

FOOD MATTERS!

SPRING 2015



Your support helps people learn to grow and enjoy fresh produce.

The urban farm next door

A partnership offers skill building to open a new path to food security

If you've tried to get a community garden plot in Portland, you may have come up empty. Recent news reports say community gardens fill up fast and have long wait lists for people who want a spot. But Oregon Food Bank and Grow Portland have a solution and your contributions make it possible.

An acre of land next to Oregon Food Bank's NE 33rd Drive location is being transformed into a community farm that's open to all. The farm brings together new and experienced gardeners to grow food collaboratively with the help of an experienced farmer. Everyone who takes part will learn and practice organic farming methods as well as take

home a share of the harvest if they wish. The planting list is extensive and includes culturally-relevant foods such as collard greens, bok choy, squash and cilantro. Surplus produce will go to Oregon Food Bank for distribution to metro-area partner agencies.

"This is more than just growing food; it's about people making connections and working together," says Christine Hadekel, garden and education training coordinator for Oregon Food Bank. "The farm is about eliminating economic barriers. Anyone can come and take part. We have the tools, the plants and the land." If you're interested in using your green thumb, visit oregonfoodbank.org/communityfarm. 🌱



Healthy food makes for healthy kids.

Keeping kids active is important to their health, but so is providing them with healthy food. Thousands of kids don't get proper nutrition, which hinders development and learning. Thanks to **Ford Motor Company Fund**, the Oregon Food Bank Network is purchasing **\$100,000** of child-focused emergency food. This includes single-serve milk, juice, applesauce and oats. Fighting childhood hunger in Oregon and Clark County, Washington is a lot easier with Ford Motor Company Fund's generous contribution. 🌱

Hunger Doesn't Take a Break

A line of people stretched through the Park Blocks in the middle of the Portland State University campus. Passers-by might have thought they were signing up for classes or waiting to buy concert tickets. But the people in this line were waiting for free fruits and vegetables provided by Harvest Share, an Oregon Food Bank program.

PSU's Committee for Improving Student Food Security is working to improve

students' access to affordable and nutritious food. They realize that hunger doesn't take a break and is a constant for many students who are facing the cost of rising tuition and housing.

One student used Tumblr to share her excitement of the program saying, "I may be poor, but thanks to the PSU Harvest Share and Oregon Food Bank, I will not go hungry this month!" 🌱



Harvest Share helps food insecure students at Portland State University.





DeLinda from Tillamook shares her story of hunger with Oregon lawmakers.

Lawmakers take time to hear stories of hunger, hope

A record number of delegates descend upon Salem

“There are 24 slices in a loaf of bread. I know because that’s all I had to eat. And to make it last, I ate one slice a day,” says DeLinda from Tillamook. DeLinda was one of 220 anti-hunger advocates from around the state who took part in Oregon Hunger Response Day at the state Capitol on April 16.

Advocates met with every member of the Oregon House and Senate or their staff to share their stories of hunger and hope. They also urged lawmakers to support a \$3.25 million allocation for the Oregon Hunger

Response Fund. These critical funds are distributed equally to 20 regional food banks across the state, allowing them to acquire and distribute food to Oregonians struggling to make ends meet.

“Ending hunger seems so very achievable in the midst of such an anti-hunger army,” said Oregon Food Bank CEO Susannah Morgan. If you missed the event, you can still take part by contacting your legislator. Visit oregonfoodbank.org/advocate for more information. 🌱

Regence partners to improve food access



Regence

Thousands of people in Oregon are not able to receive food assistance because of distance, disability or cultural differences. Recognizing these challenges and desiring improvements, Regence selected Oregon Food Bank to be a Community Partner Organization (CPO). Funds from the relationship with Regence will increase the number of food distribution sites in underserved communities statewide, continue the expansion of the Screen and Intervene program, and support Oregon Harvest Dinner. Thank you Regence for your partnership! 🌱

Support Oregon Food Bank and hear great music over the Fourth of July weekend.



TOM DELLINGER (2)

Over 100 local and national acts including **Buddy Guy, Galactic with Macy Gray, Big Bad Voodoo Daddy, Gregg Allman, Allen Toussaint and Charmaine Neville** will appear on four stages July 2-5 at Tom McCall Waterfront Park. And don't forget the July 4th fireworks display, Portland's biggest fireworks show, put on entirely by Oregon Food Bank.

Since 1988, Oregon Food Bank has relied on the generosity of Waterfront Blues Festival attendees and sponsors. We ask for a suggested donation of just \$10 per person per day. It is Oregon Food Bank's largest fundraising event, but about 40% of attendees don't contribute. This puts the future of the festival at risk and hurts our neighbors in need. But you can help keep the festival strong. If you plan to attend, please buy a pass or donate at the gate. Encourage your friends to do the same.

All proceeds from the event help our goal of raising \$1 million to fight hunger. Visit waterfrontblues.com to purchase your festival pass and view the complete lineup.

