



Your Investments in Action  
Summer 2016 Impact Report

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## MAKING STRIDES IN HUNGER RELIEF

With summer in full swing, Feeding America moves with confidence into a new fiscal year, pausing to celebrate our accomplishments that were made possible by your support. Tentative results show that over this past fiscal year, we increased the number of meals we distributed by 8 percent, which means nearly 300 million more meals filled the plates of people in need.

This report highlights our exciting achievements, innovative partnerships and ongoing efforts in hunger relief. From the nutritional impact of greater milk distribution, to the increased financial support of Christopher Society members to amplified awareness of senior hunger, together we are making meaningful strides toward our goal of a hunger-free America.

During the summer, our minds turn to the children served by the Feeding America network. While school is in session, 22 million children receive free and reduced-priced meals through the National School Lunch Program, yet only about 4 million kids have access to free meals during the summer break. Families facing hunger have to stretch their meager budgets even further to supply these additional meals, which adds to their financial burdens and often forces them to make tough choices. In this issue you will read about Samantha, who works hard to provide for her family but still has to take extra steps to make ends meet in the summer. By gardening, stocking up on shelf-stable food items and getting vital support from her local food pantry, Samantha makes up for the missing meals and manages to feed her children even when school is out.

Recently, I had the honor of speaking before the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Agriculture to highlight food rescue efforts, hunger research and other advocacy-related hunger issues. That hearing made clear that our political leaders, businesses and the nonprofit community agree on the need to find more robust and effective ways of limiting food waste. Further, the combined voices of Feeding America food banks, grassroots advocates and partners like you amplify the message to bring real change to the more than 46 million people we serve each year.

Your support is critical to the continuation of our work to make meaningful progress in the fight against hunger. The ability to move billions of pounds of food safely to all parts of this country—rural and urban alike—means millions of families, children and older Americans who might otherwise go without will have the food they need to thrive. Thank you for partnering with us. Together, we can end hunger and create a nation that is better for us all.

Kind regards,



Diana Aviv  
Chief Executive Officer  
Feeding America



# SAMANTHA AND HER FAMILY RELY ON THE LOCAL FOOD PANTRY—ESPECIALLY DURING THE SUMMER MONTHS



Samantha and her family reside in Alexandria, Virginia.

Samantha, her husband Cornell and their three children live on Samantha's salary of \$22,000 per year. Because her job as a school health aide does not provide enough income to meet all of her family's needs, Samantha relies on the local food pantry to help feed her children.

coming in. On top of that, my children aren't receiving free school meals—so I have to stretch our budget even further to cover those extra costs. I start stocking up on shelf-stable items from the pantry early in the year so I know we'll have enough. During the summer, I also cut food costs by growing fruits and vegetables in my garden. I do everything I can to make sure my children have enough of the healthy food they need to grow strong—no matter the season.

I'm going to get my degree and tomorrow will be brighter. But today, I'm still thankful for what I have. We may not experience the 'finer things' in life but we have everything we need, including love—and that's something money will never be able to buy."

"The pantry is helpful all year round," said Samantha, "but it is particularly helpful for us during summer. I am only employed nine months of the year because I work at a school. From June to September, we have no income

 VIDEO: <http://feedingamerica.org/samantha>

## FEEDING AMERICA BY THE NUMBERS

### MEALS BY SOURCE FROM JANUARY THROUGH MARCH 2016

With your support, Feeding America sourced 951.3 million meals for Americans in need in the third quarter of fiscal year 2016, 9.1 percent more meals compared to the same quarter last year.



\*Prepared meal providers such as restaurants, hotels and convenience stores  
Meals by source are compared to the same quarter last year.  
A meal from Feeding America is 1.2 pounds of product, based on USDA analysis.

 ONLY **41%** OF ELIGIBLE SENIORS ARE ENROLLED IN SNAP\*, COMPARED TO 83% OF ALL ELIGIBLE ADULTS AND CHILDREN.

\*Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, formerly known as food stamps

Feeding America conducts tailored outreach and provides application assistance to eligible seniors to increase their participation in this critical program, enabling more seniors to purchase more of the food they need to stay healthy and strong.

# EVERY DAY FEEDING AMERICA IS MAKING ADVANCEMENTS TO END HUNGER

It is only through your support that we continue to make progress toward a hunger-free America. Together we are making a difference in the lives of the people we serve.



