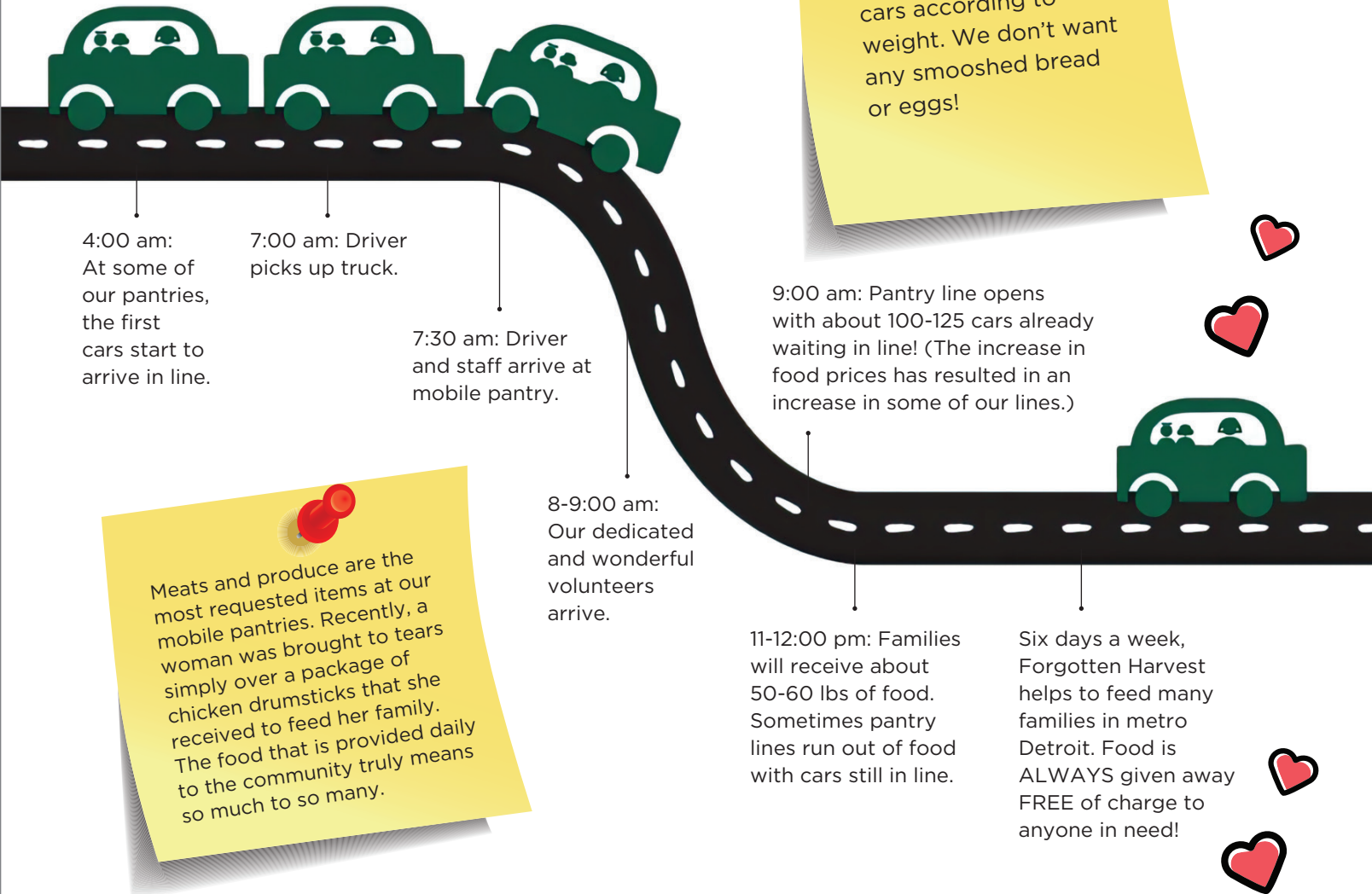
**We want to reach more kids during the summer and during the school year. Children's meal programs, like Glenda's, help Forgotten Harvest provide nourishing meals to children.**

