

food for thought

May 2018
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You're feeding children who would go hungry this summer

So many children are at risk of going hungry during the summer months when they do not receive breakfast and lunch at school. Thanks to your support, Second Harvest will feed thousands of children every day this summer through local food pantries and the Summer Feeding Program.

The Summer Feeding Program delivers breakfast, lunch, and nutritious snacks to dozens of community sites where children gather across our 23-parish service area.

"If it weren't for the Second Harvest Summer Feeding Program, many of our children would go hungry this summer," Kati Callais, Terrebonne Library System Community Outreach Coordinator, told us recently. "It's hard to describe just how amazing it is."

She says the meals are provided by Second Harvest at no cost to the libraries, which she says, "is a Godsend."

"Budget-wise, we simply can't afford to provide meals and snacks to kids across so many libraries. Second Harvest made everything extremely easy, and the children get so excited. We pair up the snacks with story time, and it's often a picnic atmosphere, with kids doing crafts."



Three Terrebonne libraries participated in the 2017 program, and we will expand to seven branches this summer. Second Harvest's Summer Feeding partner sites are in low-income areas, where we know the meals will make a big difference.

"It's such a delight for all the children, but we especially are glad to participate in Summer Feeding for the children that we know will not otherwise receive a healthy meal most days," Callais said. "It's so amazing to see what happens when we partner to provide services like this and work together."

Encouraging words

from Natalie



Disaster response: No longer just hurricanes

Since our founding in 1982, disaster response has been a core part of Second Harvest Food Bank's mission. When a disaster strikes, Second Harvest is always there to help those who are impacted, and we couldn't do it without your support.

In recent years, we've seen our response expand well beyond our readiness during the fall hurricane season. Hunger is always a disaster, whether it is felt by a single child or an entire region.

Our year-round work with hundreds of community partners and emergency managers across 23 parishes makes Second Harvest uniquely suited to respond before, during, and well after a disaster. Since 2005, our staff and volunteers have collected and distributed tens of millions of pounds of food, water, and supplies following nearly a dozen major disasters, including:

- **2005:** Flooding from Hurricanes Katrina and Rita causes unprecedented damage across South Louisiana.
- **2008:** Hurricane Gustav leads to the evacuation of New Orleans and major flooding in the Houma area.
- **2008:** Hurricane Ike causes major flooding along much of the Louisiana Gulf Coast.
- **2010:** The BP oil disaster disrupts the lives of thousands of South Louisiana residents.
- **2012:** Hurricane Isaac causes \$2 billion in damage across South Louisiana.
- **February 2016:** A major tornado outbreak impacts an area stretching from Laplace to Prairieville.
- **March 2016:** 18+ inches of rain brings flooding to the Northshore and Lake Charles areas.
- **August 2016:** South Louisiana is flooded by more than 30 inches of rain.
- **February 2017:** The strongest tornado on record destroys 800+ homes in New Orleans.
- **August/September 2017:** Hurricane Harvey floods tens of thousands of homes in Texas and Southwest Louisiana. Second Harvest also sent supplies to Hurricane Irma and Maria victims in Florida and Puerto Rico.
- **January 2018:** A record, extended cold snap leaves thousands of South Louisiana residents without safe water for up to a week.



Your help is critical to our disaster readiness and to our mission to fight the everyday disaster of hunger in our community. Thank you for being there when we need you!

Gratefully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Natalie J'.

Natalie Jayroe
President and CEO
Second Harvest Food Bank

Serving the Lord by volunteering 16 years

We are so grateful for the more than 9,000 volunteers every year who make Second Harvest Food Bank's mission a reality. We simply could not provide 34 million meals annually without the time and dedication of our volunteers.

We're honored that so many Second Harvest volunteers join us from churches, schools and companies from around the country.

Recently, we spoke with a group from the First Baptist Church of Pelham, Alabama, who were helping prepare after-school meals for children in our Community Kitchen. Church member Barbara Moore organized the six-hour drive to the New Orleans area.

"This is our sixteenth year to come and serve all over the city," Mrs. Moore said. "We came before Katrina and every year since Katrina."

Moore's group of 20 senior citizens spends a week volunteering at charities like Second Harvest in Greater New Orleans.

"This week, we cooked for ladies at a women's rehab facility and shelter and also at an adult day care. And today, we're so glad to be back at Second Harvest once again."

Mrs. Moore said the husbands and men who joined them on the mission trip spent the week rebuilding houses for those in need.

During their day of service with Second Harvest, the church group produced more than 1,800 meals for children in our after-



school Kids Cafe program. Mrs. Moore said that next year, they would like to deliver the meals personally and sing for the children.

When asked what has brought them back to our area for sixteen years, the answer for her was simple: "We're here to serve the Lord in any way we can. . . . We serve people, and that's how we serve God."



TOMORROW'S HARVEST: Help fight hunger for years to come

Legacy gifts ensure that Second Harvest can continue to lead the fight against hunger and provide assistance to the children, families and seniors who need it most.

You can make a lasting impact by naming Second Harvest as a beneficiary of a will, trust, life insurance policy, or retirement or savings account. If you have already included Second Harvest in your estate plans, please let us know so we can thank you and include you in our legacy society, Tomorrow's Harvest.

For more information, please contact Heather Sweeney, Director of Development, at hsweeney@secondharvest.org or at 504-729-2839.

RUBBER DUCK DERBY

BENEFITING SECOND HARVEST FOOD BANK

4PM SATURDAY, JUNE 2 AT BIG LAKE IN CITY PARK

\$5,000 GRAND PRIZE

- 2nd Prize: Two Roundtrip Flights on Southwest Airlines
- 3rd Prize: \$500 Gift Certificate to Zuppardo's
- 4th Prize: One Night Stay at The Ritz Carlton & New Orleans School of Cooking Class for Two
- 5th Prize: Raising Cane's for a Year
- 6th Prize: Shipt Gift Certificate for One Annual Membership + \$250 Credit
- 7th Prize: \$250 Gift Certificate to Rich's Wash Dat
- 8th Prize: Suite at Baby Cakes Game
- 9th Prize: Shipley Donuts for a Year
- 10th Prize: Yeti Prize Package from Massey's



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