The Feeding America network serves 7 million seniors age 60 and over. In May, during Older Americans Month, Feeding America raised awareness of the too-often silent issue of senior hunger. Through our **#SolveSeniorHunger** campaign, 5,000 online advocates reached out to their state legislators, urging them to increase support for seniors in need in their communities. Feeding America's senior hunger advocacy efforts focus on **closing the senior SNAP gap**—today, only 41 percent of eligible seniors receive Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits compared to 83 percent of eligible individuals overall. In addition, Feeding America successfully advocated for the reauthorization of the Older Americans Act and continues to push for increased funding for the Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP). So far, our advocacy for CSFP has resulted in increased program funding in eight states and more meals for low-income seniors.



The Feeding America network safely rescues more than 2.6 billion pounds of food from going to landfills each year and advocates for policy changes that will **reduce food waste and increase food donations nationwide**. In May, Feeding America CEO Diana Aviv testified before the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Agriculture and

highlighted Feeding America's hunger research, food rescue efforts and support for food donation tax incentives. She also called for further policy changes including the standardization of date labels on food at the federal level and modifications to USDA food-rescue grant programs. These activities demonstrate our commitment to working with elected officials and other partners to keep safe, edible food out of waste streams thereby alleviating hunger and bringing about critical social, financial and environmental benefits.



In May, **Starbucks** announced its new partnership with Feeding America. Through their FoodShare program, Starbucks' goal across all of their U.S. company operated stores is to donate 100 percent of available-to-donate meals back into the communities they serve. Starbucks' infrastructure investments will enable Feeding America to safely and efficiently pick-up food available for donation and transport it in refrigerated vehicles to member food banks. FoodShare will provide more than 5 million meals during its first year and nearly 50 million meals once it is rolled out across the country. Feeding America and Starbucks welcome the participation of other restaurants and foodservice providers in the program to maximize its impact on eliminating food waste and feeding people in need.





In June, National Dairy Month, Feeding America helped struggling families **access milk** through our partnership with the National Dairy Council and MilkPEP on **The Great American Milk Drive** and the Milk2MyPlate program. The 22 million children who rely on free or reduced-price school meals may lose access to milk when school is not in session. The Great American Milk Drive encourages the public to donate online or at participating grocery stores to help provide free milk to families in need. Since 2014, the initiative has resulted in more than 700,000 donated gallons. The Milk2MyPlate program pairs local milk processors with food banks to provide the people we serve with consistent access to milk. Currently, 13 food banks are operating Milk2MyPlate pilots and 13 more are working to start pilots.



*The Power of Nudges: Making the Healthy Choice the Easy Choice in Food Pantries* **report** and information **video**, created as a result of the partnership between Dr. David Just of Cornell University and the Feeding America community health and nutrition team, revealed that **nudge interventions** increased the distribution of healthful foods—such as fruits, vegetables and whole grains—to the

people our network serves. Through the study, nudges, or environmental cues such as signage and product placement, were identified as factors that influence consumer choice at a food pantry. Enhancing Feeding America’s ongoing health and nutrition strategies, nudge interventions are sure to increase the uptake of nutritious foods that promote good health.

*Special thanks to the ConAgra Foods Foundation for their generous support of the Nutrition Nudge Research study.*



The Feeding America network distributes 3.7 billion meals to people in need each year. Member food banks and branch locations are contractually required to pass a **third party food safety scored audit** a minimum of once every two years. This commitment has led Feeding America to partner with AIB International—a world leader in supply chain education and technology programs—to conduct scored food safety audits. In spring 2016, all Feeding America member food banks and branch locations—a total of 273 locations—achieved passing scores on their audits.

*Special investments in food safety were made in partnership with Cargill and the Walmart Foundation.*

## SPOTLIGHT: WHY I SUPPORT FEEDING AMERICA



Tighe Merkert

For over seven years, Tighe Merkert has been a generous supporter of Feeding America and has broadened awareness of the issue of hunger among the employees of Marriner Marketing Communications in Columbia, Maryland.

“When deciding on which hunger organization to support, I researched who was doing what well and who was getting the money where it needs to go,” said Tighe. “Feeding America does it well and has a high efficiency rating, which is important to me.

