

food *for* thought

FALL 2019

1989 - Kids Cafe - 2019

2019 marks the celebration of 30 years of Kids Cafe, the third largest childhood hunger initiative in the United States. But, did you know it all started in Coastal Georgia?

Kids Cafe originated back in 1989 when two boys were found searching for food in a local community center. The police officers that discovered the boys, eating by the light of the refrigerator, soon realized it was because they had no food at home. The Savannah Morning News published an article about the boys' situation which prompted action by a group of concerned citizens. These citizens knew this was unacceptable in our country of plenty. As a grass roots program born out of necessity, local restaurants donated food that was picked up by volunteers and distributed to communities where low-income children lived. Feeding America adopted the program and launched Kids Cafe as a national child feeding program in 1994.

As the need to feed hungry children continued to grow, Second Harvest partnered with the Savannah/Chatham School system in 2003 and was able to utilize a school kitchen for meal production. By 2006, Second Harvest was providing meals to approximately 650 children at 13 different locations. In 2009, the Second Harvest Board of Directors determined the need to build a commercial kitchen of our own in order to feed the children of Coastal Georgia. Grace's Kitchen, named after our gracious donor, the late Grace Neises, had its ribbon cutting in June 2011.

The most important components of our Kids Cafe program are that children are provided a hot meal, tutoring, and mentoring, in a supervised safe haven. Without fulfilling these four components, we cannot approve a site to participate in Kids Cafe. **America's Second Harvest's Kids Cafe program has grown to providing more than 3,700 meals each day during the school week at 80 different locations across 8 counties.**



**Hunger
Action Month**
September

**Drive Away Hunger
Golf Tournament**
Friday, September 13

**Wednesday Wine
Takeover at Atlantic**
September 18

Chefs' Table
Tuesday, October 8



KIDS CAFE[®]
PROGRAM



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Mark Thompson
Julie Wade
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2501 East President Street
Savannah, GA 31404
912.236.6750

www.helpendhunger.org

From the Executive Director

Dear Friends:

As we celebrate thirty years of Kids Cafe serving children at risk for hunger, we are constantly reminded that hunger is an ongoing issue in Coastal Georgia and very much our nation as a whole. The state of Georgia is ranked Number 10 with persons at risk for hunger, with one in four children living with food insecurity. When we talk about grassroots efforts, Kids Cafe exemplifies a community coming together to help children when the need became apparent. As long as the problem of childhood hunger exists in Coastal Georgia, America's Second Harvest will continue to strive to alleviate the issue.

You are a part of this effort to help individuals and families in Coastal Georgia. All it takes to destroy a family's financial security could be unexpected medical bills, an unforeseen crisis like a hurricane evacuation, car trouble, or maybe a sick child that needs parental care but that parent doesn't have the luxury of paid time off from their job.

Thirty Years – we can do what we do because of your continued generosity.

With gratitude,



Mary Jane Crouch
Executive Director

THANK YOU FOR BEING
A HUNGER HERO

Spring and Summer Volunteer Hours Completed: 5,728

AGES, Bank of America, Benedictine Military School, Berry College, Blessed Sacrament, CarMax, CASH, Chatham Orthopaedic Associates, Cub Scout Pack 691, Delta Gems, Dental Claim Support, Desoto Hotel, Embassy Suites – Downtown, Embassy Suites – Savannah Airport, eviCore, First Presbyterian, Girl Scout Troop 30440, Grainger, Georgia Southern University's NAACP, Georgia Southern University's Trio, Georgia Southern University's Waters College of Health Professions, Gulfstream, Haven Helping Hands, IKEA, Independent Presbyterian Church, International Paper, Jr. Beta Club - Charles Ellis Montessori Academy, Junior League, Kappa Epsilon Psi, Kraton Chemical, Landings Landlovers, Landings New Neighbors, Live Oak Church, LS3P, Lucky's Market, Macy's, May Howard, Hilton Hotels, Messiah Lutheran, Mountain Alliance, National Distributing Company, Newell, North Point Hospitality, Park Place Outreach, Parkway Church of Christ, Prayer and Action, Project Search, Publix, Renee Buckles Photography, Richmond Hill United Methodist Church, Robert Half, Rollins College, Saint Leo University, Savannah Country Day, Savannah Holy Church of God, Savannah Presbytery, Savannah State University, SCAD Cycling Team, SCAD Serve, Skidaway Rotary, SkillsUSA, South University, St. Andrew's, St. John's Church, Students Today Leaders Forever, SunTrust, Target, The Embassy Church, Thomas and Hutton, Trinity United Methodist Church, Vanderbilt, Wayfair, WellCare, Wells Fargo, Whole Foods, and YouthWorks

