

Feeding Hope

Winter 2018

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MEMBER OF
**FEEDING
AMERICA**



Our Mission

We combat the hunger crisis in our region by strategically procuring and distributing nutritious food through community partners...

because no one should go hungry.

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“I am absolutely amazed by the warmth and generosity of the people living here. Everyone that I have met wants to help in some way.”

Dear Caring Friends,

By way of introduction, my name is Susan Goodell. I have recently become the Chief Executive Officer of El Pasoans Fighting Hunger. Feeding the hungry is quite simply a passion for me. Prior to moving to El Paso, I ran a major Food Bank serving the greater Detroit community for thirteen years. During my time there, I was often struck by the desperate need of so many people in Detroit and cities across our nation while so much wholesome food goes to waste. From my perspective, this is totally unacceptable and I commit to you that I and our small, dedicated team at the food bank will work hard to combat hunger in El Paso and the surrounding counties of Hudspeth and Culbertson.

During my short tenure in El Paso, I am absolutely amazed by the warmth and generosity of the people living here. Everyone that I have met wants to help in some way. Many, like you, donate money, others have introduced me to other like-minded individuals who want to help, and still others have stepped up to volunteer their time at the Food Bank. Getting out in the community has convinced me that I made the right decision to bring my family to El Paso and join the fight against hunger in this vibrant community.

During the course of the year, I will keep you posted as to what El Pasoans Fighting Hunger is doing to promote our mission of feeding our hungry neighbors in need. Various pantries will be showcased, or maybe there will be a story about a Mobile Pantry. There will even be a “hunger fact” attached to each correspondence. There is a lot going on, and I look forward to telling you about it.

On behalf of the Board, and our Staff, thank you for your continued generosity and support and most importantly, thank you for making our work possible! If you have any questions and or suggestions, please call me at 915-298-0353. Together, we will find more ways to feed our community.

All the best,

Susan E. Goodell

Chief Executive Officer

Taking the Time to Make Others Smile

Two students, Kate and Andrew, volunteered their time off from school on Martin Luther King Jr. Day to give back to their community. “We don’t know what’s going on in their lives but being able to see their smiles is really nice,” Andrew said. “I’d encourage others to get outside of their comfort zone, even if it is something small, and try to give back to the community. It makes us feel great to give and to be a part of the team work.”



Mobile Pantry Feeds Families

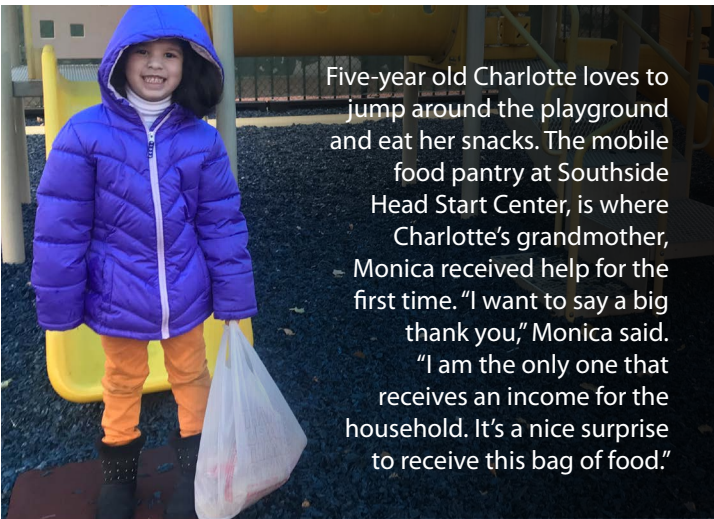


The mobile food pantry and health fair for the Roderick Artspace Lofts in Downtown El Paso helped feed over 70 families in the nearby area. "We came here today for food and resources," Elizabeth said. "I really look forward to the bread."

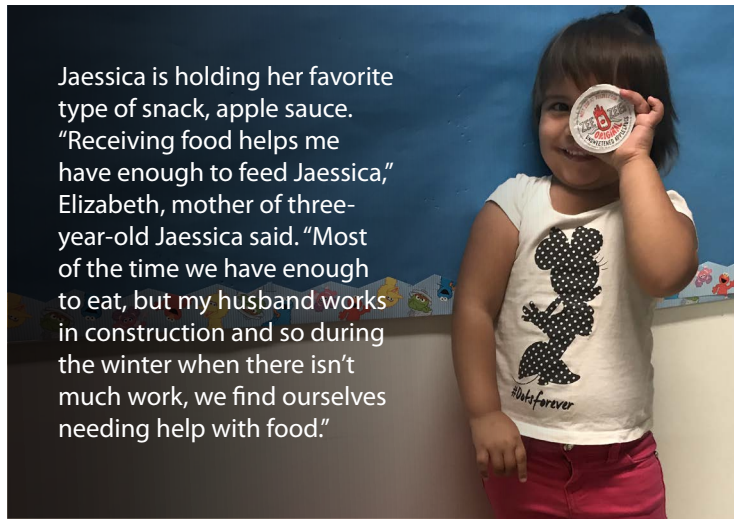
Elizabeth is a single mother raising her eight-year-old daughter Marilyn. Both live with Elizabeth's father and grandmother. She works inconsistent jobs as a full-time student, just to get by.