This past year it was even easier to decide to support Feeding America due to the Christopher Society Matching Gift Fund, which doubled our contribution. It was very generous of Doris Christopher to set up the society. This allowed us both to multiply our impact! We are united on a cause.”

With a focus on the intersection of hunger and health, Tighe continues, “It is important to get nutritious food to people in need. Not only do we need to continue to distribute healthier food to people struggling with hunger, but we also need to provide education on the connection of food and health. We can help people in need have access not only to nutritious food but also to a better understanding of nutrition and the many benefits that healthy food provides.

I am proud to be able to create awareness of this issue and motivate others to be part of the solution.”

# BUILDING AWARENESS TO INCREASE ENGAGEMENT

Thank you to our corporate, media and celebrity partners for shining a spotlight on hunger. Your efforts connect more people with the cause and ultimately bring more meals to people in need.



Red Nose Day, May 26, raised awareness and more than \$34 million to help Feeding America and other charities fund programs that keep children in the U.S. and internationally safe, healthy and educated. Over 100 celebrities supported the campaign, including

Chris “Ludacris” Bridges, who appeared in a short film on the Red Nose Day television special that featured a local Feeding America program.



Outnumber Hunger is a collaboration between General Mills, Big Machine Label Group and Feeding America that helps fight hunger in local communities. Jennifer Nettles serves as this year’s campaign spokesperson; the spring campaign earned more than 250 million media impressions.



Walmart’s Fight Hunger. Spark Change. campaign raised more than \$17.3 million through customer donations, a “buy one give one” program and digital engagement. Participating suppliers included Campbell Soup Company, General Mills, Kellogg Company, Kraft Heinz

Company and PepsiCo. The campaign will provide needed funding to every food bank in the Feeding America network.



“Kid President” Robby Novak partnered with ConAgra Foods’ Child Hunger Ends Here campaign and presented a check on behalf of ConAgra Foods to Feeding America at Second Harvest Food Bank of Middle Tennessee. This year ConAgra Foods’ Child Hunger

Ends Here program will help provide 1 million meals for kids who are food insecure. (Jon Morgan/AP Images for ConAgra Foods)



In June, IKEA raised more than \$350,000 for Feeding America by donating one dollar for every healthy kids’ meal purchased in IKEA Restaurants in the U.S. and inviting customers to donate in U.S. stores and online.



Actors Darby Stanchfield and Ashley Greene served summer lunch and distributed fresh produce at Feeding America’s “Put the Heat on Hunger” event in partnership with Los Angeles Regional Food Bank.



Actor Alan Cumming served meals at The Bowery Mission in New York City as part of Feeding America’s Pledge to Volunteer campaign.



Actress Tiffani Amber Thiessen volunteered with her family at the Downtown Women’s Center in Los Angeles.

# THE CHRISTOPHER SOCIETY

*The Christopher Society* recognizes individuals and small businesses for giving increased gifts from \$5,000 to \$99,999 this fiscal year. These donors' contributions will have twice the impact on the fight against hunger thanks to *The Christopher Society* Matching Fund, made possible through the generosity of Pampered Chef® founder and former Feeding America board member, Doris Christopher. Her transformational matching gift fund is helping the Feeding America network provide nutritious food to families across the country today and develop innovative strategies to create a more food-secure nation tomorrow.

## \$50,000+

Meridith and Bill Beck  
Bonaventura Devine Foundation  
Marlene and William Semple  
The Wasily Family Foundation\*

## \$25,000+

Emser Tile, LLC\*  
Human Arc Family Foundation\*  
Inside Marketing Group  
Michelle and Jeffrey Saye\*  
Sharma Family Foundation  
Nancy Woo\*

## \$10,000+

Anonymous\*  
Anonymous (2)  
The Agency Worldwide\*  
Sara Anschuetz\*  
John Bloom\*  
Cynthia Scalzo and Henry Brown\*  
Kathryn P. Brown  
Noel and James Browne  
Jing Chen  
Daniel Culley\*  
Teresa and RJ Devick\*  
Jasmine Dhanda  
Laurie and Scott Dubchansky\*  
Fed By Threads, LLC\*  
Michael Fredericks  
Susan Garner  
Harding Education and Charitable Foundation  
Linda and Mark Hauser  
Hearts Of Compassion Fund  
Heathfields Charitable Fund\*  
Hal Herzog  
Jennifer Holton  
Karuna Foundation\*  
Jennifer Kemme\*  
Charlotte A. and George J. Koenigsaecker, III\*  
Abe Littenberg Foundation\*  
Dodie and Ian MacAuley  
Tighe Merkert  
Tamara Miller  
Jutta Mosse  
Jane and Rick Parod\*  
Pittsburgh Children's Foundation, Inc.  
Jessica Plowgian\*  
Janice and Bradley Richards