We truly appreciate everyone's efforts and apologize if we missed anyone!

JOIN THESE HUNGER HEROES
and Take Action Against Hunger

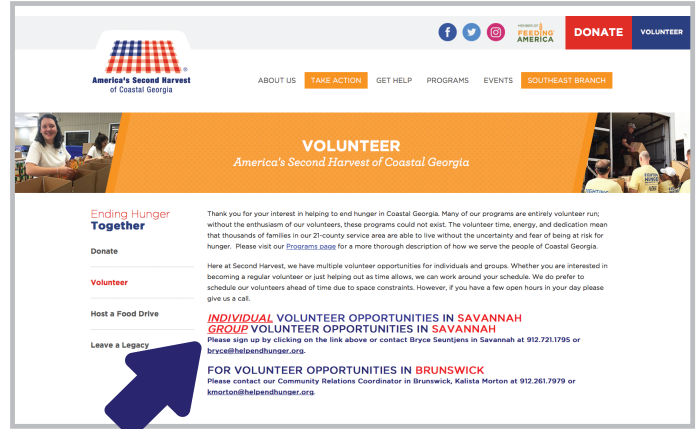


VolunteerHub

We are so excited to introduce to you our new volunteer weblink provided by VolunteerHub. With the launch of this new software, we have been able to simplify the entire volunteer experience. Previously, we were manually processing and managing our volunteers which proved to be very time consuming and cumbersome to both our volunteers and Second Harvest. No longer do you have to call or email and patiently wait for a response. Just visit our website at helpendhunger.org, click on the Take Action tab and then select Volunteer on the dropdown menu. Once you are on our Volunteer page you can select Individual or Group.

Our new, user friendly weblink allows visitors who wish to volunteer the ability to view the dates, times of volunteer shifts available, location, and the number of open slots remaining to fill. Now, individuals are able to register an account, browse our volunteer opportunities, and sign up immediately, day or night directly from their computer.

Second Harvest depends tremendously on corporate, civic and scholastic groups to quickly and efficiently complete large volunteer tasks, such as packing Brown Bags for the Elderly or Mobile Food Pantry boxes. A group leader can contact our Volunteer Coordinator to reserve the desired amount of group space requested. The leader will then receive a link to a custom registration page for their group. VolunteerHub is capable of assisting group leaders by tracking who has signed up to attend and will send everyone in your volunteer group reminders.



Click the **INDIVIDUAL** or **GROUP** Volunteer link at www.helpendhunger.org/take-action/volunteer/

With our new and improved, streamlined volunteer management system, we are able to spend less time sitting at a desk returning phone messages and emails and more time in the warehouse creating enjoyable volunteer opportunities. In comparison to the summer of 2018, our volunteer program has seen a 37.21% increase in volunteer hours for summer 2019 with the implementation of VolunteerHub! We believe that VolunteerHub is the technical support that our volunteer program desperately needs as we continue to grow and increase our volunteer opportunities.

