

# Foodsharing

A Quarterly Newsletter from the Atlanta Community Food Bank



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“It means so much to know the food is nutritious.”

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Maria and Ignacio are raising four granddaughters Mena, Onyx, Nayla and Eloide. They're grateful for Project LEAP, an after-school program that provides healthy snacks and hot suppers. Project LEAP is sponsored by Food Bank partner agency BOLD Ministries.

## Healthy Meals Lift Hearts and Souls

It's been 40 years since Maria and Ignacio first came to America. After working most of those years in manufacturing, they're now raising four granddaughters. The couple provides for the girls from their fixed income. They couldn't do it without Project LEAP, a summer and after-school program sponsored by Atlanta Community Food Bank partner agency BOLD Ministries. More than 200,000 meals are provided annually with food from the Food Bank through 87 BOLD Ministries sites.

Project LEAP hosts on average 50 students who receive homework help, tutoring, activities, a healthy snack and a hot supper each day

after school. “We feel secure having a place where our girls love going,” said Maria. “And it means so much to know the food they're serving is nutritious,” said Ignacio. The meals have helped to stretch the family's food budget.

### Nutritious and Delicious

As a participant in USDA's Child and Adult Care Feeding Program, Project LEAP must meet specific nutrition requirements. Cook Lavelle Scales loves the challenge of preparing delicious meals that meet those standards. “Some rice, fajita meat, purple cabbage, peppers... I take whatever I have and mix it up,”

said Lavelle. “I can lift the kids hearts and souls with these soulful meals that I make.” Granddaughter Mena piped in, “Everyone loves it!”

“What you're contributing is put to good use.”

Maria has gone without eating at times just to make sure the girls had enough. “It really warms our hearts that people care,” she said. “Their contribution is going to benefit not only my grandchildren, but also others whose children are in need. Take it to heart that what you're contributing is put to good use.”

MEMBER OF  
**FEEDING  
AMERICA**

# A Word of Gratitude

Dear Friends,

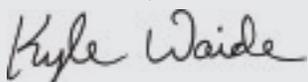
Back-to-School season is here and the Food Bank's child nutrition efforts are in full swing. Thanks to strong support from the community, we've made huge strides in our response to child hunger over the past few years.

More school pantries are popping up, and weekend backpack programs are creating a bridge for struggling households to make it from Friday through Monday. After-school programs are providing hot meals so parents don't have to send their children to bed hungry. Even college students are finding relief through Food Bank partners.

We've highlighted some of these initiatives in this issue. September is Hunger Action Month, and we hope the stories inspire you to discover new ways to take action. You'll find some great ideas on our "30 Ways in 30 Days" calendar on page 4.

Every child should have the right to the resources they need for a good education. And that includes food. Together, we're setting more children up for success and changing lives for the better.

With thanks,



Kyle Waide, President & CEO



(Photo: Marcus Krause)



Marcy Stidum, director of CARE Services at Kennesaw State University, has helped over 800 students facing homelessness and hundreds more through campus food pantries in partnership with the Food Bank.

## Hope for At-Risk College Students

Marcy Stidum was working with a student in the counseling center at Kennesaw State University (KSU) and learned the student was homeless. "I just didn't realize this was an issue where students are suffering in silence and isolation," said Marcy. She was inspired to start CARE (Campus Awareness, Resource & Empowerment), which helps homeless, food insecure and foster care students.

Since 2011, CARE Services has helped over 800 students. It's the first program of its kind in the country to have a designated, on-campus housing facility dedicated to homeless students. Like many universities, KSU has a food pantry. Under Marcy's leadership, the pantry has expanded to serve students at both the Kennesaw and Marietta campuses. The Kennesaw pantry recently converted to a client choice model, giving students flexibility to select the items they most need. The pantries also provide

travel and hotel-sized toiletries.

### Impacting Students Lives

CARE Services started partnering with the Food Bank in 2015. "I wanted to make sure we had a sufficient supply of food," said Marcy. "We often got food during the holiday season, but then would be bare in spring and summer."

**"You just don't know how many times you fed me."**

The impact the pantry has had on students is not lost on Marcy. "I've had a student from our Student Government Association come to me before she graduated and say 'you just don't know how many times you fed me,' so those are the times I go, okay, it matters," said Marcy. "Your donations matter. The food helps a student go to bed with a full tummy so they can wake up the next morning, learn and become a college graduate. And they're not just graduates. They're alumni."

# Family Takes On Hunger

Joe and Leslie Habachy understand the importance of giving back. Through their backgrounds in law, they've seen firsthand how poverty can affect people. Now, each has started to tackle the issue in their own ways.