"I just need to make it for the next two years as I get my Bachelor's degree in Computer Science," she said. "I know the importance of giving back. I'm not going to forget the help I've received."

El Pasoans Fighting Hunger Food Bank teams up with other local non-profit organizations to distribute food in areas where there is not a physical food pantry or in underserved areas and to identify those who could use a secure meal. **In 2017, El Pasoans Fighting Hunger held 173 mobile food pantries.**



Five-year old Charlotte loves to jump around the playground and eat her snacks. The mobile food pantry at Southside Head Start Center, is where Charlotte's grandmother, Monica received help for the first time. "I want to say a big thank you," Monica said. "I am the only one that receives an income for the household. It's a nice surprise to receive this bag of food."



Jaessica is holding her favorite type of snack, apple sauce. "Receiving food helps me have enough to feed Jaessica," Elizabeth, mother of three-year-old Jaessica said. "Most of the time we have enough to eat, but my husband works in construction and so during the winter when there isn't much work, we find ourselves needing help with food."

AmeriCorps Volunteers Make an Instant Impact

The AmeriCorps (National Civilian Community Corp) NCCC is a team-based program for young adults, from the ages of 18 to 24 to develop leadership skills and strengthen communities by completing service projects. For six weeks, the AmeriCorps NCCC Class 24 (Water 4) helped El Pasoans Fighting Hunger process 132,732 pounds of food, assembled and distributed 44 emergency food boxes, as well as distributed food bags at mobile pantries totaling 1,305 pounds.

"It's amazing to see the work and all the food we processed and to see the families that it goes to. We are happy to see the difference it makes," AmeriCorps NCCC Team Leader, Taylor Traub said.

The group also developed databases for the food bank, created flyers for events, and assisted in creating a volunteer recruitment video. "They were a valuable resource," Chief Development Officer Terri Wyatt said. "The team helped with research and initiatives that the Food Bank is looking at."



Take a **LOOK**



Many of the 120+ partner agencies, like Open Gate Community Food Pantry, are volunteer based. A partner agency is any 501(c)(3) organization such as a food pantry, soup kitchen, or shelter that wants to partner with El Pasoans Fighting Hunger to feed our community and become a leader in making sure no one goes hungry.



Children spark creativity at an arts and crafts table activity during a mobile food pantry and health fair. El Pasoans Fighting Hunger serves at least 60,000 children annually.

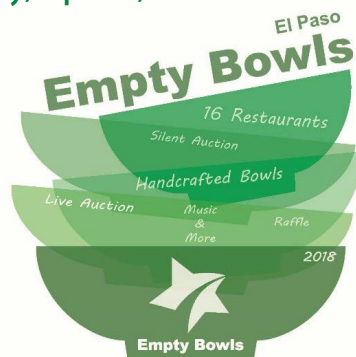


Junior Honor Society students at Desert Wind Elementary School assist a local parent take food to her car during a food distribution.

SAVE THE DATE

Empty Bowls 2018

Saturday, April 7, 2018



Make sure to purchase your tickets for the 14th Annual Empty Bowls event on April 7, 2018 at El Paso Community College Administrative Building "A", 9050 Viscount. Your ticket to the event includes:

- Tasting soup and mac & cheese from 16 of El Paso's restaurants
- Taking home a one-of-a-kind handcrafted bowl
- Participating in a live and silent auction
- Music & more!

This event reminds us of the number of empty bowls across our region that need to be filled. Your support will help us make an instant impact in feeding those who don't know where their next meal will come from.

For more information about the event and how proceeds benefit the Food Bank, visit us at www.elpasoansfightinghunger.org or call (915) 298-0353.



9541 Plaza Circle
El Paso, TX 79927-2005
915-298-0353
info@epfhb.org
www.elpasoansfightinghunger.org

Sustained Giving

Our new website allows donors the option to make a sustained gift through monthly payments. **We currently are seeking 2,500 donors to make \$20 monthly contributions:** that would result in \$600,000 for El Pasoans Fighting Hunger Food Bank!