Helping Hands in Grace's Kitchen

The saying "many hands make for light work" definitely rings true for Second Harvest and our Summer Feeding program. We would absolutely be "shorthanded" without the amazing staff of thirty volunteers who focused on the task at hand. Not only did they agree to take on the work of preparing 7,000 meals a day but they agreed to begin this daunting task at 6:30am, five days a week. The early bird shift for Summer Feeding volunteers ran for two months, June 3 – August 2. This amazing group of volunteers was equivalent to four full time kitchen staff.

Chef Sarah Maier stated, "What a gift it was to have pleasant, caring and reliable volunteers who gave of their time to help our chefs and staff to have a lighter load in the kitchen. With over 70 Summer Feeding sites, the logistics can be overwhelming but our wonderful volunteers were there each day to keep the momentum rolling and persevered to get all the meals out accurately and with heart."



Volunteers packed 900-1,200 to-go boxes each day for some of the Summer Feeding sites. They also separated and repacked fresh fruit into individual servings for the children.

Fight Hunger

One in eight Americans in communities across the U.S. struggle with hunger, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, but that number jumps to 1 in 5 for Coastal Georgia. To raise awareness and combat the issue, Walmart, Sam's Club, Feeding America and America's Second Harvest held the annual nationwide "Fight Hunger. Spark Change." campaign April 22 to May 20.



Feeding America is excited to announce that the "Fight Hunger. Spark Change." campaign raised more than \$26.8 million this year! This is a 16% increase over the 2018 campaign. Ninety-seven percent of funds (that's \$26 million!) will be distributed to member food banks in the months ahead. America's Second Harvest is pleased to announce that we will be receiving \$116,974 thanks to shoppers at 19 Walmarts and 3 Sam's Clubs within our 21 county service area.



HUNGER ACTION MONTH | FEEDING AMERICA

September is Hunger Action Month! Hunger Action Month is an annual month-long campaign designed to bring attention to the reality of food insecurity in the United States and promotes ways individuals across the U.S. can get involved in the movement to help end hunger. In the state of Georgia there are currently 1,501,680 people that struggle with food insecurity and 137,410 people struggling in Coastal Georgia alone.

The 2019 Hunger Action Month theme is **"We can end hunger — one helping at a time."** Feeding America and America's Second Harvest are asking everyone to take action during the month of September. Sharing, volunteering, pledging to advocate, fundraising, hosting a food drive and donating are just a few of the ways you can pitch in. By taking action, we can end hunger one helping at a time.

Be inspired, get involved, volunteer!

Mobile Food Pantry Sponsor



COASTAL
Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery

Partnerships are forged in many different ways but in the case of America's Second Harvest Food Bank it is usually out of a necessity to provide assistance that is

much needed. Coastal Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery in Hinesville contacted Second Harvest over a year ago when they saw a need that we could assist with in Liberty County. With a generous sponsorship from Dr. Mark C. Clayton, Second Harvest has been able to provide four Mobile Food Pantry distributions in the parking lot of the dental office with the helping hands of many volunteers. The partnership between Coastal Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery and Second Harvest has enabled more than 1,000 families in Liberty County to receive over 145,000 pounds of nourishing food, milk and fresh healthy produce. **For Mobile Food Pantry sponsorship opportunities, please call Mary Jane Crouch at 912.721.1790.**



"Working with Second Harvest has allowed our practice to give back to the community that has given so much to us," stated Dr. Clayton.



Southeast Branch



Pop-Up Produce Drive-Thru

The Brunswick Branch hosted two Pop-Up Produce Drive-Thrus at the Exchange Club Fairgrounds this summer. Each drive through was able to serve roughly 500 families, distributing over 80,000lbs total. Many thanks to the volunteers who expeditiously loaded each car with boxes of pork tenderloin, potatoes, rice, flour, apples, oranges and fresh milk. Jay Wiggins of Glynn County Emergency Management/Homeland Security used the event as an exercise in disaster preparedness for all of our first responders including Glynn County Police, Brunswick Police, Glynn County Sheriff's Department, Glynn Fire Department, and the Brunswick Fire Department. Volunteers, first responders and the Former Brunswick City Manager, Roosevelt Harris with Job Corps students successfully kept the food and traffic moving for two hours. Thank you to the community for helping us feed the need in Southeast Georgia.