Joe, a criminal defense attorney, has been a longtime supporter of hunger organizations on a global scale. After reading an article about hunger, he got involved with the Food Bank through the Legal Food Frenzy, a statewide food and fund drive competition among lawyers and law firms.

"I know there's poverty. But to read about children that really don't know where their next meal is coming from, that's a different thing altogether," said Joe.

Joe has won the Attorney General's Cup in the Legal Food Frenzy, the highest achievement, four times and in his first year won the Solo Practitioner Cup. All told, Joe has raised thousands through the years of his participation in the Legal Food Frenzy.

"I have a pretty big network of friends and associates and it feels good to be able to put that to use for something so positive, helpful and meaningful. Otherwise, what is it for?"

## Kids Can Play a Role

Leslie, a stay at home mom to boys Alexander, Emile and Teddy, volunteers every week with Food Bank partner agency Toco Hills Community Alliance. She doesn't hesitate to bring her boys. Together, they pick up and deliver produce, stock shelves, and prepare and serve meals at Toco Hills.

"I have three children that are well fed, and when I think about all the other kids out there that are food insecure, I just can't imagine not trying to help," said Leslie. "We should be looking out for anyone. Everybody deserves to be able to eat."

Joe and Leslie Habachy not only set the example for sons Alexander, Emile and Teddy, they provide opportunities for their boys to participate in hunger relief efforts.



**"Everybody deserves to be able to eat."**



**FULL COURSE  
CLASSIC**

Thank you to all of our Full Course Classic participants and sponsors! You have helped make the 30th Anniversary of this event extra special!

# Help End Hunger.

30 Ways in 30 Days

SEPTEMBER  
2018

<p><b>1</b> Add a Hunger Action Month frame to your Facebook profile photo!</p>					<p><b>8</b> What kind of orange fruits and veggies can you think of? Which is your favorite? Share with us on social media!</p>
<p><b>2</b> Follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram for facts about hunger and how you can take action.</p>	<p><b>3</b> Collect food donations at your Labor Day cookout!</p>	<p><b>4</b> Donate to our Facebook Fundraiser - will you help us reach our goal?</p>	<p><b>5</b> Sign up for a Food &amp; Fund Drive!</p>	<p><b>6</b> BRAD FITCH</p>	<p><b>7</b> Education Workshops are a great way to learn more about hunger &amp; poverty. Sign up your work, school or congregation today.</p>
<p><b>9</b> Become an advocacy champion and sign up for alerts today.</p>	<p><b>10</b> Go Orange Day is coming up -- encourage people you know to wear orange.</p>	<p><b>11</b> Today is the 9/11 Day of Service - pledge to volunteer with the Food Bank.</p>	<p><b>12</b> When you're hungry, what are you unable to do? Show us on a paper plate!</p>	<p><b>13</b> It's Go Orange Day - wear your best orange outfit and share a photo with us on social media!</p>	<p><b>14</b> Start your own Facebook Fundraiser for the Food Bank!</p>
<p><b>16</b> Swing by Honeysuckle Gelato and try their special orange gelato for the month!</p>	<p><b>17</b> Donating to the Food Bank? Find out if your company matches your donation.</p>	<p><b>18</b> Operation Isaiah is tonight for all of our Jewish friends. Bring your food donations to services!</p>	<p><b>19</b> Do you have a favorite orange recipe? Share it with us!</p>	<p><b>20</b> What does food mean to you? Share with us on social media!</p>	<p><b>21</b> Bring your lunch from home and donate what you would have spent eating out to the Food Bank.</p>
<p><b>23</b> Host a screening of the film A Place at the Table and talk about what you saw with your friends and family.</p>	<p><b>24</b> Contact your elected officials via social media and tell them to support anti-hunger legislation.</p>	<p><b>25</b> Fall For Fashion is tonight! Do you have your tickets yet?!</p>	<p><b>26</b> Save the date for Hunger Walk Run on X months from today!</p>	<p><b>27</b> Donate to Feeding America's Give a Meal program and Bank of America will match every \$1 with \$2. Don't forget to select the Food Bank!</p>	<p><b>28</b> Join us at Potluck &amp; Pitch to see food innovators work to transform their communities.</p>
<p><b>30</b> Sign up for our eNewsletter to find out what's going on at the Food Bank year round.</p>					<p><b>29</b> Only 48 hours left to donate to our Facebook fundraiser! \$1 = 4 meals!</p>



September is Hunger Action Month and we're excited to give you 30 Ways in 30 Days that you can help take action against hunger.  
Put this on your refrigerator and find all the links you need at [www.acfb.org/hungeraction](http://www.acfb.org/hungeraction)



End hunger. Grow stronger.