## Meet Up and Eat Up at Gateway Garden



**Thank you Glenda  
and Gateway  
Garden for being a  
spectacular partner  
in fighting hunger!**





# THANK YOU!

On Friday, May 12, 2023, Forgotten Harvest welcomed over 2,000 friends, sponsors, guests, and supporters to join us in celebrating 30 years of Comedy Night. This year's Comedy Night — *For the Love of Detroit* — served as our love letter to the community and city we have tirelessly served since our beginning



in 1990. Attendees enjoyed the comedic stylings of local and regional comedians Sam Rager, Josh Adams, and Jeff Scheen before *America's Got Talent* host and former Michigander, Terry Crews, took to the stage. Thank you to everyone who attended this year's event, and to all who have been amazing supporters of Comedy Night over the past 30 years.

# DRIVING HUNGER FROM METRO DETROIT COMMUNITY TRUCK CAMPAIGN

**For our neighbors from our friends!** Our trucks, quite literally, make possible our mission of “driving hunger from metro Detroit.” Comprised of more than 35 vehicles — including refrigerated box trucks, refrigerated tractor semi-trailers, refrigerated commercial vans, and pick-up trucks and trailers used on our farm — our fleet provides the critical link between our many food donors, our warehouse, and our network of agencies distributing nutritious food to metro Detroit families facing hunger.

We need to replace several trucks over the next few years. Each truck lasts about 10 years, distributing over 2,000,000 lbs of food and driving over 500,000 miles to help care for and feed food-insecure children, families, Veterans, and seniors — our neighbors in need.

This spring, Forgotten Harvest seeks critical funds to replace several of our trucks to sustain our expanded levels of food rescue and distribution.

**We are asking our community to join in partnership with Forgotten Harvest to raise**

**over \$200,000, which is necessary to purchase a new refrigerated box truck.** Donors of \$250 or more will have their name permanently displayed on the FH truck driving around metro Detroit picking up and distributing surplus nutritious food to our neighbors in need. We will schedule an opportunity to come to the warehouse to see the truck once it is completed, allowing ample opportunities for photos, tours of the facility, and connection with your fellow donors that made this purchase possible!

To participate in this **Community Truck Campaign**, please visit [forgottenharvest.org/truck2023](http://forgottenharvest.org/truck2023).

For more information, please contact Mary Moore-Butler at [mmoorebutler@forgottenharvest.org](mailto:mmoorebutler@forgottenharvest.org) or (248) 298-3421.

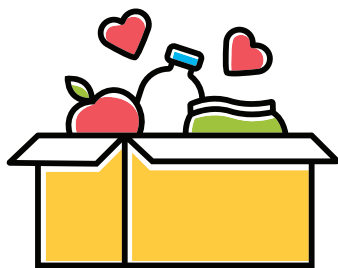
## GIVING LEVELS:

**Family Giving and Company or Foundation sponsorship welcomed!**

**Mechanic** \$250 - Recognition name on truck

**Chauffeur** \$500 - Recognition name on truck 2x larger size font/name inscription

**Wide Load** \$1,000+ - Recognition name on truck 4x larger size font/name inscription



## Create Your Own Virtual Food Drive

Are you looking for an easy and efficient way to support Forgotten Harvest? Virtual Food Drives are a great way to get family, friends, coworkers, and neighbors involved in the mission!

- **Start a Facebook Fundraiser.** A simple and effective way to support Forgotten Harvest virtually is to start a fundraiser through Facebook. Birthday fundraisers are especially

successful and only take a few minutes to create if you are a Facebook subscriber!

- **Build a Virtual Giving Page.** Custom build your own giving page! With just a little information from you (including a title, description of the fundraiser, and picture of your choice), we can help create a giving webpage that can be shared with those who would like to donate. This is a great option for companies, clubs, or organizations.

**Have questions or a great idea for a virtual fundraiser? Please reach out to Mary at [mmoorebutler@forgottenharvest.org](mailto:mmoorebutler@forgottenharvest.org) or visit [forgottenharvest.org/ways-give](http://forgottenharvest.org/ways-give).**