Handmade for the Hungry

Tuesday November 5th you will have three opportunities to enjoy Handmade for the Hungry, an Empty Bowl Fundraiser. This year there will be two lunch seatings at Straton Hall's Boom Boom Room. Come out for lunch with friends and co-workers and enjoy soup, salad and sides. The Boom Boom Room is located at 1423 Newcastle Street in Brunswick. The two seatings are 11:30am and 1:00pm and costs \$20 per person.



At 5pm, island time, come out to Glynn Visual Arts at 106 Island Drive in Brunswick and enjoy a hearty soup dinner and visit with friends. Dinner will be 5:00-7:30pm and costs \$30 per person. Sponsored by GVA, Parkers and Straton Hall Events. Choose a handmade bowl to take home with you whether you join us for lunch or dinner. Purchase tickets online at www.helpendhunger.org/events/.



RSM Classic Car Raffle



The Friends of Davis Love Foundation is a program designed to help raise money for local charities in Coastal Georgia. Each participating charity is invited to sell raffle tickets (\$20 each) for the chance to win a new car courtesy of Nalley Automotive of Brunswick. 100% of the money collected through the raffle is distributed back to the participating charities. Charities will have from August until November 15th to sell raffle tickets and raise money for their organization. A drawing for the Grand Prize winner of the new car will take place on November 24 after completion of play at The RSM Classic Golf Tournament at Sea Islands Golf Club.

To enter for your chance to win a new Buick Encore, please contact Kalista Morton at 912.261.7979 or kmorton@helpendhunger.org.

Mission U Volunteers



Mission U from Epworth by the Sea United Methodist sent a team to volunteer and pack snack bags for children. The bags were distributed at the Kinder- Carnival, a family festival for young children held at the Brunswick Library.

Mark Your Calendar!



**DRIVE AWAY HUNGER
Golf Tournament**
Friday, September 13, 2019
12:30pm Registration
Box Lunch
1:30pm Shotgun Start
After Play Awards Party

**Palmetto Course at
Plantation Club**
The Landings on Skidaway Island

Reserve your Foursome
Contact Paula Hall
912.721.1796
phall@helpendhunger.org

**WEDNESDAY
WINE TAKEOVER** **SEPT 18TH**
5-9PM!
AT **Atlantic**
A portion of wine sales will benefit:

102 E VICTORY DR. • 912.417.8887 • @ATLANTICSAVANNAH

Support Hunger Action Month every Tuesday in September at Bull Street Taco.

Tacos for a Cause is our version of "Taco Tuesday." This Starland District local hang out celebrates your favorite weekday ritual via a unique menu that gives a little bit back and connects the community. Order from the Tacos for a Cause menu on Tuesdays to benefit America's Second Harvest. www.bullstreettacos.com



**Bull Street Taco | 1608 Bull Street, Savannah
912.349.6931 | 11am - 10pm**

27th Annual Chefs' Table
Tuesday, October 8, 2019
Plantation Club at The Landings

Presenting Sponsor

Dr. James W. Andrews, Jr.
in memory of Mrs. Barbara Andrews

Individual & Corporate Sponsors

David & Elaine Barrow
Gary & Sandy Bocard
Inge Brasseler
Lawrence & Jan Dorman
Brian & Kathie Harlander
Kenneth & Nancy Larsen
David & Sylvaine Neises
Stephen & Jackie Rabinowitz
Roy & Maggie Richard



Chefs' Table 2019

Featured Restaurants

- Atlantic
- Current Catering
- Garibaldi
- The Gaslight Group
- Johnnie Ganem Wine & Package Shop
- Noble Fare
- Local 11 ten
- Mahgniffe, LLC.
- The Olde Pink House
- Pacci
- Plantation Club
- Thrive Catering