



Weld Food Bank

MEMBER OF
**FEEDING
AMERICA**

Hunger's *Hope*

Annual Report Edition
Fall 2016

A publication of Weld Food Bank

Emergency Food Requests on the Rise



This last year, Weld Food Bank saw the biggest increase in recent years of people needing emergency food assistance. In 12 months, 32,743 Emergency Food Boxes were distributed to families from across the county. That was a **13% increase** from the year before, and it reveals the truth that despite reports of stability in unemployment and increases in wages, people still need help.

The question is often asked, who receives Emergency Food Boxes? The answer is people just like you. The typical person walking through the food bank doors does not usually look like one may expect of someone in need. They are not homeless or unemployed. In fact, nearly three quarters of the households we serve have at least one adult who is working, retired or disabled. No one knows what life has in store for them. They may find themselves experiencing a health crisis, the utility bill may be twice as much as they expected or simply they may not earn enough money to afford an adequate amount of food.

Numbers of new households seeking emergency food assistance also saw an increase this year. There was a **21% increase in new households** that had never needed food before as more families found themselves in difficult situations. However, it is reassuring to know that 71% of households visited the food bank only one or two times. This demonstrates that the program is working exactly how it was designed: to help families short term during a crisis situation.

Emergency food requests continue to increase, especially the further into winter it gets. People's situations change, they find more work, they heal up and pay off their loans, or they find themselves in need for the first time. Through it all, Weld Food Bank will be here to walk alongside them to ensure they and their families are fed.



Weld Food Bank

Our New Look

As you may have noticed, Weld Food Bank received a makeover. The board and staff decided it was time to update the food bank's image in more ways than one. Most noticeably is a new logo, which is a perfect representation of both the food bank and Weld County. The fields symbolize the strong agriculture community backdropped by the beautiful mountains that Colorado is known for, and the leaves symbolize produce and the overall goal to provide the healthy foods to families seeking food assistance.

The other piece to the makeover comes in the form of a new website, bringing with it a whole new browsing experience. The site is now mobile-friendly for the growing digital age, making online donations even easier. There is also a new map feature allowing anyone in need to type in their address or zip code to receive instant results of where they can find food. Check out weldfoodbank.org to see all the exciting new features of the website.

FY 15/16 Board of Directors

Perry Bell, **President**
Destination Church & Ministries – Pastor

Becky Hall, **Vice President**
Community Member

Michelle Hesseltine, **Secretary**
Anadarko Petroleum Corp. - Field
Business Process Supervisor

Sean Gingerich, **Treasurer**
Flood & Peterson Insurance - Vice President

Tim Croissant, **Past President**
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Bert Dieck
King Soopers Marketplace - Store Manager

Brad Lorenger
JBS Pork - VP Sales and Marketing

Kaycee Lytle
Bank of Colorado – Eaton Branch President

Jan Martin
University of Northern Colorado – Nursing
Professor (Retired)

Sandra Marino Meyer
Meyer Direct Inc. - Vice President

Jennifer Lynn Peters
Otis, Bedingfield & Peters, LLC - Attorney

Curtis Rau
Atmos Energy - Operations Supervisor

Brook Richardson
NCMC, Inc. – Director of Nursing

Chalice Springfield, **Immediate Past President**
Sears Real Estate - Chief Executive Officer

Keith Thompson, M.D.
Life Care Centers of America - Physician

Karen Trusler
Weld RE4 District School Superintendent, Retired

Staff

Angie Rivera, *Senior Outreach
Distribution Coordinator*

Bob Boswell, *Food Resource and
Transportation Manager*

Bob LeDoux, *Senior Outreach Assistant*

Bob O'Connor, *Executive Director*

Brandon Clark, *Warehouse Manager*

Carrie Hembry, *CDL/Mobile Food Pantry Driver*

Debbie Pfalzgraff, *Administrative Assistant*

Deena Steward, *Senior Outreach Specialist*

Denise Stetz, *Development Assistant/Grant Writer*

Diana Flagle, *Kitchen Manager/Chef*

Erika Westfall, *Certification/IT Manager*

Heather Longaker, *CDL/Mobile Food Pantry Driver*

Jason Segura, *Warehouse Assistant*

Julian Arias, *CDL/Mobile Food Pantry Driver*

Kristy Aldridge, *Volunteer Manager*

Margaret Morton, *Senior Outreach Specialist*

Matt Bruch, *Non-CDL Driver*

Mikaela Sandridge, *Senior Community
Engagement Manager*

Patrick Kelley, *Warehouse Client Specialist*

Pauline Montalvo, *SNAP Outreach Coordinator*

Scott Westfall, *Director of Operations*

Stephanie Etheridge, *Child Programs Assistant*

Stephanie Gausch, *Director of Development*

Tina Danley, *Agency Relations/Child
Programs Manager*

Tom Hill, *Agency Food Coordinator*

Weston Edmunds, *Communications Manager*

Yolanda Cruz, *Certification Specialist*

President's Corner

Dear Friends,

I (Bob) remember September 1st like it was yesterday. The line for emergency food formed outside the food bank long before we opened. Staff and volunteers were busy building food boxes and setting up the distribution area with fresh produce and other healthy food options. At the end of the day, we provided food assistance to 468 households. That large amount of people coming in for help in one day has become more frequent.