Michelle and Tim Ruder\*  
Amy and Eric Sahn  
Shirlie and Owen Siegel Foundation  
Jane and Alex Stevens  
Todd Swanson\*  
Vicki Smith and Gregory Venburg\*  
Johanna and Caleb Wright  
Ann White\*

## \$5,000+

Anonymous (2)\*  
Anonymous (2)  
Warren Adams  
The Amin Foundation  
Anonymous Fund of The Minneapolis Foundation  
Barstow Foundation  
Michael Bielamowicz\*  
Ingrid Van Eckert and John Blumenthal  
Philip W. Bode\*  
Sandra Brawner  
Chase Family Foundation  
Theodore C. Chu  
John Colodny  
Jason Conley  
Alfred & Jeanne Contarino Charitable Foundation  
Virginia Wilson and Michael Crabbe  
Andrea Crowder  
Cycle House\*  
Paul Daniel  
Dianne Sue Donahue Trust  
David and Karen Donnan  
Elizabeth and Brian Eaton  
Todd Elliott  
Alicia Fernandez  
John L. Gerlach  
Stephanie and Josh Goldstine\*  
Marlena Graham-Russell  
Marion Griesdieck  
Phyllis and Phil Grisanti\*  
John and Julie Hamre  
H C D Foundation  
Constance Hannon  
Hertzberg Media  
Brent Hoepfner  
Carol and Frank Infusino  
Dana and Mike Kanovitz  
James Kibler  
Jane Koenig  
Marlise Konort\*

Kathleen Kovach  
Meg and Nathan Kriege  
Marian and Larry Krummel  
Bill Kunz  
LHP Software, LLC  
Caren and Jordan Libit  
Carol and David May  
Steven and Laura Mayer Family Foundation  
Kevin McAnaney and Catherine McCabe  
Jane McNair  
The Melsness Foundation  
Patricia Muffie  
Leonard Mushin  
The Nielsen-Massey Foundation\*  
Nashelle, LLC  
Percy Nusunginya  
David B. Osborne  
Coreen McCool and Daniel Ostrower  
Kamran Ozair  
Brian Parker  
Peninsula Community Foundation  
Claudia and Steven Perles  
Shirley S. Tsai and Patrick R. Peterson  
Joan and Robert Rechnitz  
Monique Regard  
Joffrey Roy  
Donald Royer  
Douglas L. Smith  
The Soener Foundation\*  
Roger and Susan Stone Family Foundation  
Jeanne Strongin  
Kathryn and Joseph Sylvia\*  
Rueylong Tang  
William F. Touchstone, Jr.  
Thomas Treanor  
Santee Tweedie  
Sylvia and A. J. Veitch  
Christopher Wallace  
Craig Waterman  
Nancy and Glen Whitney\*  
Albert Wieners\*  
Mary and Fred Wiesehan  
Paige and Dirk Willms  
Linda and Scott Wolpert  
Jeff Yabuki  
Peg Yorkin

\*Indicates renewal from 2015

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## CONCLUSION

Summer brings special challenges to families facing hunger. Fortunately, the Feeding America network of food banks is here to provide more meals to more people in need. Your partnership and support enables us to distribute nutritious food, raise awareness and improve the health of the children, seniors, families and individuals we serve each day. Thank you for your commitment to ending hunger in your community and across the nation. Working together, we can end hunger.

**COMING UP:** September is Hunger Action Month! Watch for more information on how you can get involved.



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Suite 2000  
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[www.feedingamerica.org](http://www.feedingamerica.org)

*Feeding America is a nationwide network of food banks that feeds more than 46 million people through food pantries and meal programs in communities across America and leads the nation in the fight against hunger.*

**Support Feeding America and help solve hunger.  
Donate. Volunteer. Advocate. Educate.**