Major sponsors: Safeway, First Tech, iQ Credit Union, FedEx, Oregonian, KINK fm, KOIN, DME, Deschutes Brewery and Coors Light. 🍷

You can fight hunger with a little blues

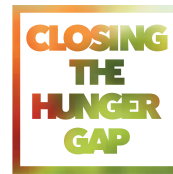
Make plans now to attend the biggest blues festival west of the Mississippi, the 28th annual Safeway Waterfront Blues Festival, presented by First Tech Federal Credit Union. Enjoy great music with family and friends while supporting Oregon Food Bank.

Fred Meyer employees, customers work together to fight hunger

Ending hunger requires collaboration and a coordinated effort. Fred Meyer demonstrates this every day. For many years, the company has supported Oregon Food Bank with food donations, volunteers and financial support. During the busy holiday season, coin donation boxes at Fred Meyer checkout lanes — along with contributions through its Employee Giving Campaign — resulted in over **\$105,000** for statewide operational support. Thank you Fred Meyer for your continued support of our mission. 🍷



Cultivating Food Justice Oregon Food Bank is hosting a national conference September 13-15, in partnership with Closing the Hunger Gap, to bring together food banks, anti-hunger advocates and food justice activists. From interactive sessions and panels, to tours and networking, there will be something for everyone. For more information about the conference visit oregonfoodbank.org/closingthehungergap. 🌱



Network support funds improved the efficiency and floor plan of a pantry in Medford.

Pantry redesign allows for more produce distribution

Fruits and vegetables take prominent role at Southern Oregon pantry

More partner agencies are changing the way they operate so they can provide fresh produce to families who may not be able to afford it. It's true for the pantry at First Christian Church in Medford. During a building renovation, a new floor plan was created to improve efficiency. Shelving and other supplies were purchased with help from Oregon Food Bank's Network Support Fund. The result is a beautiful shopping-style pantry that makes it easier and faster for clients to select healthy, nutritious food.

Your support of Oregon Food Bank allows regional food banks and partner agencies to improve their services to people in need. Fresh fruits and vegetables make up about half the available food at First Christian Church. A recent distribution included onions, grapefruits, potatoes and bananas. "Receiving this grant has made a huge difference in the remodel of the food pantry and in serving those in our community," said Pastor Alicia Speidel. Many thanks to Alicia and her amazing volunteers working to eliminate hunger in Southern Oregon! 🌱

Thank you to our corporate partners for your generous support!



FamilyCare Health's 2014 Winter Wellness Flu Shot Campaign contributed \$40,612 to help eliminate hunger. Members receiving the vaccine were given information about the work of Oregon Food Bank.

Bank of America.



Over the holidays, **Bank of America** matched its customers' giving for the Give a Meal campaign at a match of 2:1. Together you raised \$30,145 to help eliminate hunger within the Oregon Food Bank Network.



Pacific Power Foundation generously donated \$10,000 towards our Education Programs. Funding will support two six-week Nutrition Education courses and two five-week Seed to Supper courses. Classes provide participants skills in cooking, shopping and gardening.



Together **Pick-n-Pull** and its customers raised \$18,118.

And thank you to the following:

ESCO Foundation • The Greenbrier Cos. • AdvoCare International L.P. • CoBank • Feeding America, thanks to ConAgra Foods Foundation

Thank you to our Community Food & Fundraising Partners:

Sisters of Saint Mary's *Soup's On* • KGW Great Food Drive • Project Second Wind • Governor's State Employees Food Drive • Bag Local Hunger • Nike • Cash & Carry

Foundation Gifts:

The Lineberger Foundation of Oregon • The Collins Foundation • The Holzman Foundation

Follow us online: Get the latest OFB news about programs, partnerships, awards and activities from our Facebook and Twitter feeds — plus visit our website.

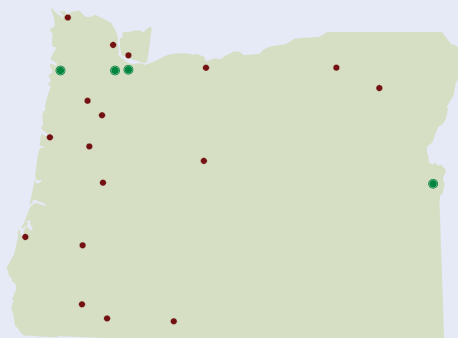
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Oregon Food Bank is a certified affiliate of Feeding America.



OFB Network of Regional Food Banks



Operated by Oregon Food Bank

OFB Metro Services, Portland

OFB Southeast Oregon Services, Ontario

OFB Tillamook County Services, Tillamook

OFB Washington County Services, Beaverton

Regional Food Banks

ACCESS Food Share, Medford

CAPECO Food Share, Pendleton

CCA Regional Food Bank, Astoria

Clark County Food Bank, Vancouver, WA

Columbia Pacific Food Bank, St. Helens

Community Connection, La Grande

FOOD for Lane County, Eugene

Food Share of Lincoln County, Newport

Josephine County Food Bank, Grants Pass

Klamath/Lake Counties Food Bank, Klamath Falls

Linn-Benton Food Share, Corvallis

Marion-Polk Food Share, Salem

Mid-Columbia Community Action Council, The Dalles

NeighborImpact, Redmond

South Coast Food Share, Coos Bay

UCAN Food Bank, Roseburg

YCAP Regional Food Bank, McMinnville



and the Oregon Food Bank Network

oregonfoodbank.org

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