This past year, we experienced a significant increase in emergency food requests. Many ask, "why do our neighbors need assistance?" The reasons vary widely, but it's primarily due to the loss of a job, medical issues or simply not having enough income. The struggle with hunger affects more than a family's food budget. 77 percent of individuals report having to choose between paying for food or utilities. This choice becomes increasingly difficult during the winter months.

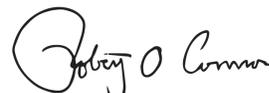
This time of year reminds me (Becky) why I began supporting Weld Food Bank with my husband. Five years ago, we answered the food bank's call to the community for help during the holidays. The thought of a family going hungry, especially their children, did not sit right with us. A few weeks after we mailed our donation, Bob invited us in for a tour. The moment we walked in the door, we were in awe. And after hearing about all the great work they do, our hearts belonged to Weld Food Bank.

On behalf of all the people we serve, thank you for caring. Your amazing support allows us to reach so many families who lack having enough food to eat. We look forward to what our partnership with you will bring in the continued fight against hunger in Weld County.

With Gratitude,



Becky Hall
Board President

Bob O'Connor
Executive Director



Dacono Summer Feeding

Summer Feeding has experienced exceptional growth in just five years with the amount of meals served going from 14,000 in 2010/2011 to well over 37,000 this last fiscal year. Every March, the process of identifying Summer Feeding sites begins by working with communities of high need. The site in Dacono has remained a constant necessity to ensure children in that area have a meal to eat every day during the summer.

Stan Owens has volunteered at this site for four years. His heart for the children was evident every week when he called our kitchen staff to thank them for the food we sent. As is often the case, people who work directly with the hungry will witness firsthand the ugliness of the struggle. Stan shared a story about a young boy who visited the site regularly enough that it was noticeable when he was absent. There was a time when the boy didn't show up for a few days. Upon his return, Stan naturally asked him where he had been. Without much explanation, the boy said he couldn't make it. Sadly, he went on to tell Stan that the last time he had been at the feeding site was the last time he had eaten a meal.

This is the reality of the issue of child hunger, and it is a perfect example of why all the child feeding programs are so important. As long as there are hungry children in Weld County, the food bank will be there to help.



The Spotts siblings enjoying a delicious meal at Dacono Summer Feeding

Weld Food Bank values its donors' privacy. We never sell, rent or barter our donor information. Annually, we publish our supporters' names in our Annual Report. If you would like to opt out of having your name listed in our Annual Report or from being on our mailing list, please contact Stephanie Gausch at Stephanie@weldfoodbank.org with your complete name, address and telephone number and ask to be removed.

Beacons of Hope: Senior Outreach Home Deliveries

There are countless men and women who give of their time and energy to deliver much needed food to homebound seniors. Additionally, entire businesses have dedicated to helping with this service. In particular, Metro Brokers-Rouse Realty recently stepped up to help with deliveries. They have committed to deliver to multiple senior apartment complexes in Ault and Eaton, every month. Other businesses that also do senior home deliveries on a monthly basis are Colorado Site Works, Team Lowe-Remax Alliance, After Hours Rotary and Bonell Good Samaritan. **Thank you to all these businesses for being Beacons of Hope to hungry seniors in the community! If you would like to volunteer with senior home deliveries, call (970) 356-2199 x307.**



Beacons of Hope: The Little Pump Jack That Could

This is a story of how two men's kindness and a little red pump jack inspired others to give. Noble Energy closed their Platteville office in October. In front of that building sat a replica pump jack in need of a new home. Jerry Miller came up with the idea to auction it off to Noble employees with the proceeds going to Weld Food Bank. The winning bid went to Don Cox for \$1,800. As he and his wife looked over their prize, he wondered how he could turn this into something more.

Don began texting his contractors to re-auction the pump in an attempt to raise more money. The bid grew quickly to the point where it was out of reach for most of the bidders. Don encouraged them to make a straight donation, which many did. Bidding ended at \$6,000 but the giving did not stop there.

Upon returning to the office, Don emailed all Noble employees asking for additional donations. Word spread to the headquarters in Houston and they offered a two for one match on any Noble employee donations. When all was said and done, Don's winning bid of \$1,800 turned into over \$18,000! **Thank you to Jerry, Don, Noble Energy and everyone involved who made a big impact with a little pump jack. You are all Beacons of Hope in the fight against hunger.**



Left to right: Bob O'Connor, Jerry Miller, Don Cox and Stephanie Gausch.

