

20 Years of Food For Children, 20 Years of Hope



For most adults, summer arrives without a lot of change. Sure, the days are longer, and I do love those long evenings playing outside with my grandkids.

But for many children, summer brings a sort of change they look to not with joy, but dread. That's because the closing of the school doors

also comes with the end of the free or reduced-price breakfasts and lunches so many children rely upon. A few meal programs do operate in the summer, but in Santa Cruz County, nearly 9,000 kids who count on free or reduced-price lunches will miss out on them for three long months.

That's where Second Harvest comes in. Our Food For Children program has been running year-round for 20 years now. Whatever school district they're in, however deep their need for food is, families in need can pick up dry-food staples and fresh produce at 48 sites across the county.

You can't overestimate how important this food is. Healthy futures require rich and active summers, and getting enough food is critical to kids' ability to learn, explore, and grow.

And that food has to be healthy—crackers in the back of the cupboard don't cut it, no matter how filling they are. That's why Second Harvest invests so much effort in acquiring and distributing fresh produce. Children need nutritious food to feed their bodies and minds, enabling them to pursue life's opportunities—and chase their friends around the park on a long summer evening.

In the following pages you'll learn about two great ways you can support Food For Children: a generous match by one of our longtime donors, and our annual Chefs' Dinner gala coming up on September 14th.

Because the children of our community can rely on us, but we can't do what we do without you.

Thanks and enjoy the summer,

SANTA CRUZ CHEFS' DINNER

2017 SEPTEMBER 14TH

This event features a six-course gourmet meal paired with select wines from local vintners. Enjoy a special evening with friends at this elegant event.

Featured Chefs:

- Kendra L. Baker (Assembly)
- Scott Cater (Paradise Beach Grille)
- Anthony Kresge (Sotola Bar and Grill)
- Tom McNary (Carried Away)
- Ashley Peixoto (California Grill)
- Steve Wilson (Café Cruz)

Tickets on sale now www.thefoodbank.org/chefs17
or call 831-722-7110 x226



Chefs' Dinner is our signature event supporting the Food For Children program which is celebrating 20 years of providing healthy food to children in Santa Cruz County.

Food For Children **20** YEAR ANNIVERSARY

Policy Matters

The proposals in the President's recent budget represent the most significant threats to the federal nutrition safety net in decades. The proposed cuts to nutrition programs would cause the loss of at least 45 billion meals over 10 years across the country.

Food banks like Second Harvest keep thousands in our communities from going hungry, but SNAP/CalFresh (formerly known as food stamps) is the first line of defense against hunger—food banks could not possibly provide the meals that this budget would eliminate.

Our response at this moment is critical to make it clear that such proposals will not be acceptable as Congress begins their FY18 budget process.

So let your congressional office know that federal nutrition programs are critical and that you strongly oppose any cuts to them. Find out how at www.thefoodbank.org/advocate.



Second Harvest has a brand new website

Check it out!

www.thefoodbank.org

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Recent Events



Ag Appreciation

Second Harvest Food Bank's Agricultural Appreciation Bash thanked local farmers, growers, and distributors for the 5 million pounds of fresh produce they donate each year.



World's Biggest Garage Sale

A huge thank you to Twin Lakes Church and volunteers for throwing their World's Biggest Garage Sale in May, which raised 216,000 meals for people in need.



Stamp Out Hunger

Second Harvest joined forces with our local letter carriers and collected 28,680 pounds of food from postal customers, breaking last year's record.



Volunteer Appreciation (above)

We threw a reception on Cinco de Mayo for our many generous volunteers, who help us feed 55,000 people each month—we literally couldn't do it without them. Have you thought about volunteering for Second Harvest? Contact Bly at bly@thefoodbank.org or call 831-722-7110 ext. 205 to find out how!

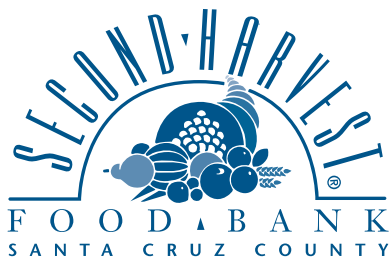


CalFresh Forum (left)

"We can make sure every person has sturdier rungs on that ladder to the middle class," Second Harvest's Kevin Heuer told a packed room at our annual CalFresh Forum.

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FeedHope

Summer 2017



Matching Gift Doubles Your Support for Food For Children

You may already know that our award-winning Food For Children program helps 5,000 children each year

...kids who need something as basic as nutritious food just to have the same opportunity as others to learn, to explore, to play, and to grow. **But did you know that 2017 marks the 20th anniversary of this important program?**—20 years in which Second Harvest has been there for these children, thanks to the ongoing support of people like you.

Food For Children **20** YEAR
ANNIVERSARY

Right now, in honor of the 20th anniversary, one of our loyal donors has set up a **Matching Gift Challenge**. That means that your gift now will be matched—dollar for dollar—**up to \$50,000**. But we can only unlock those funds with your help. **Don't wait—the match runs out September 15th.** As always, your support is deeply appreciated.

Give your gift online at www.thefoodbank.org/ffc17
or talk to Clyde at 831-722-7110 x210.



Upcoming Events

Santa Cruz Chefs' Dinner
Thursday, September 14, 2017
6pm to 9pm
www.thefoodbank.org/chefs17

SANTA CRUZ
CHEFS' DINNER
2017

A Taste of Soquel
Saturday, September 23, 2017
11am to 4pm
www.tasteofsoquel.org

A Taste of Soquel

Volunteers needed

Our busiest season is right around the corner. We'll need volunteers to help with food drives, events, and food sorting, and more. We would love to have you join our family of volunteers and help continue feeding hope to the community.

Interested in volunteering? Contact Bly Morales at 831.722.7110 x205 or bly@thefoodbank.org. Sign up online at www.thefoodbank.org/volunteer.

In Memory/In Honor Gifts

Please take a moment to view the list of donations made In Memory and In Honor:
www.thefoodbank.org/memory



★★★★
CHARITY NAVIGATOR
Four Star Charity

A Member of **FEEDING AMERICA**