Bring Hope This Holiday Season

The holidays bring warm feelings for many people. Department stores are filled with busy shoppers looking for the perfect gift. Grocery store shelves can barely keep up with the magnitude of people shopping for holiday meals. Bing Crosby blasts over the radio as people try to sing along to the classics. It's a time of joy as loved ones gather together for a large meal while they reminisce about the year, and being grateful for what they have. However, for many families in Weld County, those aren't the feelings and experiences that the holidays bring.

Those who are struggling with hunger this time of year are also facing other difficulties. Their heaters are holding at a lower temperature to keep costs down. Parents are trying to find the right words to explain to their kids why they didn't get as many gifts as their friends. Children are worried about winter break because their family doesn't have enough food.

There is something you can do to make their season bright. With a \$100 donation, you can provide 500 meals to Weld County residents who otherwise wouldn't have something to eat. It's quick and easy to do, simply go to weldfoodbank.org and donate online now. Help bring hope this holiday season by giving to Weld Food Bank.



Stone Soup 2017

Saturday, March 25, 2017

6pm – 11pm

Sponsorships & Tickets Available Now

This year's theme is Hunger Through the Looking Glass. Join the food bank as they take a look at how hunger is affecting the community and what you can do to help. Stone Soup is a signature fundraising event that features an elegant dinner with live and silent auction items. Last year's Stone Soup raised enough money to provide over a million meals for families in Weld County. Sponsorships and tickets are now available for this well-attended event. Visit the "Upcoming Events" on weldfoodbank.org to purchase your tickets today.





This year's Corporate Food Challenge was bigger and better than ever! 53 companies participated in raising food, funds and volunteer hours. Throughout the challenge, 1,045 volunteers gave 2,714 hours of their time in the warehouse and at Mobile Food Pantries. The event concluded at the Greeley Stampede with CanSculpture, a competition to design and build a display entirely out of non-perishable food. Between funds and food raised, this year's event provided 485,174 meals to hungry families.

CORPORATE *Food Challenge*



Overall Winner

- 1st Place - Meadow Gold
- 2nd Place - JBS USA, LLC
- 3rd Place - Hensel Phelps Construction
- 4th Place - Anadarko
- 5th Place - Noble Energy

Most Food Donated

- 1st Place - Meadow Gold - 161,022 lbs
- 2nd Place - JBS - 69,876 lbs
- 3rd Place - Banner Health - 2,794 lbs
- 4th Place - WFB team Dee - 1,638 lbs
- 5th Place - Hensel Phelps - 391 lbs

Overall Winner - Per Capita Under 100 employees

- 1st Place - UBS
- 2nd Place - Hensel Phelps Construction
- 3rd Place - Rabo AgriFiance
- 4th Place - Weld Food bank
- 5th Place - First Bank

Most Volunteer Hours

- 1st Place - Anadarko - 962 hours
- 2nd Place - Colorado Site Works - 225 hours
- 3rd Place Noble Energy - 206 hours
- 4th Place - PDC Energy - 192 hours
- 5th Place - Rabo AgriFiance - 132 hours

Most Monetary Donations

- 1st Place - Hensel Phelps - \$23,356.00
- 2nd Place - Anadarko - \$15,926.00
- 3rd Place - Noble Energy - \$ 3,808.57
- 4th Place - UBS - \$2,758.00
- 5th Place - Grace Pointe - \$2,246.00

CanSculpture Winner

- 1st Place - Anadarko
- 2nd Place - Hensel Phelps
- 3rd Place - Weld Schools Credit Union
- 4th Place - Noble Energy
- 5th Place - Select Energy



Bank of Colorado Community Event / Kiwanis of the Rockies Car Show

Over 1,500 people turned out in Eaton to celebrate and take part in the annual Bank of Colorado Community Appreciation Day, and check out 119 classic cars at the Cruise for Food Car Show hosted by the Kiwanis of the Rockies. Guests were treated to a delicious BBQ dinner prepared by Halliburton, JBS and the Weld Food Bank. Congratulations to Steve and Judi Erickson (pictured) for winning Best in Show. Funds raised from this event provided over 100,000 meals. **Thank you Bank of Colorado and Kiwanis of the Rockies for all that you do to help hungry people in Weld County!**

Holiday Donor Cards

The holidays are here! The reality is some friends, relatives, colleagues and customers can be hard to shop for. Weld Food Bank has a perfect solution for you that will also help hungry families in Weld County. Once again, holiday cards are available. For \$100, you can receive 10 cards of either design with an inner inscription informing the recipient of your donation in their honor. This is a perfect opportunity to spread holiday cheer for hungry families and those receiving the cards. There are two delivery options. 1.) Cards can be sent directly to you for mailing. 2.) Cards can be printed with your name and/or business logo on them and mailed directly from the food bank. If you would like a custom order with your name/business logo, you must place customized orders by December 9th, 2016 to ensure delivery by the holidays. For more information and to place an order, contact Dee Stetz at 970-356-2199 x324 or dee@weldfoodbank.org.



Leave a lasting legacy to the food bank with an estate gift. Contact Stephanie Gausch at 970-356-2199 x 304 to discuss how to remember the food bank in your will or estate plan.